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In 2024-2025, Tri-County Concerts Association proudly celebrates our 84th year as one of the region's most significant presenters of chamber music.

In December 1941, chamber music in the Philadelphia area received a remarkable boost when sisters Ellen Winsor and Rebecca Winsor Evans sponsored the Curtis String Quartet in a free public concert at Radnor Junior High School. An early program says that their "aim was to bring the spiritual peace and the beauty of music in the lives of our fellow-citizens who were living under the shadow of war; thus strengthening them with the knowledge that music is the great international language which unites all peoples in the common bond of friendship." The musicians were enthusiastically received and Tri-County Concerts was launched. In 1943, it held its first Youth Music Festival and assumed a vital position in the area's cultural life.

From the early 1950s to the late 1970s, the driving force behind Tri-County Concerts was Guida Smith, who brought top musical artists to the community, as well as relatively unknown virtuosi who later became internationally renowned. In 1979 Jean Wetherill assumed leadership and the Association became a nonprofit corporation in order to strengthen its mission and its increasingly important fundraising functions. When Radnor Middle School underwent renovations in 1980, the concerts were presented at Delaware County Community College and then Wayne Auditorium and Haverford College. More recent concerts have been held at Eastern University, Rosemont College, and now Main Line Unitarian Church.

Throughout these changes, Tri-County Concerts has upheld its tradition of the highest musical standards. Our roster of virtuoso performers includes Marian Anderson, Eugene Istomin, Vladimir Sokoloff, Paul Badura-Skoda, the Budapest and Juilliard String Quartets, Leontyne Price, Rosalyn Tureck, Cynthia Raim, and Peter Wiley. In recent years, we have focused primarily on emerging artists, one part of our heritage. From the start, we showcased brilliant young musicians on their way to distinguished careers. When they performed for us, William Kapell was only 20, Gil Shaham was 17, and Pamela Frank was 22. Local stars who appeared early in their careers include the legendary Anna Moffo, as well as Marcantonio Barone, Mimi Stillman, and Eric Owens. We carry on this fine tradition today by continuing to bring you outstanding young musicians in our Emerging Artists Series, including through virtual concerts that we first developed during COVID and are still offering to provide additional viewing opportunities to our community.

An equally important part of our heritage is Tri-County Concerts' Youth Festival, which has been a stepping stone to achievement for many of the thousands of young musicians who have participated. Former winners have established national and international careers as soloists and as members of major symphony orchestras. Opera stars Anna Moffo and Clamma Dale first received recognition in our Youth Festival. Other winners now hold positions as principals in the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Houston, Indianapolis, and Detroit Symphony Orchestras, and four have seats in The Philadelphia Orchestra.

With both our Emerging Artists Series and our Youth Festival, we afford our audiences the opportunity to see and hear tomorrow's stars.



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We offer three programs for students in the tri-state area:

Delaware County Youth Orchestra Andrew Hauze, conductor Advanced Orchestral Musicians Chamber Music Program Available Ages 15-18

Young Musicians' Orchestra Nicholas Pignataro, conductor Intermediate Orchestral Musicians Ages 10+

Young Musicians' Band Jason Majerczak, conductor Intermediate Concert Band Ages 10+



Tri-County Concerts Association serves Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties by fostering the performance and appreciation of the highest quality solo and ensemble chamber music. It is the only chamber music series in the greater Philadelphia area run by an independent community board. It is also unique in presenting recitals by both emerging professional artists and promising local youths.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Tri-County Concerts strives to reach a wide and varied audience. We keep our ticket prices low to enable everyone and especially families to share a rich cultural experience and exposure to world-class artists. Seniors enjoy reduced prices, and children and students are free. For over 80 years our concerts have provided many young people their introduction to chamber music, conservatory students their inspiration, and all members of our community sheer musical enjoyment. We now also offer virtual concerts to reach people unable to attend live ones.

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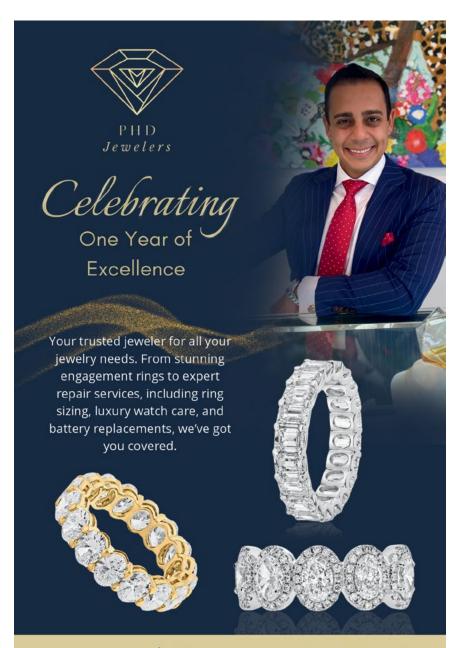
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VIRTUOSO PERFORMANCES SINCE 1941

