

# Feng E

## & Friends



**TOCA**  
Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation

Sunday, September 22, 2024 • 2pm  
Armstrong Theatre

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-2025  
PARTNER AND SPONSORS

SEASON PARTNER



SPONSORS

PEARLSTON  
Family Trust



Jean  
Adelsman



Dale Korman  
*(In Memory of  
Bob Josefek)*



Brian and Heidi  
Cunningham

Ann and Marty  
Gallagher

Jane and Jim  
Isomoto

Rod and Crystal  
Macdonell

Nancy and George  
Mannon

Ted and Carolyn  
Porter



# 3 TOCA

2024  
2025

## ANNIVERSARY SEASON

30 years of connecting our community  
through culturally enriching experiences.

Looking forward to 30 more!

### TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION



### OUR MISSION

In partnership with the City of Torrance, The Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation's mission is to enrich the community through the performing arts by providing diverse cultural, educational and entertainment experiences of the highest quality.

### OUR VISION

The vision of the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation is to connect our community through culturally enriching experiences.

**THANK YOU TO THE CITY COUNCIL  
AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF  
TOCA AND THE ARTS IN THE SOUTH BAY**

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation would like to acknowledge that the Armstrong Theatre is located on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Tongva people in the Swaanga Village. We ask you to join us in acknowledging the Tongva community, their elders both past and present, as well those of future generations. [www.tongvapeople.com](http://www.tongvapeople.com)

## Welcome to Our 2024–2025 Season

---



Welcome to the 30th Season of the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation (TOCA)! Since its inception, TOCA has ensured that the South Bay has access to high quality culturally enriching experiences. We do this because we believe that the cultural arts are uniquely able to bring us together while also celebrating our differences. My colleagues on the Board of Directors and I are honored to continue the meaningful work that was started by visionary city leaders decades ago when they built the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

We work in close collaboration with the City of Torrance, private donors, corporate partners, community partners, and our patrons to ensure that our shows are inspiring and accessible to all audiences. Our staff and Board of Directors believe that there is a certain experience that can only be fully enjoyed in a theater, surrounded by others, watching a live performance. Browse our season brochure and you'll find shows that will make you laugh, cry, think, be inspired, dance in the aisles, and everything in between!

We encourage you to join our mailing list and take advantage of our season subscriber discount. TOCA relies on the financial support from people like you who see the value in our mission, and there are many ways to support us. Consider becoming a volunteer or committing to a one-time or regular monthly donation. The latter is as simple as texting TOCA30 to 44321. TOCA is grateful for the generosity of those who make what we do possible.

We can't wait to share another season of new and familiar experiences with you!



David Kartsonis  
President



At a time of celebration like this, we can't help but look back on all that TOCA has accomplished and impacted. Starting with all the amazing artists, mentorship of young performers, partnerships with local arts organizations, to our friends and audience members who have been with us on this journey.

There are so many people who have helped us get to where we are today. From our staff (Susan & Sharon), graphic designer (Tes Schaff) and video artist (Brian Singer) who've worked tirelessly on so many projects including our streaming shows during the pandemic. Our Board of Directors and Advisory Board continue to be an inspiration and beacons of support. Thank you all.

At TOCA, we are committed to providing our patrons a space with unforgettable and accessible cultural experiences. We are proud to offer a diverse range of experiences including music, theatre, dance, comedy and family programming. As always, if there is anything we can do to make your time with us more enjoyable, please let us know by emailing us at [info@torrancearts.org](mailto:info@torrancearts.org).

See you at the theatre!



Chris Wolf  
Executive Director



**The Langley Ukulele Ensemble is now in its 43rd year of Enriching Lives Through Music!**

The 27 ensemble members range in age from 11 to 17 years and see themselves as entertainers and ambassadors for youth and the community of Langley. The ensemble regularly performs locally, regionally, and have performed across Canada, America, as well as in Japan, and for over 25 years they have been featured performers at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort each July. The ensemble have recorded 15 albums and were the subject of an award-winning documentary film, *The Mighty Uke*. The students are challenged to strive toward excellence in musical performance and to use music as a vehicle through which they can act as role models and leaders among their peers. They aim to leave audiences entertained, enriched, and with a sense of hope and optimism!

