

The Science of Music and Learning: Health, Education and Policy

Thursday, June 11, 2026 | 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM
University of Southern California | Camilleri Hall | Brain and Creativity Institute
3620 McClintock Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90089

In collaboration with Renée Fleming and LA Opera Connects

RENÉE FLEMING



Time	Program
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Breakfast and Registration
9:30 – 9:45 AM	Welcome Remarks • Dr. Assal Habibi (USC) • Renée Fleming
9:45 – 11:00 AM	Session I: What Do We Know Now? Where Are We Headed? An exploration of current findings and emerging directions in the science of music, learning, & development. Chair: Vani Dewan (USC) • Dr. Haley Kragness (Bucknell University) • Dr. Tal Chen Rabinowitch (University of Haifa) • Dr. Steven Holochwost (City University of New York) • Dr. Miriam Lense (Vanderbilt University) Panel Discussion and Q&A

Time	Program
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Keynote Address Dr. Virginia Penhune (Concordia University)
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 – 1:15 PM	Musical Interlude Giovanni Piacentini and Meagan Martin
1:15 – 2:30 PM	Session II: Translation and Clinical Implications; An exploration of the clinical, educational, and community applications of music research. Chair: Jed Villanueva (USC) • Dr. Kevin Jamey (USC) • Dr. Ted Zanto (UCSF) • Dr. Karen Barrett (UCSF) • Dr. Jennifer Bugos (University of South Florida) Panel Discussion and Q&A
2:30 – 2:40 PM	State of Arts Education in California Dr. Veronica Alvarez (Create CA)
2:40 – 3:00 PM	Sound Health Alliance Dr. Joy Allen (Berklee College of Music)
3:00 – 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 – 4:00 PM	Funding Priorities and the Future of Arts & Health Research Chair: Dr. William Coppola (USC) • Dr. Wen Chen (NCCIH/NIH) • Sunil Iyengar (NEA) • Kevin Klock (Foundation for the NIH)
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Public Communication, Storytelling, and Dissemination of Results Chair: Renée Fleming • Tooshar Swain (Americans for the Arts) • Cayley Tull (Tullman Family Office) • Andrew MacPherson (Healthsperien)