

California Youth Symphony



441 California Ave.
Suite Number 5
Palo Alto, CA 94306

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JOINING CYS FOR NEXT SEASON?

Application Deadline is March 1st
(Check www.cys.org for availability)

- AUDITION DATES -

ORCHESTRA

April 1, 2, 9, 15, 16, 22, and 23

WIND & STRING ENSEMBLES

April 9 and April 16

PERCUSSION

April 2 and April 9

CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Leo Eylar, Conductor

Blue Cathedral Jennifer Higdon

Sinfonia Concertante..... Serge Prokofiev

Jeremy Tai, soloist

Pines of Rome..... Ottorino Respighi

Sunday, March 13, 2:30pm

Flint Center, Cupertino
DeAnza College Campus
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Sunday, March 20, 2:30pm

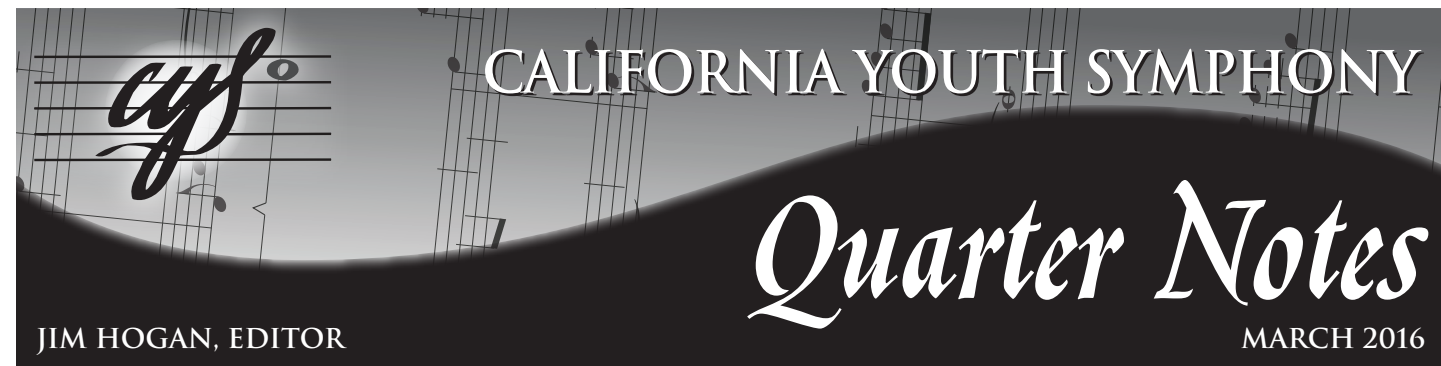
San Mateo Performing Arts Center
San Mateo High School
600 N. Delaware St., San Mateo, CA 94401

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: judy@cys.org



MARCH SPECTACULAR

March 2016 will prove to be a memorable and musical month for CYS. We will offer three outstanding concerts - our "Festival Concert" featuring the CYS Associate Orchestra as well as our String and Wind Ensembles, and two concerts featuring our Senior Orchestra. All three performances will showcase outstanding young soloists. And in a first for CYS, the soloists are siblings! Jeremy Tai, winner of the 2015 CYS Young Artist Competition, performs on March 13 and 20 with the Senior Orchestra, while his sister, Naomi Tai, winner of the CYS Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition, performs in the Festival Concert on March 6. Please be sure to join us for these outstanding musical events.



SENIOR ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

The March concert series for the CYS Senior Orchestra begins on Sunday, March 13 at 2:30pm in the Flint Center on the campus of DeAnza College in Cupertino. The concert is repeated the following Sunday, March 20 at 2:30pm at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center on the campus of San Mateo High School. In anticipation of the upcoming CYS tour to Italy this season, we offer on our March concert series the symphonic masterpiece *Pines of Rome*, by Ottorino Respighi. This most famous of the trilogy of Rome-inspired orchestral showpieces by Respighi paints evocative images of Roman Catacombs, nightingales singing in the evening air, and remembrances of former Roman glories on the Appian Way. Our featured soloist Jeremy Tai, winner of the 2015 CYS Young Artist Competition, will perform one of Prokofiev's final works, the *Sinfonia Concertante* for Cello and Orchestra, commissioned and first performed by the great Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich one year before the composer's death. The orchestra will also perform the wonderfully exotic and ethereal *Blue Cathedral*, composed by acclaimed American composer Jennifer Higdon.



CELLIST JEREMY TAI

Cellist Jeremy Tai, 17, is the winner of the instrumental division of the 2015 California Youth Symphony Young Artist Competition held at Stanford University last April. He studies with Jonathan Koh at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College Division. Jeremy has also studied with Hans Jensen at Meadowmount School of Music and other renowned teachers.

