



The Society of American Musicians

2008 Competition Winner's Concert

June 13, 2008
7:30 PM

Music Institute of Chicago, Evanston
Nichols Concert Hall
1490 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201

The **Society of American Musicians**, a non-profit organization, was founded in 1914 with the intent of promoting the best interests of music in America, and maintaining the highest standards of musicianship. Through the competition, its awards, and performance opportunities, the Society offers assistance and encouragement to young musicians and promising artists.

The Society of American Musicians is an organization comprised of professional musicians, both performers and teachers. Although it is based in Chicago, our members reside in the Midwestern region, and have students that travel to Chicago annually to participate in the Society's prestigious competition.

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It is your generosity and unwavering commitment that has allowed us to continue fostering a generation of new musical talent.

For more information, please contact the
Artistic Director, **Katherine K. Lee**
director@samusicians.com

Schedule of Events

≈ OPENING REMARKS ≈

Dr. Soo Young Lee, President

≈ PERFORMANCES ≈

Winners of the 2008 Competition

≈ GROUP PHOTO ≈

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers

&

Refrain from using flash photography

Program

Mazurka Op. 67, No. 2.....Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
Isa Kaminsky, piano
Recipient of the Mr. & Mrs. KunBok Lee Prize

Praeludium and Allegro..... Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)
Hansuh Rhee, violin
Katherine Lee, piano

The Swan.....Camille Saint Saëns (1835-1921)
Josiah Yoo, cello
Mary Drews, piano

Waltz Op. 64, No. 1 in D flat Major.....Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
Caroline Chen, piano

Banjo and Fiddle.....William Kroll (1901-1980)
Ursula Steele, violin
Shirley Trissell, piano

Pan! Pastorale for Flute.....Joannes Donjon (1839-1912)
Leena Park, flute
Mary Drews, piano

Spanish Dance, Op. 12 no.1.....Moritz Moszkowski (1854-1925)
Stephanie Block, viola
Shirley Trissell, piano

Variations sur les Folies d' Espagne, Op. 45..... Mauro Giuliani (1781- 1829)
Matar-Itai Batyonathan, guitar

Pan and the Shepards.....Jules Mouquet (1867-1946)
Katie Scotkowski, flute
Shirley Trissell, piano

Allegro Appassionato.....Camille Saint Saëns (1835-1921)
Daniel Kaler, cello
Marta Aznavoorian, piano

Intermission

Waltz in C sharp minor, Op.64 No.2Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
Catherine Zhou, piano

Caprice, Op. 1 no.13 in Bb Major.....Niccolò Paganini (1782-1840)
Julia Ghica, violin

Variations on a Theme by Rossini, Op. 101.....Mauro Giuliani (1781-1829)
Rossmann Palfrey, guitar

Concerto for Flute, Op. 39..... Lowell Liebermann (1961-)
I. Moderato
Christine Murphy, flute
Tatyana Stepanova, piano

Cello Sonata in D minor Op.40..... Dmitri Shostakovich (1925-1975)
II. Allegro
Allan Steele, cello
Shirley Trissell, piano

Transcendental Etude #4 "Mazeppa" in D Major..... Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Andrew Ly, piano

La Campenella (arr. Primrose)..... Niccolò Paganini (1782-1840)
Matthew Lipman, viola
Shirley Trissell, piano

Performers

Matar-Itai Batyonathan is a sixteen year-old Israeli-American classical guitarist. He has studied with Scott Matejicka of the Peabody Institute and Franco Platino at the Levine School of Music; presently, he is under the tutelage of Denis Azabagic of Roosevelt University and of Mark Maxwell as a member of the Senior Academy Program at the Music Institute of Chicago. Matar has been a recipient of numerous awards and scholarships, most notably the full Steve Vai scholarship to the National Guitar Workshop in 2007. He was the first guitarist to be among the winners of Peabody Preparatory's Honors Competition, winning multiple times. In addition to the SAM, Matar has also been a first prize winner and first runner-up to the grand prize in the Marlin-Engel Instrumental and Marlow Guitar Competitions respectively. In 2006, he was a performer on NPR's "From the Top" and a recipient of the \$10,000 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. Beyond playing in masterclasses with notable guitarists, Matar enjoys studying Japanese, reading, cinema, and his beloved cat, Ruby.

Thirteen-year-old **Stephanie Block** began her violin studies at age four through the Suzuki Music School of Barrington. In June, 2006, Stephanie came to the Music Institute of Chicago to study violin with Desirée Ruhstrat and started her viola studies in August of 2007. During the summer of 2007, Stephanie performed with the Blue Lake International Symphony Orchestra on a concert tour that covered six communities throughout Germany. This past year, Stephanie performed as principal viola for the Chicago Youth Symphony Concert Orchestra and was a member of the CYCO Principal Players String Quartet. She received an honorable mention for her performance in the CYCO concerto competition.

Pianist **Caroline Chen**, twelve years old, is in seventh grade at Wilmette Junior High School, and has been taking private lessons with Ms. Ann Birman for seven years. She has won the first places in CAMTA Piano Competition, 2008 Sherwood Scholarship Competitions, and was Gold Medalist in the Sonata & Sonata Festival. Caroline is the winner in American Math Competition and Contests of Metropolitan Mathematics Club of Chicago, and was an invitee to the Midwest Academic Talent Search Award Ceremony. She has also won prizes in the Wilmette Art Guild, and is a member of State Championship Team of New Trier Swim Club. She is currently enrolled in the Tuition-Free Conservatory Program at the Merit School of Music, where she takes lessons in music theory, concert choir, and performs in various concerts. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking for her family.

Fourteen-year-old **Julia Ghica** has been playing the violin for the past twelve years. She recently was awarded a scholarship at the Merit School of Music, where she is currently studying with Guillaume Combet. She has appeared on WFMT 98.7 FM on several occasions and is currently a member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, which she toured with last summer. She has soloed with the Chicago Businessman's Orchestra, the Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra, and the Merit Symphony Orchestra. Julia also travels to the Juilliard School of Music for lessons with violinist Hyo Kang.

Ten-year-old **Daniel Kaler** was born into a family of musicians. Being a fifth generation musician, Danny has been surrounded by music since birth. His first hands-on musical experience was conducting the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Children's concert in Rochester, NY at the age of three. Daniel began studying as a violinist, but switched to his real love--the cello-- at age of four. Awards include first prizes at the 2008 Society of American Musicians Competition - Junior Division, and 2006 Society of American Musicians Competition, Primary Division, honorable mention at the 2008 Midwest Young Artist Chamber Music Competition with the Constellation Trio, an appearance on 2006's NBC "America's Got Talent" show. Another passion of his is math, to which he devotes all of his spare time. Daniel is currently studies cello with Professor Hans Jensen and piano with Emilio del Rosario. He is grateful to his two previous cello teachers : Susan Moses of the Indiana University in Bloomington, IN and Gilda Barston of the Music Institute of Chicago. He is currently a member of the Junior Academy Program at the Music Institute of Chicago.

Isa Kaminsky, age 10, has been studying piano with Mary Drews at the Music Institute of Chicago since she was five years old. In 2007, Isa placed 3rd in the Chinese Fine Arts Society Confucius Competition. In 2004 and 2005, she won gold medals in the CAMTA and the NSMTA Sonata Festivals. She plays in a piano trio coached by Eugenia Wie. Isa is a fifth grader at Central School in Glencoe. At Central, she enjoys playing clarinet in the school band and being the class representative for student council. She likes reading, playing tennis, and spending time with friends. Isa has a younger brother, Jakob, who was also a SAM finalist and she is very proud of him.