1941	Curtis String Quartet	1986	Raphael Trio
1942	William Kincaid, <i>flute</i>	1988	Peter Wiley, cello
1943	William Kapell, <i>piano</i>	1989	Gil Shaham, violin
1944	Marian Anderson, contralto		Orion String Quartet
	Budapest String Quartet	1990	Pamela Frank, violin
1946	Eugene Istomin, piano	1992	Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, piano
	Samuel Mayes, cello and	1993	Peabody Trio
	Vincent Persichetti, piano	1995	Meng-Chieh Liu, <i>piano</i>
1947	Roland Hayes, tenor		Brentano String Quartet
1949	Juilliard String Quartet	1996	Ying Quartet
1952	M. Horszowski, <i>piano</i>	1997	Juliette Kang, <i>violin</i>
1953	Anna Moffo, soprano	1998	Andres Díaz, <i>cello</i> and
1954	Paul Badura-Skoda, <i>piano</i>		Samuel Sanders, piano
1955	Joseph Szigeti, <i>violin</i>		Alexander Shtarkman, <i>piano</i>
1956	Guiomar Novaes, piano	1999	Jason Vieaux, guitar
1957	Leontyne Price, soprano	2000	Sari Gruber, soprano
1960	Rosalyn Tureck, piano	2000	Roberto Díaz, viola
1963	Ruggiero Ricci, violin	2001	Eric Owens, basso
1964	Hans Richter-Haaser, piano	2001	Reiko Watanabe, violin
1966	Benita Valente, soprano	2002	Sergey Schepkin, piano
1971	Balsam-Kroll-Heifetz Trio	2002	Mimi Stillman, <i>flute</i>
1972	Masuko Ushioda, violin	2004	Shunsuke Sato, <i>violin</i>
	György Sándor, piano	2004	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1973	Orlando Cole, cello and	2006	Matthew Bengtson,
	Vladimir Sokoloff, <i>piano</i>	2010	harpsichord and piano
1976	Clamma Dale, soprano	2010	Giora Schmidt, violin
1981	Kristine Ciesinski, soprano	2011	Benjamin Beilman, violin
	Marcy Rosen, cello	2012	Daedalus Quartet
1982	David Wetherill, French horn	2013	Horszowski Trio
1983	Ridge String Quartet	2014	Stefan Jackiw, violin
1986	Cynthia Raim, piano	2015	Julian Schwarz, cello

ANNIVERSARY CONCERTS

50тн 75тн

Rosalyn Tureck, piano Alan Stepansky, cello Fei-Ping Hsu, piano Timothy Baker, violin James Barbagallo, piano Marcantonio Barone, piano Deborah Carter, flute David Hamilton, tenor Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, piano Mimi Stillman, flute Charles Abramovic, piano Xiao-Fu Zhou, violin Natalie Zhu, piano Isaiah Kim, cello Matthew Bengtson, piano

HENRY KRAMER BIO



Praised by *The Cleveland Classical Review* for his "astonishingly confident technique" and *The New York Times* for "thrilling" and "triumphant" performances, pianist **Henry Kramer** is a musician of rare sensitivity who combines stylish programming with insightful and exuberant interpretations. He garnered international recognition in 2016 with a Second Prize in the Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels and was awarded a 2019 Avery Fisher Career Grant by Lincoln Center – one of the most coveted honors bestowed on young American soloists.

He began playing piano at the relatively late age of 11 in his hometown of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and was playing Chopin and Mozart within weeks. After winning the 2010 National Chopin, 2011 Montreal International, and 2012 China Shanghai International Piano Competitions, he joined Astral Artists in 2014 and earned a top prize in the Honens International Piano Competition the following year.

Kramer performed in solo recital at Alice Tully Hall as the recipient of The Juilliard School's William Petschek Award, as well as at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw. At his "stunning" Philadelphia debut, Peter Dobrin of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* remarked that he "personalized interpretations to such a degree that works emerged anew. He is a big personality." He has appeared at the Phillips Collection, Toronto's Koerner Hall, Vancouver Chamber Music Society, and the Newport Classical, Ravinia, and BravoPiano! festivals, among many others. He has also been a featured soloist with orchestras worldwide, including in Belgium, Shanghai, Calgary, Indianapolis, and Philadelphia, collaborating with Marin Alsop, Stéphane Denève, Hans Graf, and more.

As a chamber musician, he has appeared at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Mainly Mozart and Mostly Mozart Festivals, and La Jolla Music Society's Summerfest, and with Emmanuel Pahud, Miriam Fried, the Borromeo, Calidore, and Pacifica Quartets, and members of the Berlin Philharmonic and Orchestra of St. Luke's. *BBC Music Magazine* gave his recording with violinist Jiyoon Lee four stars, and *Gramophone UK* praised the "exemplary flexible partnership" of his recording with violist Matthew Lipman.