*Front Row L-R: Ryan, Chloe, Irae, Jaclyn, Yuni, Ian, Sophie, Angeline, Emma. Middle Row L-R: Michelle, Ana, Chloe, Aliza, Soo, Masha, Emily, Amy, Sanghee, Iris, Yeriell, Peter (Director). Back Row L-R: Tyler, Simon, Josiah, Elliott. Missing: Vera, Eva, Ciel*





Feng E is a young musical sensation (born in 2007) from Taiwan whose expert renditions of various 'ukulele covers of popular music has turned the heads and stolen the hearts of some of the biggest stars in the world. To date, Feng E has mastered five musical instruments, starting with the piano at the age of four, with numerous compositions to his name. He has become a star in the world of ukulele music, performing and winning competitions around the world, in places like Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, China, and Hawaii. On Asia's Got Talent (2017), he was the only competitor to get the Golden Buzzer from producer David Foster. In 2018, a video of Feng E playing Tommy Emmanuel's arrangement of Classical Gas, with an ukulele in the park area of Taipei has nearly 20 million views and earned him an invitation to The Ellen DeGeneres Show to play for a worldwide audience. He has appeared twice on Ellen's show (2018 and 2019). In 2020, Feng E made it to the quarter-finals of America's Got Talent. Feng E continues composing original songs and has released his first single "8 Plus" via global digital distribution. Look for more great performances from this talented young player.

Established in a suburb of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in 1981, the Langley Ukulele Ensemble is made up of 28 middle and high school students whose ages range from 12 to 18 years, with a rigorous performance schedule that includes as many as 80 concerts per year locally, regionally, and internationally. Led by Musical Director Peter Luongo, they have traveled across Canada, throughout the United States, and Japan and have performed at major ukulele festivals in Honolulu, New York, Reno, and Japan. The Langley Ukulele Ensemble was also prominently featured in the award-winning documentary film *The Mighty Uke: The Amazing Comeback of an Underdog* and they have appeared annually at the Sheraton Waikiki resort in Honolulu, Hawaii each summer for more than 25 years. The Langley Ensemble's mission is to model excellence in musical performance while representing their community and displaying the best attributes of today's youth.

The annual Los Angeles International Ukulele Festival is an exciting weekend dedicated to exploring the musical versatility of the ukulele and the joy of making music. A unique, family-friendly event, the festival includes workshops for all levels of playing ability and live all-star performances by some of today's most popular ukulele players continuously throughout the day. The festival is free for kids 12 & under and offers free beginner ukulele classes. Save the dates for the 2025 Festival: Sept 19-21, 2025 and join the email list at [www.Ukulele.LA](http://www.Ukulele.LA).

# Gift the Sounds of Music



The Langley Ukulele Association (LUA) is a Canadian Non Profit youth based organization that has a charitable designation granted to it under the Charities Directorate of Canada. It's registration number under the directorate is #119005346 RR 0001.

Our Senior B Ensemble combined with a few members from the Senior A Ensemble will be performing at the LA International Ukulele Festival and opening for Feng E. In order to help subsidize their costs, we are seeking donations.

Please scan (or click) the code below to donate.





## Space for Lease — Largest Selection in Torrance



Quality commercial space to lease throughout the South Bay.

Wishing the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation another successful season.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to lend a hand and support the arts in your community?  
No previous experience needed!

TOCA is looking for volunteers to help with front of house duties during performances (ushers, concession workers)... and the best part is, once your duties are done, you get to watch the show!

Scan (or click on) the code below to sign up!

**JUNE 21**

**11am-5pm**

Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation

**TOCCA**

**palooza**

**ART • MUSIC • FOOD • PERFORMANCES**



**LOTS OF  
FAMILY FUN**



**FREE  
ENTERTAINMENT  
FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY**



**3 STAGES WITH  
ENTERTAINMENT**



For more information,  
please visit  
[torrancearts.org](http://torrancearts.org), call  
(310) 378-8100, or email  
[info@torrancearts.org](mailto:info@torrancearts.org)



# Thank You

---

## SEASON PARTNER

---

City of Torrance

## \$10,000–\$49,999 STARS

---

Paul and Rita Keil  
Pearlston Family Trust  
Torrance Refining Company

## \$5,000–\$9,999 CO-STARS

---

Sares-Regis Group  
Supervisor Janice Hahn  
Surf Management, Inc.

