

Performer Biographies

Carolynn Cong, 13, is a student of Fei Xu at New Century Conservatory in Chandler, Arizona. She has studied piano for eight years, winning numerous awards from competitions in Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Arizona. Her latest achievements include being named the first place winner of the Arizona Young Artist Piano Competition and a National Finalist of the Junior Baldwin MTNA competition. Carolynn will be attending Pinnacle High School as a freshman this fall. She enjoys swimming and playing tennis in her free time.

Sean Yeh studies with Emilio del Rosario and Matthew Hagle at the Music Institute of Chicago, and with Alan Chow from Northwestern University. Sean has won many honors, including being a national finalist in the MTNA Junior and Senior Competitions, winning First Place in the Sejong Music Competition, and Third Place in the Steinway Young Artists Competition. Sean made his debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2008.

Micah McLaurin, from Charleston, SC, has been studying piano for five years under Marsha Gerber. He has been a winner of the SCMTA Pre-College Piano Auditions four years in a row, and has appeared twice on SC Educational Television as a winner of the SC Piano Festival. He has received "Critics' Circle" ratings in the National Guild Audition four years in a row, and represented his state in the Southern Division 2007 MTNA National Competition.

Born in Singapore, 14-year-old **Kate Liu** has been playing piano since she was four years old. Now a freshman at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Kate is studying piano at the Music Institute of Chicago with Emilio del Rosario and Micah Yui. Kate has received awards in the Society of American Musicians Competitions and also won the state rounds of the junior MTNA and both the junior and senior divisions of the Chicago Steinway Competition. She performed at the Young Steinway Concert Series in 2007. Aside from music, Kate also enjoys drawing and reading books.

Dominic Cheli, 15, has been playing the piano for nine years. He currently studies with Zena Ilyashov. This year, Dominic won Third Place in the National MTNA Junior Baldwin Piano Competition. He has performed as a soloist with the Gateway Festival Orchestra and at Christ Church Cathedral. He was also the Young Artist Competition winner and appeared on the classical radio show "From the Garden Live!" He plays chamber music in Webster University's Preparatory program.

Anna Han, age 12, was the second place winner of the 2008 Missouri Southern International Piano Competition, the first place winner of the 2007 MTNA Junior Piano Competition, and the third place winner of the 2008 Gina Bachauer Competition. Anna started learning piano with Fei Xu at age five. Since then, she has been the winner of numerous competitions, including the Arizona Youth Piano Competition, the Schimmel Arizona Young Artist Piano Competition, and the 2008 Fountain Hills Piano Competition.



International Institute
for Young Musicians

Winners' Recital

July 13, 2008

The Lied Center of Kansas

Program

The IIYM Summer Music Academy, under the direction of Dr. Scott McBride Smith, is an internationally recognized course of intensive study for young musicians, offering instruction of the highest caliber to students from around the world who wish to improve their mastery of performance.

IIYM Artist-Faculty members are world-renowned. Each has been invited to teach at IIYM for their expertise in teaching and motivation.

IIYM students have won prizes in the Van Cliburn Competition, at the Gilmore Festival, the Chopin Competition in Warsaw, the Art Livre Competition in Brazil, Japan's Hammamatsu Competition, Juilliard's Gina Bachauer Competition, the Chinese Arts Competition and in contests sponsored by the American String Teachers Association and the Music Teachers National Association.

Special Thanks to
Kansas University
and
Jack Winerock, Artistic Director

Sonata Op. 82
IV. Vivace

Carolynn Cong, Finalist

S. Prokofiev
1896-1953

Sonata Op. 36 No. 2
I. Allegro agitato

Sean Yeh, Finalist

S. Rachmaninov
1873-1943

Elegie Op. 3 No. 1
Fantasia Hob. XVII/4

Micah McLaurin, Second Place

S. Rachmaninov
1873-1943
J. Haydn
1732-1809

Alborada del Gracioso
from Miroirs
Rigoletto Paraphrase

Kate Liu, Second Place

M. Ravel
1875-1937
F. Liszt
1811-1886

Sonata Op. 90
I. Mit Lebhaftigkeit und durchaus mit Empfindung und Ausdruck
Two Poems Op. 32

Dominic Cheli, Second Place, Audience Prize

L. Beethoven
1770-1827
A. Scriabin
1872-1915

Isolde's Liebestod S. 447
Toccata

Anna Han, First Place

F. Liszt/R. Wagner
1811-1886
V. Filipenko
1939-