Kramer graduated from The Juilliard School and earned a doctorate from the Yale School of Music. Teaching ranks among his greatest joys; he joined the Université de Montréal faculty in 2022 and previously taught at Columbus State University, Smith College, and the University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory of Dance and Music.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2024 – 3:00 PM

MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH

HENRY KRAMER, PIANO

Pavane pour une infante défunte Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Caspar PM* Han Lash (b. 1981)

Gaspard de la Nuit, M. 55 Maurice Ravel I. Ondine (1875-1937)

II. Le Gibet

III. Scarbo

INTERMISSION

Pygmalion: Ouverture Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764)

arr. Claude Balbastre (1724-1799)

Les Grâces, tendrement Jacques Duphly from Troisième Livre de Pièces de Clavecin (1715-1789)

Forlane François Couperin (1668-1733)arr. Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Le Tombeau de Couperin Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

I. Prélude

II. Fugue

III. Forlane

IV. Rigaudon

V. Menuet

VI. Toccata

* Commissioned by Henry Kramer

This concert is sponsored by the Zehner family in honor of Margaret G. Zehner, a long time member of Main Line Unitarian Church

RACHEL LEE O'BRIEN



A winner of Astral Artists' 2017 National Auditions and the 2019 Gold Medal winner of the Houston Symphony's Ima Hogg Competition, **Rachel Lee O'Brien** (neé Hall) has appeared at the Kimmel Center, Cleveland's Severance Hall, Houston's E. Jones Hall, Blossom Music Center, and Lyon & Healy Hall. She also won the 2013 Lyon & Healy Award and earned top prizes from the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) Concerto Competition, the Saratoga Harp Colony "Play with the Pros" Competition, and the James Bland Music Contest of the Lions Club. Additionally, she is the recipient of the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra's Anne Jett Rogers Award and the Alice Chalifoux Award,

and was the 2015 CIM Presser Scholar.

Rachel has been a harpist with the Cleveland Orchestra and the Akron, Firelands, and Roanoke Symphony Orchestras, and has been a fellow with the National Repertory Orchestra. She has also appeared as soloist with members of The Philadelphia, National Repertory, and Cleveland Orchestras.

Passionate about advocating for and introducing the harp and classical music to new audiences, Rachel regularly performs in non-traditional spaces such as schools, nursing homes, private homes, marketplaces, and mountain overlooks, and maintains a significant and ever-growing following on social media. She teaches students both locally and around the world on Zoom and has written a book to inspire young musicians. She also serves on faculty at Hollins University and is an instructor of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, an approach to rhythm through movement. She travels frequently to perform, often celebrating her Appalachian heritage, but is always called back to her homeland in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

Rachel holds both a Bachelor and a Master of Music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she studied harp performance under Yolanda Kondonassis, one of the world's premier solo harpists and today's most recorded classical harpist.

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RACHEL LEE O'BRIEN, HARP

WINTER FANTASY

"Waltz of the Flowers" from The Nutcracker, Op. 71a Pyotr Ilych Tchaikovsky

(1840-1893)

arr. Silke Aichhorn

(b. 1974)

Chanson dans la nuit Carlos Salzedo

(1885-1961)

Fantasy on the Wayfaring Stranger Rachel Lee O'Brien

(b. 1993)

Suite in E minor for Lute, BWV 996 Johann Sebastian Bach

I. Prelude – Presto (1685-1750)

II. Allemande

III. Courante

IV. SarabandeV. Bourrée

VI. Gigue

Interlude from "Ceremony of Carols," Op. 28 Benjamin Britten

(1913-1976)

Concert Variations on "O Tannenbaum"

Carlos Salzedo

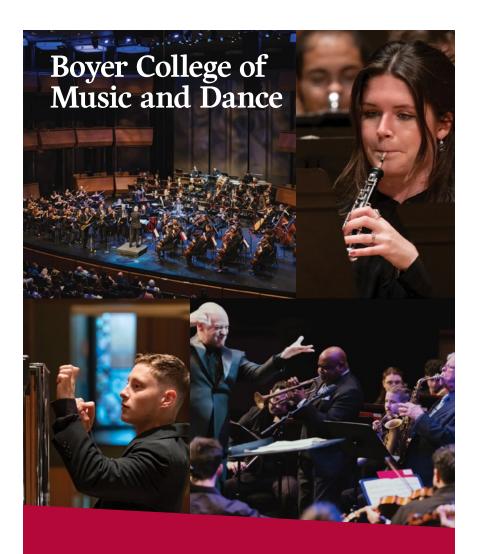
(1885-1961)

Dream Season Yolanda Kondonassis

(b. 1963)

Fantaisie sur un theme de Haydn, Op. 31 Marcel Grandjany

(1891-1975)



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025 - 3:00 PM

MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH

TOMMY MESA, CELLO ILYA YAKUSHEV, PIANO

Cello Sonata, L. 135 Claude Debussy

I. Prologue: Lent, sostenuto e molto risoluto (1906-1975)

II. