

RECENT GRAD PERFORMS FOR QUINCY JONES

Travels to Montreux for Jazz Icon's Birthday Celebration

During this past summer, newly minted UCLA graduate, Jade Elliott '18 earned the opportunity of her young career: an all-expenses paid trip to perform at Switzerland's famed Montreux Jazz Festival. Adding to the excitement was the fact that Jade was chosen to play saxophone at the event's 85th birthday tribute to legendary music producer Quincy Jones.

During her final year of studies as an Ethnomusicology-Jazz Studies major, Jade was selected by School of Music distinguished professor James Newton as the recipient of a scholarship provided by GRoW @ Annenberg — a philanthropic initiative founded by Annenberg Foundation trustee Gregory Annenberg Weingarten — in partnership with Quincy Jones Productions and the jazz festival.

To build the suspense of the unique performance opportunity, Jade was kept in the dark about her selection and invited to simply "attend a meeting" where she would share her personal story with a very special donor. Once she arrived at the home of Quincy Jones, stunned and delighted, everyone let her in on the surprise: She was going to Montreux! Overwhelmed with excitement, Jade explained that she had "never been out of the country, let alone for a musical festival like this," and she could not wait to share the news with family and friends. On July 8, she appeared alongside an all-star cast of musicians including Ibrahim Maalouf, Ezra Collective, Jacob Collier and Alfredo Rodriguez at the all-night birthday concert celebration for Quincy — and for Jade, a night she would always remember.



Jade Elliott and Quincy Jones



Contemporary Jazz Orchestra

SCHOOL OF MUSIC OFFERS NEW BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN GLOBAL JAZZ STUDIES

Undergraduates interested in careers as jazz performers, producers, teachers and/or scholars of jazz now have the opportunity to receive a bachelor of arts degree in Global Jazz Studies. "The new global jazz studies major is a vital addition to the school of music's undergraduate programs," said Judith Smith, dean of the music school. "The major builds upon UCLA's strong jazz studies tradition, while acknowledging that jazz has transcended international borders, being incorporated into the music of the world."

Distinguished professor Robin D. G. Kelley, immediate past chair of the African American studies department and Thelonious Monk's biographer, said: "The global jazz studies major is the most exciting cross-disciplinary project here at UCLA. The legacy of jazz is rooted in African-American history and culture, and by joining together the study of this vital history with studio instruction, music performance and musicianship courses, students will graduate with a comprehensive understanding of the genre."