

Mid-Missouri Area Music Teachers Association and Odyssey Chamber Music Series
present

The 2024 Pre-Collegiate Concerto Competition

Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 3:00pm
First Baptist Church in Columbia, Missouri

Program

Greetings Ayako Tsuruta, Director of the Odyssey Chamber Music Series

Contestant No. 1
3:04pm [7'30]
Isabelle Ortis, piano
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major, K. 467
II. Andante
Carrie Conklin, orchestral accompaniment

Contestant No. 2
3:12pm [8'00]
Anya Akhmadullina, violin
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
Violin Concerto in A Major, K. 219 "Turkish"
III. Rondeau - Tempo di Minuetto
Natalia Bolshakova, orchestral accompaniment

Contestant No. 3
3:21pm [14'00]
Ethan Fu, piano
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37
I. Allegro con brio
Ayako Tsuruta, orchestral accompaniment

Short Break (5 min)

Contestant No. 4
3:40pm [8'00]
Caleb Mayer, piano
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 73
II. Adagio un poco mosso
Carrie Conklin, orchestral accompaniment

Contestant No. 5
3:49pm [10'00]
Liang Lim, violoncello
Franz Joseph Haydn:
Concerto in C Major, Hob. VIIb:1
I. Moderato
Chris Vitt, orchestral accompaniment

Contestant No. 6
4:00pm [7'30]

Lauren Miyamoto, piano
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37
III. Rondo. Allegro – Presto
Ayako Tsuruta, orchestral accompaniment

Short Break (5 min)

Contestant No. 7
4:13pm [6'15]

Zoe Baldwin, Hayden Baker, and Brandon Hu, violins
Johann Sebastian Bach:
Concerto in D Major for Three Violins, BWV 1064R
I. Allegro
Vera Parkin, orchestral accompaniment

Contestant No. 8
4:20pm [14:30]

Jerry Chang, piano
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 37
I. Allegro con brio
Nancy Mayo, orchestral accompaniment



Judges deliberate.

ca. 5:20pm

Group Photo

Result announcement.

Acknowledgement of Participants

Honorable Mention(s)

Alternate

Winners of the 2024 Pre-Collegiate Concerto Competition

The 2024 Pre-Collegiate Aria/Concerto Competition is generously sponsored by the Mid-Missouri Area Music Teachers Association (MMAMTA) and the Paul D. Higday Mozart Trust.

We gratefully acknowledge the performers and their dedicated teachers for their extra time invested in preparing for this event.

Special thanks to the First Baptist Church of Columbia for the use of their sanctuary, and the Odyssey Board for their support for the event.

About the Soloists:

Isabelle Ortis is freshman in high school. She has played piano for 5 years, and currently studies with Carrie Conklin. Isabelle is also a member of the Missouri Symphony Conservatory. In addition, she also has 2 years of performing experience at the Midwest Christian School Academic and Fine Arts Festival, performed at the 2022 MU COMP Festival, and at the 2023 Piano Student Showcase performance.

Anya Akhmadullina, a junior at Hickman High School in Columbia, Missouri, started playing both violin and piano at the age of four and has the distinction of having won prizes at each MMTA Competition for the past 11 years on both instruments. In 2023 Anya was chosen as Concertmaster of the Missouri All-State Orchestra and is currently a member of the 1st violin section of the St. Louis Youth Orchestra, where she has performed under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. In the summer of 2023, she attended the Musica Mundi festival in Belgium where she worked with Alexandra Soumm and Jacques Rouvier, among others. This coming summer, Anya has been selected to join the National Youth Orchestra of the USA, which will perform under Marin Alsop at Carnegie Hall and on a tour of South America in Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo. Anya is currently studying violin with Julie Rosenfeld and wishes to express her heartfelt thanks to Scott Yoo for his invaluable coaching, as well as to her previous teachers Amy Appold, Siri Geenen, Pavel Ilyashov, and Renan Leme.

Ethan Fu is an 8th grader at Gentry middle school. His favorite subjects are Geometry and Orchestra (violin). He also does lots of sports after school such as Cross Country, Track, and swimming. Ethan loves piano so much, he loves the beautiful sound it makes. Ethan began his piano journey when he was 8 years old, by studying with Mrs. Melissa Duncan in Springfield. When he moved to Columbia 2 years ago, he had lessons on Zoom with her at first. After a few months he began studying with Ayako Tsuruta. He participates in MMTA, Federation, and Guild. In his free time, he enjoys playing Games and hanging out with friends.

