

Christian Gonzales is establishing a multi-faceted career as a violinist. He is a graduate of the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and is currently a master's student at the Juilliard School under Areta Zhulla. Christian is a fellow of the Tanglewood Music Center this summer and will perform the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with the East County Youth Symphony in November.

Named the winner of the 2022 Atwater Kent Concerto Competition, Christian was briefly loaned the 1732 'Duke of Alcantara' Stradivarius. He has also received awards from the La Jolla Young Artists Competition, Grossmont Music Scholarship Council Competition, and from the UCLA Philharmonia All Stars Concerto Competition. Christian has additionally won the Friends of East County Arts Scholarship, the Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award, and a fellowship to the Aspen festival.

Christian has appeared as a soloist with the UCLA Symphony, International Youth Symphony, Cuyamaca Chamber Ensemble, and the East County Youth Symphony. He has also performed as a recitalist for the Da Camera Society, La Jolla Music Society, Juilliard ChamberFest, and the UCLA Chancellor's Residence Recital Series. Christian has additionally performed for special events including the groundbreaking ceremony of the Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center and in the masterclasses of Martin Chalifour, Ani Kavafian, Madeleine Mitchell, and the Formosa Quartet. Christian has also collaborated with numerous composers for premieres at UCLA and Juilliard as well as with ComuArte Internacional.

As an orchestral musician, Christian has performed with ensembles such as Jacaranda Music and the Grossmont Symphony Orchestra, served as concertmaster of UCLA Philharmonia and the International Youth Symphony, and has played in side-by-sides with the New York Philharmonic and the San Diego Symphony.

As an educator, Christian has taught violin privately since the age of fourteen. He has given masterclasses for the Bruin Chamber Musicians (UCLA) and the San Diego Christian Suzuki Strings and has been a guest alumni lecturer for the San Diego Youth Symphony. Christian studied pedagogy at Juilliard with Virginia Allen.

Growing up in El Cajon, Christian started violin at the age of ten. His previous teachers include Movses Pogossian, Varty Manouelian, Alexander Palamidis, Travis Maril, and Shirley Stafford. Chamber coaches have included members of the Formosa, Orion, and Manhattan quartets among others. Christian also pursued musical study at Grossmont College while still in high school.

Christian is also a retired competitive wushu athlete. He was an assistant coach and co-president of UCLA Wushu and a two-time member of the USA Traditional Wushu Team. He competed in the World Traditional Wushu Championships in China in 2014.