



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Quarter Notes

JIM HOGAN, EDITOR

MARCH 2015

CYS PREMIER PERFORMANCE IN HAYWARD

The internationally recognized and award-winning California Youth Symphony, under the direction of Maestro Leo Eylar, continues its 63rd season with a pair of outstanding concerts - on Sunday, March 15 at 2:30pm at the Flint Center, DeAnza College, Cupertino and on Sunday, March 22 at 2:30pm at the Performing Arts Center at Chabot College, Hayward. The Chabot College performance will be the first-ever appearance by the Youth Symphony in Hayward. The featured soloist for the concerts will be the amazing young pianist Victor Xie performing the Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No. 2. He was a winner of the California Youth Symphony Young Artist Competition held last spring at Stanford University. Mr. Xie was a winner at the Menuhin piano competition in 2011 as well as the U.S. Open piano competition in 2012. Also on the bill will be Rachmaninov's ultra-romantic Symphony No. 3 and the finale of Arnold Shoenberg's renowned orchestration of Brahms' Piano Quartet in G minor. Tickets for these concerts are \$15 general admission, \$10 for students and seniors. However, readers of this Quarter Notes newsletter can visit our website at www.cys.org to obtain a free voucher good for up to six admissions to the concert. Please be sure to join us for what will certainly be a memorable concert series.

MARCH CONCERTS FEATURE PIANO COMPETITION WINNER VICTOR XIE

16-year-old Victor Xie was the winner of the 2014 California Youth Symphony Young Artist Competition. He performs the Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No. 2 on our March concert set (see article above). Victor began his musical studies at the age of 7 and is currently under the guidance of both Ms. Erna Gulabyan and Mr. Hans Boepple. He was a winner at the Menuhin piano competition in 2011 and U.S. Open piano competition in 2012. He also performed in the Carnegie/Weill Recital Hall twice as a winner for American Fine Arts Festival competition 2011 and for the International Young Gifted Musician Festival's "Passion Of Music 2013" competition. This year he will appear in recital as a winner of San Francisco State University's 32nd Annual San Francisco Young Pianists Competition. Victor recently performed the Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Mercury Orchestra at Sanders Theater, Harvard, as a winner of the 2014 Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts Concerto Competition. He attended the California Summer Music camp in 2012 and the Adamant Summer Music school in 2013. Victor plays violin in the Senior Symphony at El Camino Youth Symphony. He attends Ocean Grove Charter School.



YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Each spring the California Youth Symphony holds its Young Artist Competition to select soloists for the following season to appear with the CYS Orchestra. This year's Competition will be held on May 9 at Stanford University. The Competition is open to any instrumental soloist under age 19. Contestants may be auditioned on the piano, or any symphonic instrument. Two artists will be chosen, by a panel of three judges, to perform with the CYS Orchestra during the November or March concert series of the 2015-16 season.



**Application forms and full information are available on our website, www.cys.org.
The deadline to submit the completed application is April 20, 2015.**

CYS ENSEMBLES JOIN ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA FOR CONCERT

The March 8 CYS Associate Orchestra concert in the Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College will offer an additional treat for our audience - the concert will open with performances by the CYS Wind Ensemble and the CYS String Ensemble. The Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Rosita Amador, and the String Ensemble, under the direction of Kati Kyme, will perform works by Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven and Smetana. Following intermission the Associate Orchestra, conducted by Leo Eylar, will present works by Beethoven, Britten, and Rimsky-Korsakov. Violin soloist Christine Lee will join the Orchestra for the first movement of Lalo's famous *Symphonie espagnole*. The concert will begin at 2:00pm. No tickets are needed for admission. Foothill College is located at the El Monte Road exit from I-280 in Los Altos Hills.

CYS ANNOUNCES 2016 TOUR PLANS

As we often remind our loyal readers, CYS was the first orchestra in the U.S. to tour overseas when, in 1963, the orchestra accepted an invitation to visit Japan. Since then the orchestra has visited 5 continents on its 19 additional tours, winning awards and accolades worldwide. For its 21st international tour the CYS Board of Directors recently accepted a proposal for travel to Italy and Austria in June 2016. Although still in the planning stages, of course, the itinerary is expected to include performances in Salzburg, Verona, Montecatini and Rome. Organizing a tour for 100+ musicians as well as music staff and parent chaperones is a huge undertaking, and will require dedicated efforts from staff and volunteers for fundraising and the many other elements that go into making a successful tour. But if the previous 20 tours are any indication, the 2016 tour will be a memorable, once-in-a-lifetime experience for our young musicians. Stay tuned to future editions of Quarter Notes for updates.



ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA SOLOIST CHRISTINE LEE

Christine Jiwoo Lee was one of two winners of the recent CYS Associate Orchestra Concerto Competition. Christine is currently a seventh grader at Redwood Middle School in Saratoga. She began studying violin at the age of 5 under Jung-son Im and has been studying with Eugenia Wie since 2011. This is her first year in CYS. She is also a member of the Redwood Chamber Orchestra. Christine has won several awards in various competitions, including grand prize in the 2012 Korea Times Youth Music Competition for the violin and viola division at the age of 10. In 2014, she won first place in the US Open Music Competition (USOMC) and was chosen as an Outstanding Gold Medalist at the Winner's Concert. Christine was also the First Place winner at the CMTANC (Chinese Music Teacher's Association of Northern California) International Youth Music Competition in 2014.



This year she was accepted as first violin in the 2015 California All-State Junior High School Orchestra.

In addition to her violin studies, each year Christine participates in school musicals. In her free time she enjoys playing video games, computer programming, and hanging out with friends.

JOINING CYS

Although the deadline for signing up for an audition to join one of the CYS orchestras or ensembles for next season has recently past (March 1), interested young musicians are still encouraged to keep an eye on our website (www.cys.org) in case additional openings become available.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

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| March 8 | Associate Orchestra + String & Wind Ensembles Concert - Foothill College, 2pm |
| March 15 | Senior Orchestra Concert - Flint Center, 2:30pm |
| March 22 | Senior Orchestra Concert - Chabot College, 2:30pm |
| May 10 | Senior Orchestra Concert - San Mateo Performing Arts Center, 2:30pm |
| May 17 | Senior Orchestra Concert - Flint Center, 2:30pm |
| May 31 | Associate Orchestra Concert - Foothill College, 2pm |
| June 7 | String & Wind Ensembles Concert - Foothill College, 2pm |
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California Youth Symphony



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CYS Debuts New Web Page
After months of preparation, CYS has just launched an exciting new version of its website.
Please check it out at www.cys.org and let us know what you think.

CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY
Leo Eylar, Conductor

Fanfare from *La Peri* Paul Dukas
Rondo alla zingarese from Piano Quartet in G minor Arnold Schoenberg/Johannes Brahms
Piano Concerto No. 2 Camille Saint-Saëns
Victor Xie, soloist
Symphony No. 3 Sergei Rachmaninov

Sunday, March 15, 2:30pm
Flint Center, Cupertino
DeAnza College Campus
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Sunday, March 22, 2:30pm
Reed L. Buffington Visual & Performing Arts Center
Chabot College
25555 Hesperian Boulevard, Hayward

TICKETS: Adults \$15, Students and Seniors \$10

Available at the door or from any CYS member

CYS, 441 California Ave. #5 Palo Alto, CA 94306 • tel. 650/325-6666 • www.cys.org

No children under five, please • For Senior Citizen Ticket Information Contact: Deanna Gerner dgerner@gmail.com