## \$2,500–\$4,999 PRODUCERS

---

Jean Adelsman  
Continental Development  
Corporation  
Farmers & Merchants Bank  
Jane and Jim Isomoto  
Dale Korman (*In Memory of  
Bob Josefek*)  
Tito's Handmade Vodka

## \$1,000–\$2,499 DIRECTORS

---

Brian and Heidi Cunningham  
Ann and Marty Gallagher  
Rod and Crystal Macdonell  
Nancy and George Mannon  
Ted and Carolyn Porter

## \$500 ANGELS

---

Tammy Khan  
Patricia Kromka  
Russell and Carole Lefevre  
Ellenmary Michel  
Lori Mizuguchi  
William Oberholzer  
Athena Paquette Cormier  
Pamela Popovich  
Winnie Seieroe

## \$250 FRIENDS

---

Reuben and Sabrina Ayala  
John and Louise Bye  
Joan Hall  
Mary Hoffman and Bob Habel  
Glen and Fumiko Isobe  
Ruth P. Lyon  
Gerald and Carol Marcil  
Frank and Marilyn Miles  
Kenneth and Doris Nakakura  
Sacha Ohara  
Jim Olds (*In Memory of  
A.Y. & Joyce Olds*)  
Fred and Ann Peitzman  
Nancy Richards  
Wendy Shu  
Christian and Robin Wolf  
LaVonne Wuertz

## \$100 FANS

---

Richard Beaver  
Ann and Victor Cooper  
Helen Dennis  
Judy Golden  
Gary Hastings  
Eleanor Jones  
Virginia Jussila  
Lea Ann King (*In Support of  
Jean Adelsman*)  
Bernadette Kociemba  
Lynda Kraemer  
Alan and Joann Miyamoto  
George and Helen Nakano  
Peter and Vicki Pellerito  
Andrea and Ron Perez (*In  
Memory of John Popovich*)  
Felicia Rosenfeld  
Gail Roulette  
Robert and Kerry Shuman  
Maurine Swilley  
Hazel Taniguchi  
Ray and Estela Uchima  
Kurt Weideman and Sue  
Golden  
Georgeann Wyatt  
John Zlatic

## TOCA BOARD

---

Katy Geissert,  
Founding President

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

---

David Kartsonis, President  
Camilla Seferian, Vice  
President  
Reuben Ayala, Secretary  
Heidi Cunningham, Treasurer  
Winnie Seieroe, Member At  
Large

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

---

Jean Adelsman  
Liliana Dongo  
Jonah Hirata  
Mary Hoffman  
Tammy Khan  
Rosemarie Piccioni, Ed.D.  
Laura Savitz

## ADVISORY BOARD

---

David Benoit  
Shannon Dean  
Scott Douglas  
Donna Duperron  
Steve Fechner  
Patrick Furey  
Ann Gallagher  
Sherry Kramer  
Gesuína Lafayette  
George Nakano  
Steve Napolitano  
Bill Oberholzer  
Ted Porter  
Ritas Smith  
Kurt Weideman

## STAFF

---

Christian Wolf,  
Executive Director  
Sharon Sapigao,  
Administration  
Susan Lyon, Artist Hospitality  
Tes Schaff, Graphic Design

# 30th Anniversary Season



## September

28 Balkan Paradise Orchestra, 8pm

## October

04 The Debashish Bhattacharya Trio, 8pm

05 The Olivia Show, 8pm

11&12 Leslie Mendelson, 7pm

25 SHAG with a Twist, 8pm

26 SHAG with a Twist, 2&8pm

## November

02 Dream Like Taylor, 8pm

16 South Bay's Got Talent, 7pm

24 Charles Phoenix Holidayland, 3pm

## December

06&07 Eva & The Vagabond Tales, 7pm

13 Nutcracker — San Pedro City Ballet, 7:30pm

14 Nutcracker — San Pedro City Ballet, 2&7:30pm

## January

17&18 Ryanhood, 7pm

25 Catch a Wave, 8pm

26 David Benoit — Timeless, 7pm

## February

01 Black Opry Revue, 8pm

22 Tom Jones Tribute, 8pm

For more information or to purchase tickets, please call [\(310\) 781-7171](tel:3107817171) or visit [TorranceArts.org](http://TorranceArts.org)