At age 13, Jeremy made his solo debut at the Robert Mondavi Performing Arts Center performing the Elgar Cello Concerto with the UC Davis Symphony. Soon after he performed with the Palo Alto Philharmonic as the winner of its concerto competition, and with the Utah Symphony as the winner of the Sid & Mary Foulger International Music Festival Concerto Competition. He has since concertized with a number of prestigious local orchestras.

Jeremy is the recipient of numerous top awards including 1st prizes in the MTNA National String Competition, Mondavi Center National Young Artists

Competition, and MTAC VOCE Competition. He was a semi-finalist at the 2014 Klein International Competition and the Stulberg International String Competition. In 2015, Jeremy was named a National Young Arts Finalist. He has twice been featured on the National Public Radio program *From the Top*. He is a senior at Saint Francis High School and lives in Cupertino.

TOUR PLANS SHAPE UP

As faithful Quarter Notes readers know, the CYS Senior Orchestra will tour Austria and Italy in June. Last month, CYS' Dynamic Duo – Music Director Leo Eylar and Orchestra Manager Carmina Eylar – conducted an inspection tour, visiting hotels and concert venues, meeting with key European tour personnel, and making sure that everything is in place for a spectacularly successful tour. The tour will begin in Mozart's home town of Salzburg with a concert at the prestigious Grand Hall of the Mozarteum. The orchestra will then head south to Italy for concerts in Verona and Montecatini before finishing up in Rome for the final concert. Of course a special arrangement is being made to visit the fabled city of Venice along the way.



MISHA JOINS TOUR – NEW VENUE FOR TOUR CONCERT

Those of us who were lucky enough to attend one of last November's Senior Orchestra concerts were treated to an astonishing display of musicianship by young piano soloist Misha Galant in electrifying performances of the nearly impossible to play Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3. The good news for both local and European audiences is that Maestro Eylar has invited Misha to be the soloist on our upcoming tour to Austria and Italy. If you missed Misha in November -- or if, like everyone else who did hear him, you want to hear him again – you are in luck. Misha and the CYS Orchestra will perform their tour repertoire on Sunday, June 19 at 2:30pm in the lovely new San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Misha will perform Gershwin's beloved *Rhapsody in Blue*.



A FESTIVE AFTERNOON

CYS is delighted to continue our March Festival Concert program, at which we feature our Intermediate String Ensemble under the direction of Kati Kyme, our Wind Ensemble II directed by Rosita Amador, and the CYS Associate Orchestra, conducted by Leo Eylar. This is a wonderful opportunity for local audiences to observe and enjoy the full scope of the CYS program and to support the collaborative efforts of all of the groups involved. The concert will be held on Sunday, March 6 at 1:30pm in the Smithwick Theatre on the campus of Foothill College. The Associate Orchestra will perform works by Beethoven, Wagner, Glière, and Luigini, as well as feature Naomi Tai, one of the winners of the Associate Orchestra Concerto Competition, performing a movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. The String Ensemble's performance will include works by C.P.E. Bach, Schubert and Beethoven. The Wind Ensemble's pieces will include works by Puccini and Charles Lecocq. There will be no admission charge for the concert.

Beethoven Wagner Glière Luigini
INTERMEDIATE STRING ENSEMBLE
WIND ENSEMBLE II
ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA
SOLOIST NAOMI TAI



VIOLINIST NAOMI TAI



Violinist Naomi Tai, concertmaster of the CYS Associate Orchestra, was one of the winners of this year's Associate Orchestra Soloist award. She has been studying violin since age 4 with her current teacher Elizabeth Park. She also studied with Pat Burnham for a few years when Ms. Park moved to Korea. At age 7, Naomi won her first competition at the CMTANC Music Competition. Recently, she won the first prize at the Bay Area Music Association's International Music Competition. Naomi loves sharing her music with people. She frequently plays at retirement communities and at her church with her mom and her brother, Jeremy. Besides music, Naomi is an accomplished artist and has received several awards in art contests. She is the designer of the Konpeito Cello Quartet website and Jeremy Tai's album art on his YouTube channel. In her free time, she enjoys cooking and baking. Naomi is a freshman at Saint Francis High School.

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY LOVES CYS

CYS was delighted to host 45 members of the Sacramento State University Renaissance Society at our November 22 concert in San Mateo. CYS Music Director Leo Eylar, who is professor of music and conductor at Sac State, works with the Society, a 2000-member organization of dedicated lifelong learners. They gladly accepted Leo's invitation to attend the concert, and chartered a bus to bring them from Sacramento. Society spokesman Bob Seyfried later wrote "It was a most moving experience for all.... we could not have had a warmer welcome and send off."

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 April 17 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 2016-17 season. Application forms and full information are available on our website, www.cys.org. The deadline to submit the completed application is March 31, 2016.