Matthew Lipman is a sixteen-year-old honor student at Crete-Monee High School who began music studies in the fourth grade. He has studied with Matthew Mantell, Peter Slowik, Li-Kuo Chang, and most recently with Roland Vamos. Matthew's first place awards include the Chicago and the Ohio Viola Society, the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, the Birch Creek Music Festival, the Walgreens National, and the Society of American Musicians competitions; he was named first alternate at the 2008 CSO Youth Auditions. He has appeared on "From the Top" on NPR and PBS television, and he is a recipient of a Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. Matthew has been the principal violist of CYSO and the Encore Chamber Orchestra for three years.

Andrew Ly, 15 years old, is a sophomore at Buffalo Grove High School. He has been playing the piano for 10 years and is under the study of Brenda Huang. Andrew has participated in many piano competitions. His most recent awards include 1st place in the NWSMTA Awards Competition, 2nd place in the state level competition organized by ISMTA, and has won the Harper College Young Artist Concerto Competition for two consecutive years (2006 and 2007). He performed publicly with the Harper Symphony Orchestra twice. His favorite sports are golf and running. He is on the school's Varsity Golf Team, Scholastic Bowl Team, and Jazz Band. He is interested in medical study and architectural design.

Christine Murphy is fourteen and currently studies flute with Hideko Amano. Christine has participated in Midwest Young Artists orchestras for six years. Christine won first place prizes in: the Chicago Flute Club senior division (2007); CFC junior division (2004); SAM senior division (2008), SAM intermediate division (2006); and, SAM junior division (2005). She won second place in the national division of the 2006 and 2007 MTNA junior woodwinds competition. In 2007, Christine was the overall winner of the Junior MYA Walgreens National Concerto Competition and also won the Kishwaukee Symphony Concerto Competition. In 2007 she soloed with MYA Concert Orchestra, Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and the Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra.

Rossman Palfrey (b. 1984) is known for his "deep musicality and expression." He currently studies with world-renowned guitarist Denis Azabagic at the Chicago College of Performing Arts, where he is pursuing a Master's of Music. In 2007, Rossman graduated with a bachelor's degree in Guitar Performance from the prestigious Peabody Conservatory, where he studied with master pedagogue Julian Gray. Rossman has won prizes in numerous competitions, including the 2008 Society of American Musicians Competition and the 2006 D'Addario Strings Competition. Rossman also holds a bachelor's degree in Writing Seminars from Johns Hopkins University. He tutors at the Roosevelt University Writing Center, and teaches privately.

Leena Park, a 12-year-old from Schaumburg, is a sixth grade student at Dirksen Elementary School. A student of Ryunghy Lee, she has been playing flute for one and a half years, and her victory comes with her competitive debut. A promising young talent in flute, she also enjoys playing the piano. When she isn't playing music, she is an accomplished straight-A student and competitive figure skater.

Ten-year-old **Hansuh Rhee** currently attends Hoffman Elementary School. She started violin with Eugenia Wie when she was 7 years old, and also plays the piano and enjoys singing. She was cast in the title role of *Cinderella* for her school's winter play. Hansuh took part of the Okemo Young Artist Festival (formerly Triada Music Festival) in Ludlow, Vermont last year, and will be attending the festival again this summer. She is currently in a string quartet, coached by Marko Dreher, in which she plays viola. Hansuh enjoys the fine arts, math, reading, and running. She was recently accepted into the Junior Academy program at the Music Institute of Chicago, and will participate in the program, which will be situated at the Steans Institute building at Ravinia, this upcoming fall.

Katie Scotkowski recently finished her freshman year at Prospect High School. I currently study with Susan Crandall and have previously studied with Dawn Marie Hirsh and Mary Mc Dermont. I couldn't want anything more than to be in the Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra. I have played with the Schaumburg Youth Symphony Orchestra and am waiting for results from the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. I attend Merit School of Music, a Saturday conservatory. There, I play in the Wind Ensemble and Honors Flute Ensemble. I will be attending two summer camps including: ISYM at University of Illinois and the Sherwood Flute Institute. This is my first year participating in SAM's but I have also played in the honors recital at the Festival of Flutes. At school I play soccer and sing in the Varsity Choir.