Caleb Mayer has been playing piano since 2015 and has participated in NFMC auditions since then. He has also participated in various music festivals at the middle school and high school levels. Caleb is a sophomore at Rock Bridge High School and plays percussion in the Symphonic Band. Caleb also enjoys football and basketball.

Liang Lim is currently a sophomore at Hickman High School. He began studying cello in MU's String Project. Two years later, he began studying with Kirk Trevor. Liang always enjoyed playing cello and really started to appreciate classical music when he was in 8th grade, which prompted him to practice more. Liang also participated in Missouri Symphony Conservatory, and is currently a member of the Missouri Academy of Music and the Redbud Quartet. He has participated in events such as MMTA and Federation. As a pianist, Liang is currently studying with Chris Vitt. He has received consecutive "Superior" ratings in Federation. In the MMTA State Competition, he received Honorable Mention in 2022 and was the winner in 2023. Outside of music, Liang's hobbies include cooking, baking, karate, traveling, and spending time with friends.

Lauren Miyamoto is a freshman at Rock Bridge High School. She began learning piano with Natalia Bolshakova when she was 5 ½ years old, but music has always been around even before she was born. Currently studying piano with her mom, Lauren participates in MMTA, Piano Showcase, Federation, and Guild auditions, and studies theory and enjoys playing in piano ensembles at Columbia Music School. Lauren enjoys baking, playing the viola, competing in Speech and Debate, and participating in various school extracurricular activities.

Hayden Baker is in 10th grade at the Ladue Horton Watkins High School in St. Louis, and has just begun studying with Joo Kim. Currently Assistant Principal Second Violin of St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, Hayden is looking forward to upcoming concerto performances, with Belleville Philharmonic in March, and with Town & Country Symphony Orchestra in Fall 2024. Hayden has numerous performing experiences, including chamber music at Madeline Island Chamber Music for Strings and Arianna

Chamber Music Festival, in addition to participating in master classes with concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra David Kim, and Alejandro Valdepenās.

Zoe Baldwin is in 9th grade at Clayton High School, and has been studying with Angie Smart for three years. Zoe has performed in biannual studio recitals, in addition to performing chamber music at the Arianna Chamber Music Festival and Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival. Zoe has won the Young Peoples Symphonic Orchestra, St. Louis Civic Orchestra, and UMSL Young Artists concerto competitions, in addition to participating in the MTNA competition the past two years.

Violinist **Brandon Hu** is in 8th grade at John Burroughs School in St. Louis, and has studied violin for 6 years with Joo Kim. Brandon has performed both solo and chamber music at Summer String Academy at the Indiana University. Last Fall, Brandon was the Alternate in the 2023 MTNA Junior Strings. In addition to being the principal second violinist in the Young People's Symphonic Orchestra Community Music School of Webster University, Brandon is currently a member of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Jerry Chang, a 10th grade student at the John Burroughs School in St. Louis, Missouri, started playing piano at age four and currently studies with Ms. Zena Ilyashov and Dr. Sasha Starceovich. Jerry has won top prizes in many prestigious piano competitions, his recent accolades include the Winner of 2023-2024 MTNA West-Central Division and Missouri State Piano Competition Senior Division, one of the seven semi-finalists for the 2023 Yamaha USASU International Junior Piano Competition, two-time Chopin scholarship recipient by the U.S. Chopin Foundation, 2023 YoungArts Winner (Honorable Mention) and 2024 Winner with Distinction (Finalist) for the Classical Music/Piano category by the National YoungArts Foundation. Jerry has appeared on local and national radio programs, including St. Louis Classic 107.3, St. Louis Public Radio, WXQR New York Classical Radio Station, NPR's From the Top, and NPR's Tiny Desk Concert. He was also chosen to perform at the 2023 National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) People of Color Conference with an audience of over 6000. Jerry made his orchestra debut with the Alton Symphony Orchestra in Illinois at age nine and has since performed with the Virtuosi Brunensis Orchestra in Italy and the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis. He has undergone training through master classes led by renowned musicians and actively participated in various summer music festivals and camps. Beyond the stage, Jerry is committed to spreading the joy of music with his community. He frequently volunteers at Chinese schools and cultural festivals, accompanies local ensembles, and entertains residents at senior living centers. He is the founder and leader of his high school's Performance Club which blends cultural diversities with musical artistry. Additionally, he serves as a soloist for the national Back to Bach Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring music and arts education in children through programs emphasizing the value of hard work and passion. He is also a volunteer/teacher at the "Pianos for People," a nonprofit organization in St. Louis City that provides free pianos and music classes to families and children in need.

