

# Pacific Musical Society

Dita Pepin, President  
Presents

## The 2009 Annual Competition Winners Concert

Concert Hall, San Francisco Conservatory of Music

May 31, 2009, 2:00 p.m.

### PROGRAMME

**Travis Chen**, Cello, Age 12

*First Place Junior Instrumental Award (6 to 13 years)*

**James Meredith**, Piano

Cello Concerto in D minor I. Lento

Édouard Lalo

**Hilda Huang**, Piano, Age 13

*First Place James Denver Gary Piano Award (6 to 13 years)*

Berceuse, Op. 57

Frédéric Chopin

**Julia Metzler**, Mezzo Soprano, Age 18

*First Place Junior Vocal Award (16 to 18 years)*

**James Meredith**, Piano

Die Mainacht, Op. 43, No. 2

Must the Winter Come So Soon? (from *Vanessa*)

Que fais-tu, blanche tourterelle? (from *Roméo et Juliette*)

Johannes Brahms

Samuel Barber

Charles Gounod

**Angela Hwang**, Piano, Age 18

*First Place M. Alan Neys Piano Award (14 to 21 years)*

Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23

Frédéric Chopin

**Madison Smith**, Soprano, Age 23

*First Place Senior Vocal Award (19 to 25 years)*

**James Meredith**, Piano

Caro nome (from *Rigoletto*)

Die Nacht, Op. 10, No. 3

Matinata

Giuseppe Verdi

Richard Strauss

Ruggero Leoncavallo

**Noel Wan**, Harp, Age 15

*First Place M. Alan Neys Instrumental Award (14 to 21 years)*

Pièce Symphonique en trois episodes

Henriette Renié

**Gabriella Smith**, Composition, Age 17

*First Place Composition Award (14 to 21 years)*

Classical Revolution, Quintet

Quintet for String Quartet and Double Bass

Gabriella Smith



Awards Presentation and Refreshments

## Biographies

Travis Chen, 12 years old, is a student of Sieun Lin. His achievements include receiving the 2009 First Place James Denver Gary Instrumental Award from Pacific Musical Society as well as winning the 2009 Menuhin-Dowling Competition for Young Musicians. In March 2007, he performed with the Fremont Symphony in the Children's Concert series featuring Young Artist Competition winners and was subsequently invited to perform for the Fremont Symphony Orchestra President's Reception. Travis' other accomplishments include winning 1st place and best Chinese piece award in the 2007 Chinese Music Teacher's Association of California Competition as well as winning the 1st place prize in the Music Teacher's Association of California's VOCE in 2006. He was chosen to be a participant in the Junior Bach Festival concert series in 2007 and 2009. Recently, Travis was announced as an ECYS concerto competition winner. In addition to being an accomplished cellist, Travis is a highly motivated pianist, a competitive math contestant, and a proficient debater. In his spare time, he enjoys playing basketball, soccer, chess, and video games.

Hilda Huang, age 13, is a piano student of John McCarthy and studies harpsichord with Professor Corey Jamason in the Preparatory Division at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. In January, Hilda made her concerto debut with the Cincinnati Pops under Erich Kunzel. This occasion also marked her international recording debut on the TELARC label. Additionally, Hilda has been selected to appear in a Michael Lawrence film, *The Bach Project*, performing as well as speaking about her love of the composer's work. A 2008 Davidson Institute Fellow, Hilda received her award at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. She made her Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall debut as 1st place prizewinner of the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition. She is a veteran of *From the Top*, the PBS-TV series. Hilda has been invited by the Glenn Gould Foundation to be one of four people – and the only youth – to have her own bog on its website. Recently accepted to participate in the 7th International Bach Piano Competition in Wurzburg, Germany, and the youngest person to be accepted in the 20-year history of the competition, Hilda has embarked on a ten-year project to learn all of Bach's keyboard works. Hilda completed 8th grade at Jordan Middle School in Palo Alto this past spring. In addition to her musical pursuits, she enjoys swimming, watching *Pet Star* and cooking.

Julia Metzler, Mezzo-Soprano, is a voice major at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, in the studio of César Ulloa. In March 2008, Julia won the Nellie Morris Terry and Francis Paul Morris Vocal Award given by the Glendale Symphony Orchestra's Women's Committee. In 2007, Julia won 1st Place in the Classical Voice division of the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Awards. Julia was named the 2007 Mrs. Helen L. Bing Young Arts Silver Prizewinner in Voice bestowed by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts in Miami. She was a 2007 semi-finalist for the Presidential Scholar in the Arts award, and she won the 2nd place prize in the 2007 National Classical Singer High School Voice Competition in San Francisco. In June 2007, the City of Glendale, California awarded Julia the Diamond Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts. Julia also won 2nd place in the 2006 International Franz Liszt Competition. In 2006, Julia joined the Los Angeles Master Chorale under the direction of Grant Gershon. She became the youngest member at age 16 in the 50 years since Marilyn Horne held that distinction. This summer, Julia has been hired by Crystal Cruise Lines to sing on a trip from Istanbul, Turkey to Venice, Italy.