Allan Steele is a fourteen year old cellist who is in the Senior Academy program at the Music Institute of Chicago. He currently studies with Hans Jensen at Northwestern University, and his previous teachers have included Susan Moses, Tanya Carey, and Dean Bachus. He has won first place at the MYA competition, the Confucius Competition, the Chicago Youth Concert Orchestra Concerto Competition and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition. He will be soloing with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra this fall, and soloing with the Northwest Symphony Orchestra next spring.

Twelve-year-old **Ursula Steele** is a student of Stacia Spencer at Northwestern University String Academy. She has played the violin since she was four years old. Ursula is a member of the Chicago Youth Concert Orchestra and was formally concertmaster of the Chicago Youth Debut Orchestra. She has won honors in competitions sponsored by the Chinese Fine Arts Society and the Society of American Musicians. She has also performed in master classes for Mimi Zweig of Indiana University and Alf Richard Kraggerud of Norwegian State Academy. Ursula hopes to become a successful novelist as well as a musician.

Cellist, **Josiah Yoo**, is ten-years-old and attends Meadowbrook Elementary School in Northbrook Illinois, where he is a straight A fourth-grade student. He started playing the cello at the age of five and currently studies with Gilda Barston at the Music Institute of Chicago. Josiah has won prizes in the 2006 and 2007 Chinese Fine Arts Society Music competitions and the SAM competition. He is a member of a string quartet with his sister and plays in the school orchestra and at church. In addition to his musical interests and schoolwork, Josiah loves sports and enjoys playing basketball with his team.

Catherine Zhou, age 12, is a seventh grade student at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. She has been studying piano with Laura Fenster since she was five years old. Catherine has won numerous piano competitions including the Steinway Young Artists Competition in 2004, which resulted in a broadcast performance on WFMT; six consecutive gold medals in the Chicago Area Music Teachers Association (CAMTA) Sonata-Sonatina Festival; and second place in the 2007 Roberta Savler Piano Competition (Level D). She also won the top scholarship award in her division at the Sherwood Conservatory of Music for the past five years, and will be competing as a finalist at the advanced level. In addition, Catherine has been an avid chamber music member of several groups within the CYSO's chamber music program for the past four years. She also often accompanies violin students. Catherine studies cello with Janet Janz and currently is the co-principal cellist of Chicago Youth Debut Orchestra. In her free time, Catherine listens to indie rock music and takes care of her two very cute bunnies.

