

Revere Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Presented by the Revere Alumni Association and the Revere Schools Foundation
September 4, 2026

Inductee Greeting

9:30 a.m. RHS Atrium

Greetings and School Tour -

Assembly

10:10 a.m. RHS Gymnasium

Welcome & Introductory Remarks

Mr. Doug Faris - Principal, Revere High School

Presentation of Inductee

Mr. Phil Heyn - President, Revere Alumni Association

Ethan Margolis (RHS Class of 1996) -Musician



Ethan Margolis is a 1996 graduate of Revere High School. His father's side (Ken) of the family comes from downtown Cleveland, Ohio and Ethan's mother (Sally) from Tennessee and Mississippi. Ethan's paternal grandfather went to school at East Tech High downtown at the same time as the legendary track star Jesse Owens. His paternal grandmother Eleanore worked in the Terminal Tower during World War II. Although Ethan was born in Santa Cruz, CA, his family returned to Chagrin Falls when he was 5 and he has always expressed pride in the Cleveland area as his true home town. His family moved to Richfield, OH at the age of 10 where Ethan attended Richfield Elementary School.

Ethan grew up in a musical household where his father, Ken and younger brother Dave, played instruments. In the 1960's Ken had been an active member of Cleveland's well-known powerpop group, *The Choir* whose hit *It's Cold Outside* remains as one of the biggest singles in Cleveland's local music history and remains on the radio today. Later, that band split up and became the Raspberries under singer, Eric Carmen (songwriter of hits like *Hungry Eyes* and *All By Myself*). Joe Walsh of The Eagles was also present at that time as a member of the *James Gang*. Ethan grew up in this environment and around many of his father's bandmates where musical expression was a key part of life.

In Chagrin Falls, Ethan was active musically studying drums in the jazz band but when he arrived in Richfield, his interest in sports took over and he took a musical hiatus in favor of playing baseball, basketball and collecting sportscards.

At age 15 Ethan got a job first at Whitey's and then at Gasoline Alley where fellow workers started influencing his music and culture outlook. With this new outlook, Ethan would form a punk rock band named *Pinball Youth* with Jeff Bloomhuff, Michael Schmeltzer and Ian Engasser. The band name paid tribute to their love of pinball, bowling alleys and their frequent trips to downtown Cleveland to see the punk rock stars of the era.

Ethan graduated Revere High in 1996 and began college at University of Michigan where he quickly became absorbed in musical studies along with obtaining a degree in Spanish and musical accolades by the school. His interest in Flamenco music was spurred by a concert in Ann Arbor, MI played by one of the greatest guitarists the world has ever witnessed...Paco de Lucía. After seeing this concert, Ethan was so impacted that he began a self-schooled exploration of the genre which would change his life forever. He moved full time to Spain in 2001 and never looked back. He was aware that Flamenco music required complete commitment and dedication to understand and that it would be very difficult to achieve that in the USA. 11 years later, Ethan moved back to Los Angeles, CA from Spain and delved into the thriving jazz scene that the city had to offer. He was a regular, featured performer at iconic clubs such as the *Baked Potato*, *Hotel Café* and *The Blue Whale*. He spent approximately 15 more years in the LA area returning often to Spain to play festivals and record new music. Later, with a desire to live in a more rural area after so many busy years in cities, he moved to the *Santa Ynez Valley* in Santa Barbara County where he currently resides.

Just as American jazz musicians relocated to Europe for generations to find a level of artistic freedom, Ethan's journey to Spain served to refine his own artistic expression after transitioning from guitarist-songwriter to nylon guitarist. He credits his Romany adoptive family as providing an enormous inspiration for both his life and his art. Finding a singular voice for his expression has been the post-Spain objective for his musical endeavors. He is an avid Delta Blues and Jazz aficionado as well as having directed multiple theater and recording projects with luminary musicians in the jazz and session worlds. His collaborative list of artists include musicians such as Chano Domínguez, Larry Grenadier, Macy Gray, Judith Hill, Deron Johnson, Mitchel Forman, Gary Novak, Jimmy Haslip, Eric Harland, Carlos Henriquez and Pedrito Martinez. Additionally he has collaborated in a special project with Ohio comic artist extraordinaire, Bill Watterson, creator of *Calvin and Hobbes*.

His discography so far encompasses albums as a leader, such as *Interlude of the Duende*, *The Blues Around Us*, *Soleángeles*, *Arsa 100*, *En Madrid*, *Speakeasy Session*, and *Sonikete Blues*. He is affiliated with record labels such as *Ropeadope*, *DiscMedi* and *Unifying Sounds*.

Entrenched by now in his still-maturing musical saga, Margolis continues the process of finding surprising--yet also logical--connections in the many strands of his musical life's tapestry. He is an artist firmly in sync with an era of redefining of musical identities in formerly fixed musical genres. In effect, Margolis has found himself in both the roots and various offshoots, and his own links thereof, within the music world.

*His life philosophy is --- "to travel at every opportunity and to continuously interact with people who come from different backgrounds than oneself. Listen always and speak only from experience -- never assume you know more than the person you are speaking to."

Full Profile:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1VYTto4ewVm5rWBOxQ0eROU2hat7HmZaZmrMkDA19Lz0/edit?usp=sharing>