

Robert Harrell was active in the local music scene during his early years in Santa Barbara, CA. He was the solo chair for trumpet in the Monday Madness Big Band at Santa Barbara City College during his senior year of high school, and played bass professionally with local jazz groups and theater companies. Robert received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Biola University, where he studied trumpet and both upright and electric bass. In December of 2022, Robert graduated with his Masters of Arts in Teaching from Biola University. Robert is grateful and honored to be in his eighth year at Oak Middle School in Los Alamitos, CA. Robert teaches three concert bands, two orchestras, and a jazz band. The Oak Middle School Jazz Band was one of six middle schools invited to perform at the Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020, where they received outstanding soloist and section awards each year. Robert received the PTA Outstanding Teacher Award in 2020. Every day he is inspired by the passion, dedication, and joy of his students. Robert continues to enjoy playing bass professionally, whether it is through live performances or various recording sessions.