2008 Winners

CELLO	Primary	1st Place ~ Josiah Yoo, <i>Student of Gilda Barston</i> 2nd Place ~ Nathan Walhout, <i>Student of J. Johannesen</i> HM ~ Hannah Block, <i>Student of David Cunliffe</i>
	Junior	1st Place ~ Daniel Kaler, <i>Student of Hans Jensen</i> 2nd Place ~ Garrett Chou, <i>Student of David Cunliffe</i> HM ~ Nathan Walhout, <i>Student of Jeanne Johannesen</i>
	Senior	1st Place ~ Allan Steele, <i>Student of Hans Jensen</i> 2nd Place ~ Sonia Mantell, <i>Student of Hans Jensen</i> HM ~ Lauren Peacock, <i>Student of Gilda Barston</i> HM ~ Audrey Snyder, <i>Student of Blake Brasch</i> HM ~ Stanley Moore, <i>Student of Hans Jensen</i>
FLUTE	Junior	1st Place ~ Leena Park, <i>Student of Ryunghy Lee</i>
	Intermediate	1st Place ~ Katie Scotkwoski, <i>Student of Susan Crandall</i> 2nd Place ~ Sorcha Barr, <i>Student of Hideko Amano</i> HM ~ Emma Stewart, <i>Student of Hideko Amano</i>
	Senior	1st Place ~ Christine Murphy, <i>Student of H. Amano</i> 2nd Place ~ Ryan Zerna, <i>Student of Hideko Amano</i> HM ~ Karen Gallant, <i>Student of Hideko Amano</i>
GUITAR	Senior	1st ~ Matar-Itai Batyonathon, <i>Student of D. Azabagic</i> 2nd Place ~ Adler Scheidt, <i>Student of Jesse Langen</i> HM ~ Chris Linenberger, <i>Student of C.r Linenberger</i>
	Collegiate	1st Place ~ Rossman Palfrey, <i>Student of D. Azabagic</i> 2nd Place ~ Ryan Hood, <i>Student of Denis Azabagic</i> 2nd Place~ Daniel Rectenwald, <i>Student of D.Azabagic</i>
PIANO	Primary	1st Place ~ Isa Kaminsky, <i>Student of Mary Drews</i> 2nd Place ~ Daniel Rong, <i>Student of Brenda Huang</i> HM ~ Michelle Chen, <i>Student of Brenda Huang</i>
	Junior	1st Place ~ Ryan Jannak-Huang, <i>Student of B. Huang</i> 2nd Place ~ Caroline Chen, <i>Student of Ann Birman</i> HM ~ Kyle Jannak-Huang, <i>Student of Brenda Huang</i>
	Intermediate	1st Place ~ Catherine Zhou, <i>Student of Laura Fenster</i> 2nd Place ~ Hannah Kay, <i>Student of Brenda Huang</i>
	Senior	1st Place ~ Andrew Ly, <i>Student of Brenda Huang</i> 2nd ~ Takumi Tateishi, <i>Student of Tatyana Stepanova</i>

VIOLA	Junior	1st Place ~ Hannah Sparagana, <i>Student of D. Ruhstrat</i> 2nd Place ~ Stephanie Block, <i>Student of D. Ruhstrat</i>
	Senior	1st Place ~ Matthew Lipman, <i>Student of Roland Vamos</i> 2nd Place ~ Jaime Sachay, <i>Student of Desirée Ruhstrat</i>

VIOLIN	Primary	1st Place ~ Hansuh Rhee <i>Student of Eugenia Wie</i> 2nd Place ~ Karisa Chiu, <i>Student of Cornelius Chiu</i> 2nd Place ~ Victoria Tu <i>Student of Injoo Choi</i>
	Junior	1st Place ~ Ursula Steele, <i>Student of Stacia Spencer</i> 2nd Place ~ Tabitha Oh, <i>Student of Desirée Ruhstrat</i> HM ~ Emma Sandberg, <i>Student of Gabriel Bolkosky</i>
	Intermediate	1st Place ~ Kevin Hu, <i>Student of Cyrus Forough</i> 2nd Place ~ Julia Ghica, <i>Student of G. Combet</i> HM ~ Benedict Volk, <i>Student of Cyrus Forough</i>
	Young Artist	1st Place ~ Kevin Hu, <i>Student of Cyrus Forough</i> 2nd Place ~ Andrea Jarrett, <i>Student of Almita Vamos</i> HM ~ Michael Rau, <i>Student of Almita Vamos</i> HM ~ Sophia Cho, <i>Student of Almita Vamos</i>

JULES M. LASER CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

1st ~ Trio Vita, <i>Coached by Annie Chalex Boyle</i> Ryan Murphy, <i>violin</i> Stanley Moore, <i>cello</i> Brian Chang, <i>piano</i>
2nd ~ Aurelia Quartet, <i>Coached by Marko Dreher</i> Susie Koh, <i>violin</i> Laura Park, <i>violin</i> Arianna Smith, <i>viola</i> Allan Steele, <i>cello</i>

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for its collaboration in presenting the
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