Angela Hwang, age 18, began studying piano at the age of 5; she is currently a student of Hans Boepple. Earlier this year, Angela was chosen to be in the MTAC Young Artist Guild. She made her debut with the California Youth Symphony in their 2007-2008 season. During the summer of 2008, Angela was invited as guest soloist on CYS's Tour to Japan where she performed in four concerts and recorded a CD with the orchestra. In 2008, Angela placed first at the Henry and Carol Zeiter Piano Competition and was a winner of the Young Pianist Beethoven Competition. She also won 1st place at the Music Teachers' Association of California Division III Regionals. In June of 2007, Angela was given the Steinway Society Award, which signified her victory at the California Youth Symphony Young Artists Competition. That same year, she won the San Jose Youth Symphony Young Artists Competition, allowing her to perform with the symphony in March 2007. She has received the MTAC Panel Honors, 1st place at the MTAC State Concerto Division III. Angela has attended California Summer Music and Aspen Music Festival and School. She plans to continue her musical studies at The Juilliard School with Dr. Yoheved Kaplinsky and Joseph Kalichstein this coming fall.

Madison Smith, Soprano, is quickly earning a reputation for herself after 1st place wins in both Pacific Musical Society's Senior Division Competition and the San Francisco NATS Competition, where she also received the Kathryn Harvey Award. Her recent performances include soloist in *Carmina Burana* with the San Francisco Conservatory Concert Chorale, Minerva in *Orpheus in the Underworld*, soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the San Francisco Sinfonietta, and Lucy in *The Telephone*. This summer she will make her European debut singing *Hänsel und Gretel* as well as being a featured performer in various opera concerts in Arosa, Switzerland. Madison earned her BM in Voice Performance from The Boston Conservatory and her MM in Voice Performance at San Francisco Conservatory of Music as a student of Wendy Hillhouse.

Noel Wan is 15 years old. She has been playing the harp for 10 years and is the student of Erika Waardenburg and Dan Yu. In 2004, she received 1st prize for the Bay Area Inez Stafford Harp Competition. Since then, she has collected numerous awards: 1st place prize and Grandjany prize from the Junior Division, 16th American Harp Society National Competition; and 1st place prize from Bay Area ASTA Annual Competition, 2007. Noel has played several concerts: two "Stars of Tomorrow" concerts in San Francisco and Bloomington, Indiana; Focus on Youth program of the World Harp Congress in Dublin, 2005 and Amsterdam, 2008. In April 2009, Noel was awarded 2nd place prize in California Youth Symphony's Young Artist Competition for her performance of Alberto Ginastera's Concerto for Harp. She will also be competing in the 18th AHS National Harp Competition Young Professional Division in Salt Lake City, June 2009 and the International Harp Contest in Israel, October 2009. Apart from playing the harp, Noel enjoys reading and playing the Chinese violin (er-hu) and piano.

Gabriella Smith, age 17, is a prolific young composer. She studies with composer/pianist Arkadi Serper, Crowden School, Berkeley, and composer Yiorgos Vassilandonakis, University of California, Berkeley. Gabriella is an active pianist and violinist, playing in the Super Delegates, an improvising string quartet, and in the first violin section of Young Peoples Symphony Orchestra, Berkeley. Though she is a young composer, her works have been performed twelve times and she already has quite a long list of compositions to her credit, including 14 new works in 2008. Her compositions have been premiered by Berkeley Symphony, ADORNO Ensemble, and Classical Revolution. When Kent Nagano introduced her Dances of the Ispan Interval to a Berkeley Symphony audience in December 2006, he said, "I think what you'll hear in terms of aesthetic and creative spirit and development is far, far more mature than what" Gabriella's age would suggest. In 2009, Gabriella was named a winner in the ASCAP/Morton Gould Young Composer Competition. She will begin study with Richard Danielpour and David Ludwig at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia in the fall.

PACIFIC MUSICAL SOCIETY  
2009 Annual Competition Winners

PIANO

FIRST PLACE

*James Denver Gary Piano Award*

**Hilda Huang**

FIRST PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Piano Award*

**Angela Hwang**

SECOND PLACE

*James Denver Gary Piano Award*

**Anna Booyanit**

SECOND PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Piano Award*

**Hunter Noack**

THIRD PLACE

*James Denver Gary Piano Award*

**Jonathan Shao**

THIRD PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Piano Award*

**Mayumi Tsuchida**

INSTRUMENTAL

FIRST PLACE

*Junior Instrumental Award*

**Travis Chen**

FIRST PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Instrumental Award*

**Noel Wan**

SECOND PLACE

*Junior Instrumental Award*

**Ila Shon**

SECOND PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Instrumental Award*

**Stella Chen**

THIRD PLACE

*M. Alan Neys Instrumental Award*

**Jennifer Choi**

VOCAL

FIRST PLACE

*Junior Vocal Award*

**Julia Metzler**

FIRST PLACE

*Senior Vocal Award*

**Madison E. Smith**

SECOND PLACE

*Junior Vocal Award*

**Taylor Thompson**

SECOND PLACE

*Senior Vocal Award*

**Trey C. Costerisan**

THIRD PLACE

*Junior Vocal Award*

**Sidney Ragland**

THIRD PLACE

*Senior Vocal Award*

**Michael Forman**

COMPOSITION

FIRST PLACE

*Composition Award*

**Gabriella Smith**

*Helen C. Elliott Award*

**Dylan Mattingly**