Competition Winners will perform with the Odyssey Chamber Ensemble on April 5. Hear them in a live concert in person, or via livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/c/OdysseyPlowman>

"Baroque Concerto" is livestreamed
on April 5 (Fri) 7:00pm



Facebook.com/OdysseyMissouri/Live
YouTube Channel: OdysseyPlowman

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About the Judges:



Dominique Archambeau began her musical training in Chicago, where she was an alumnus of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras and a featured artist in the Grant Park Music Festival's Young Artist Showcase. Ms. Archambeau has since appeared as a soloist with orchestras in the US and abroad, including concerto performances during an international tour with the Gabrovo Chamber Orchestra (Bulgaria) and, most recently, was selected as the 2023 Artist-In-Residence with the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra. As a chamber musician, Ms. Archambeau was a founding member of several award-winning ensembles, including Siren Duo—a clarinet and viola ensemble that primarily performed contemporary works by living and underrepresented composers—and Kaydenn String Quartet. During her tenure with KSQ, Dominique has performed alongside the renowned Cavani Quartet, as well as with members of the Kronos and Aizuri Quartets. A sought-after chamber musician and collaborator, Ms. Archambeau has participated in several residencies as a member of KSQ, including the Green Lake Festival of Music. Ms. Archambeau is a passionate educator as well as performer: she is currently on the string faculty at Knox College (Galesburg, IL.), where she also is the violist of the Knox-Galesburg Symphony's resident string quartet. Past faculty appointments include Kirkwood Community College and the Preucil School of Music. Ms. Archambeau is a Doctoral Candidate in Viola Performance and Pedagogy, with a secondary area in Chamber Music Entrepreneurship, at the University of Iowa (ABD). During its inaugural Firefly Music Festival in 2023, Ms. Archambeau was appointed as Associate Principal Viola of the Missouri Symphony, where she is now the Director of Operations.



Dr. Helena Hyesoo Kim, a Korean-Canadian pianist recognized for her sensitive and noble playing, has performed at various venues across the Netherlands, France, Russia, Spain, Korea, Canada, and the United States, including Carnegie Hall (Stern Auditorium) in New York and Severance Hall in Cleveland, Ohio. Kim actively collaborates with various musicians and settings, including Su-Mi Cho (soprano), Jens Lindemann (trumpet), Curtis Pavey (piano duo), Christopher Pell (clarinetist), Chris Blaha (tuba), and Todd Gaffke (saxophone). She has also served as a collaborative pianist at the College-Conservatory of Music, Northern Kentucky University, and at the University of Akron where she held the position of Coordinator of Collaborative Piano. Kim received her musical training from Yewon Art School and the Saint-Petersburg Pre-Conservatory. She then pursued further education at the University of British Columbia (BSc & BMus), McGill University (MMus), and the University of Cincinnati (DMA) under tutelage of Ran Dank, Kyoko Hashimoto, and Eugene Skovorodnikov. Kim advocates for the works of underrepresented composers, with a particular focus on female composers such as Caroline KyungA Ahn, Alexina Louie, Sofia Gubaidulina, and Galina Ustvolskaya. Her DMA research revealed unique unifying elements in Galina Ustvolskaya's piano sonatas, works that were marginalized because of repression by the Soviet government. As an educator, Kim has taught diverse groups of piano students in both private and group settings. She has presented at state and national conferences and produced an online teaching video for the Frances Clark Center's Inspiring Artistry series. In Spring 2024, she is teaching at St. Charles Community College in St. Louis, MO, and at the University of Missouri.