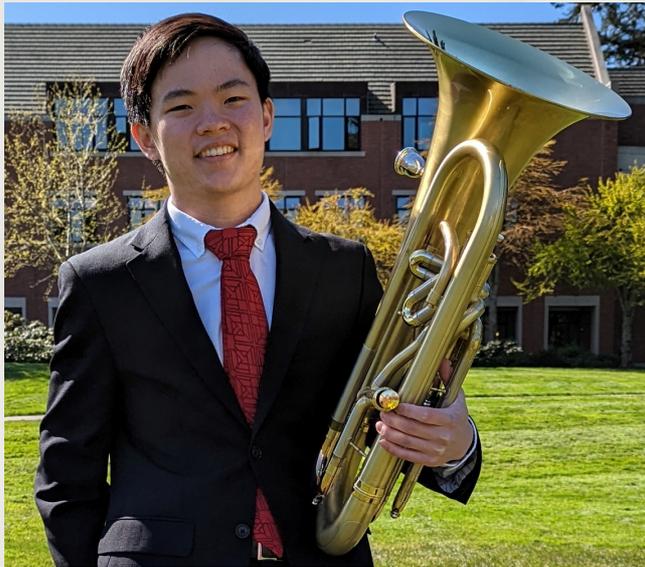


STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

William Lum '23, euphonium



For this edition of the School of Music newsletter, we spoke with the talented William Lum about his experiences at Puget Sound and what music looks like in his life.

William, who plays the euphonium, is heading into his senior year and is eager to participate in the many ensembles he has grown to love. After the pandemic hit in spring of his first year at Puget Sound, William was unable to participate in a lot of the performances and opportunities he wished he could. Now that the virus is more manageable and events are opening back up, William is excited to explore his musical options and experience them to the fullest extent.

During his time at Puget Sound, William has grown as a musician and performer. He emphasized the “collaborative nature” of the School of Music as being one of his biggest influencers, as it has shown to him how important it is to build enduring relationships with other musicians.

“Those [relationships] last a really long time, and the circles within music are just so close and important,” William said.

William comes from the Bay Area, which has a rigorous, competitive academic environment, so Puget Sound’s distinguished yet compassionate music program was a welcome change of pace, and it has impressed upon him the value of building supportive, meaningful connections with his fellow performers.

William recently won a spot as a finalist in the 2022 Frances Walton competition, where he competed against a wide range of talented musicians and was the only undergraduate musician present! William expressed gratitude and pride for his accomplishment, and he referred to his success in the competition as a huge confidence booster.

“The people I saw and the people I heard [who] came across the country to perform in this competition...were a lot older than I [am] and a lot more experienced, and to play in the same competition and the same live round as them was really inspiring,” he said enthusiastically. “It gave me more confidence, [because I] felt like I earned my place alongside these people who are super talented.”

William plans on music being part of his professional life, but even if his career takes a different path, he knows it will have been an influential part of developing self-discipline and passion for things he enjoys, which will serve him well, no matter his ultimate career. He has thoroughly enjoyed his time at Puget Sound, but there are some things that William wishes he had known as a first-year student. The most important lesson for him is that time is limited – specifically time with people – and it is important to cherish relationships you make. In the future, William plans to improve on valuing the significance of building strong connections with friends and mentors, because that’s what really matters to him.

Please join us and support William and the rest of our amazing student performers as they take the stage once again this fall!