

Liberty University School of Music

presents

Student Recital Series

Senior Recital

Lainey Jackson, *voice*

April 17, 2026

Macel Falwell Recital Hall

MUSIC 180

7:30 PM

ARTIST DEVELOPMENT RECITAL

Lainey Jackson, *voice*
Reilly Stenstrom, *piano*; Westen Myers, *aux keys*;
Micah Korb, *acoustic guitar*; Jacob Charles, *bass*;
Alan Jimenez, *drums*; Ashley Miller, *BGVs*;
Jenica Davidson, *BGVs*

Program

Alright	Tema Siegel, Zach Blankstein, Eric Tarlin, & Danny Silverston
If I Ain't Got You	Alicia Keys Westen Myers, <i>lead vocal</i>
The Climb	Jessi Alexander & Jon Mabe
Mighty Name of Jesus	Hope Darst, Jacob Sooter, & Lauren Sloat
The Evidence	Lainey Jackson
Rest in My Presence	Lainey Jackson, Kenzie Lawson, & Ellie Hope
No One Like the Lord	Jenn Johnson, Jonathan Stamper, Aliyah Stamper, Eniola Abioye, Lindy Cofer, & Nathan Carter
Every Direction	Steven John Theriot & James Joseph Smith

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Alright

The band Kehlvan wrote Alright to encourage and promote optimistic outlooks to its listeners. It was written in 2020, developed during a period of long-distance collaboration between the band members. The song started out as mere bedroom recordings and later became a major live song before its release. Alright has many versions, all played with an intimate, somewhat acoustic, pop feel. The song took three years to finalize after testing multiple versions during live shows. It was intended to be the “perfect closer” for live performances. They created a soulful feel with layered vocals and hard to miss horn sections. After its long-time coming release, it now serves as a staple for the band.

If I Ain't Got You

If I Ain't Got You was written by Alicia Keys specifically following the death of singer Aaliyah. Following the tragedy of September 11th and later the fatal plane crash of her friend, Keys created this song in response to the fragility and uncertainty of life. She writes about the pursuit of fame and fortune leaving you empty and prompts us to cherish people. She recognizes that life is meaningless without love. This song won Alicia Keys a grammy shortly after its release that took a long time to finalize and complete.

The Climb

The Climb, written in 2008 by songwriters Jessie Alexander and Jon Mabe, was created during a period when they were both reflecting on perseverance in their own lives and careers. The song was intentionally written to emphasize the value of growth, struggle, and resilience along the journey. Recorded and released by Miley Cyrus for the 2009 film Hannah Montana: The Movie, it served as a pivotal moment in Cyrus's career. The song marked a transition from her Disney image toward a more inspirational and personal message. This resonated with many, becoming an anthem about perseverance, faith in the process, and learning from challenges rather than rushing toward outcomes. With strings and climactic, heartfelt moments, this song became the true anthem of the movie.

Mighty Name of Jesus

Mighty Name of Jesus, written and released in 2023 by The Belonging Co., is a declaration of faith centered on the authority, victory, and saving power found in the name of Jesus Christ. Like many of the group's worship songs, it was written for use in corporate church worship. Emerging in a time when many churches were focusing on themes of hope and spiritual authority, the song reflects a desire to strengthen faith and remind worshippers of biblical promises about the power found in Jesus' name. Its purpose is both devotional and congregational while its energy and musical presence fulfill its purpose of being designed to unify the church in confident praise and trust in Christ's sovereignty.

- PROGRAM NOTES -

The Evidence

The Evidence, written by Lainey Jackson in 2025 and soon to be released in 2026, was written in a dorm room and was intended to be an acoustic, guitar heavy anthem of hope. The song holds a message of hope and comfort, recognizing the Trinity and power of God's love. The song unfolds the awe and wonders of our Lord and then recognizes how small we are as humans. The Evidence was written to be a beacon of hope to remind us that even a power so big and mighty can love an insignificant human like you and me. It's simple instrumentation intentionally allows the listener to dwell on the lyrics and the message we all can find comforting as believers.

Rest In My Presence

Rest in My Presence was written in 2025 by Lainey Jackson, Kenzie Lawson, and Ellie Hope. This song was originally written for a songwriting intensive with a prompt in the presence of God, but soon became something much more than just an assignment. This piano ballad reminds listeners to rest in the God who is our comfort in everything. These lyrics ask the questions we can relate to as believers living in a fallen world. Then we are invited to lean on Him and find peace in the God who bears our burdens.

No One Like the Lord

No One Like the Lord, written and released by The Belonging Co., was part of their mission to create congregational worship music that exalts the uniqueness and supremacy of God. The song was written to declare that no one can compare to the Lord's power, holiness, and faithfulness. It draws from biblical themes that highlight God's unmatched character. Like many of their worship songs, it was created for corporate church settings, encouraging believers to boldly proclaim praise together. Their intention was to center the church's focus on God's greatness and inspire confident, unified worship by creating this unique melodic and lyrical piece.

Every Direction

Every Direction, written and released by Destiny Worship in 2024, is a declaration of God's presence and guidance in every season of life. The song was written by their songwriting team to encourage believers to trust that no matter which direction they face, God remains constant and faithful. Designed for corporate worship, its lyrics emphasize surrender, confidence in God's leading, and the assurance that He is at work in all circumstances. The song serves as both a personal affirmation of faith and a congregational proclamation of trust in God's sovereignty.

I want to give a huge thank you to everyone who has supported me in my music career and during my time here at Liberty. I want to thank my wonderful voice professor Dr. Greenawalt who has helped me improve the gift the Lord has given me in so many ways. I want to also thank my incredible family and amazing friends who have always encouraged me and been there through the many milestones in my career. Thank you to my band who put in so much time and work to make this program what it is tonight. I would not be where I am without all these people. I am so grateful for the opportunity of glorifying my Creator through music and creating new songs for Him. Thank You God for the gift of worship through music.



Lainey Jackson is a student of Dr. Greenawalt

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music: Artist Development Concentration degree.

**We would like to thank the
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their faithful support of the School of Music.**

Dr. Dondi Costin, President
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The School of Music Administration, Faculty, and Staff

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