



# CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

## Quarter Notes

JIM HOGAN, EDITOR

MAY/JUNE 2019



## Grand Finales!

The 2018-19 season comes to a spectacular conclusion with a series of concerts that will demonstrate the amazing talents of our California Youth Symphony musicians. Seven ensembles, with members ranging from ages 9 to 18, will perform in May and June. Read the details below. We hope that you will join us!

### CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY "brilliant" "masterful" "semimiraculous" SEASON FINALE

#### CYS Senior Orchestra

Our Senior Orchestra wraps up its season, under the baton of Music Director Leo Eylar, at 2:30pm on Sunday, May 19 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. This season finale, Maestro Eylar assures us, is a concert that will exhilarate and thrill beyond measure. We offer Gustav Mahler's epoch-making Symphony No. 1, aptly subtitled "Titan". One hundred and thirty years after it was written, this first of ten completed symphonies by Mahler is viewed as a classic masterpiece of unsurpassed beauty and drama. Our concert extravaganza will open with Kabalevsky's sparkling Overture to *Colas Breugnon*, and we will also feature our Senior Soloist Competition winners: Katie Lang performing the 1st movement of the Nielsen Flute Concerto, Jennifer Haneul Park on violin performing Saint-Saëns: *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso*, Melody Chen performing the 1st movement of the Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 2 and Emily Du performing the 3rd movement of the Ibert Flute Concerto.



#### CYS Associate Orchestra and CYS Wind Symphony

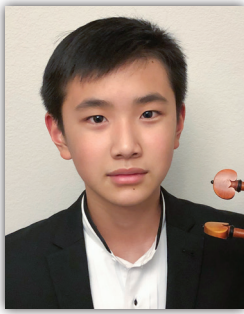
Two of our premier ensembles share the bill on what is sure to be a remarkable afternoon of music, Sunday May 26 at 2:00pm in the theater at Cañada College, Redwood City. Our Wind Symphony will open the program, featuring works by Balmages, Mackey, and more. The Wind Symphony will be conducted by longtime CYS favorite Maestro Pete Nowlen. Maestro Eylar will conduct the CYS Associate Orchestra in a program of immense power and drama. We open with the Overture to *Die Meistersinger*, by the titan of German opera in the 19th century, Richard Wagner. Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition winner Ethan Chen will perform Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Rococo Theme*. A very special addition to this concert will be the CYS Associate Orchestra percussion section performing two works under the direction of our esteemed Percussion Director Artie Storch. We conclude our season with selections from perhaps the greatest orchestral work ever composed: Beethoven Symphony no. 5.

#### CYS String & Wind Ensembles

The California Youth Symphony will conclude its 2018-19 season with performances by the String Ensembles, under the direction of Kati Kyme, and our Wind Ensembles under the baton of Rosita Amador, on Sunday, June 2 in the Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills. The Strings will perform at 1:30pm and the Winds at 3:00pm. Please join us to experience the talents of these young musicians-in-training as they perform classical and film works by Mozart, Prokofiev, Gershwin, and more.



## ∞ The Soloists of our Season Finales ∞



**Ethan Chen**, a winner of the 2018-19 California Youth Symphony Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition, was born into a third-generation musical family. He has been learning cello since he was six years old and this is his second year playing in California Youth Symphony Associate Orchestra as principal cello. Ethan tells us that playing in CYS has greatly enhanced his passion and devotion to music and taught him to be disciplined. Ethan also enjoys playing chamber music and is an enthusiastic soloist. He will perform the 3rd movement of the Weber: Clarinet Concerto No. 1 on May 26 with the CYS Associate Orchestra.



**Melody Chen**, 17, is a winner of the CYS Senior Soloist Competition. She will perform the 1st movement of the Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 2 on May 19 with our Senior Orchestra. Melody began studying the violin at the age of 6. For the past 6 years, she has been performing with the California Youth Symphony and has been studying with Motoko Toba from Santa Clara University. She has won numerous awards, including Grand Place at the Silicon Valley Youth Music Competition, 1st Place at the DVC/HNU Young Artist String Competition, 1st Place at the KAMSA Competition, 1st Place at the Fremont Unified School District Talent Show, and more. She is thankful for her parents' support of her musical endeavors.



**Emily Du**, a winner of the CYS Senior Soloist Competition, began her music studies at the age of five, learning piano and then starting flute at age eleven with Kassey Plaha, who she currently studies with. Since then, she has joined many ensembles, such as the Lynbrook High School Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra and CYS Senior Orchestra, and is currently principal flute of all three. She has also auditioned into many honor ensembles, including Santa Clara County Honor Band and All-State Honor Ensembles. In addition, she has participated in chamber groups, winning awards at the local and state level.



**Katie Lang**, 17, is a senior at Branham High School. She will perform the 1st movement of the Nielsen Flute Concerto with the CYS Senior Orchestra on May 19. Katie has been playing the flute since 5th grade, and is currently co-principal flute of California Youth Symphony. This is Katie's third year in CYS, with one year in the Wind Symphony and one year in the Associate Orchestra. In her junior year, Katie played in the Santa Clara County Honor Band and the California All-State Concert Band.



**Jennifer Park**, 18, a winner of the annual CYS Senior Soloist Competition, is an Assistant Concertmaster of the California Youth Symphony Orchestra. She will demonstrate her considerable talent on violin when she performs the Saint-Saëns *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso* on May 19 with the CYS Senior Orchestra. Jennifer began her musical journey by learning the piano at age 4, and later, learning violin at age 8. She has studied with Tina Min, Li Lin, and Pat Burnham, and she is currently under the guidance of Elizabeth Park.

## Buen Viaje! *CYS to tour South America in 2020*

As faithful readers of *Quarter Notes* know, the California Youth Symphony was the first youth orchestra ever to tour overseas when it accepted an invitation to visit and perform in Japan in 1963. That historic tour opened the door for countless other youth music groups to spread international goodwill and friendship. And CYS has continued its trailblazing with biennial international tours to many corners of the globe. The CYS Board of Directors recently approved the organization's 21st tour. In June 2020 the Senior Orchestra will travel to Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. There are four concerts planned for the tour, which will include collaborative performances with local youth orchestras as well as full concerts in stunning (and acoustically remarkable) concert halls. The combination of cultural exchange and interaction - always a hallmark of CYS tours - along with a fun-filled sightseeing and travel schedule will make for an unforgettable trip.



### CONGRATULATIONS, MELODY CHOI!

15 year-old Assistant CYS Concertmaster **Melody Choi** has been chosen as one of only twenty-four violinists from around the country to participate in the National Youth Orchestra 2 (NYO2) for the summer of 2019. NYO2 will be led by renowned conductor Carlos Miguel Prieto through a partnership with the New World Symphony. The Orchestra will perform in Miami Beach and at New York's Carnegie Hall.



### OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Every year at this time CYS bids farewell to many young musicians as they graduate high school and move on. We congratulate all of our graduating seniors from our various ensembles and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

#### SENIOR ORCHESTRA

Nicole Adamson  
Allison Chang  
Jamie Chang  
Coral Chen  
Melody Chen  
Catherine Cheng  
Emily Du  
James Edwards  
Avi Gupta  
Saúl Gutierrez  
Sarah Hu  
Vivek Kamarshi  
William Kerr

Daniel Donghyun Koo  
Katie Lang  
Alisa Le Febvre  
Dashiell Lee  
Kate Lee  
Katie Lee  
Chelsea Leung  
Walter Li  
Daniel Lin  
Henry Lin  
Ryan Liu  
Kiran Manikonda  
Ryan Mei  
Jonathan Y Min  
Chetan Mokkaapati

Steven Nguyen  
Kevin Oh  
Jennifer Park  
George Poppitz  
Gaurav Rane  
Camille Shiu  
Ealaph Tabbaa  
Maxim Tikhonov  
Julian Tso  
Emil Tu  
Neil Vaishampayan  
Kenar Vyas  
Mingjia Wang  
Vicki Xu

#### ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA

Justin Liao  
Sarthak Pant  
Trenton VerKuielen

#### INTERMEDIATE STRINGS

Rhea Ahluwalia

#### WIND SYMPHONY

Leslie Pu

**California Youth Symphony**



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**THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**Leo Eylar, Conductor**

Overture to <i>Colas Breugnon</i> .....	Dmitri Kabalevsky
Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, 1st Mvt .....	Carl Nielsen
<i>Katie Lang, flute</i>	
<i>Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso</i> .....	Camille Saint-Saëns
<i>Jennifer Haneul Park, violin</i>	
Violin Concerto No. 2, 1st Mvt .....	Sergei Prokofiev
<i>Melody Chen, violin</i>	
Flute Concerto, 3rd Mvt .....	Jacques Ibert
<i>Emily Du, flute</i>	
Symphony No. 1 .....	Gustav Mahler

**Sunday, May 19th – 2:30pm**

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

Tickets 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*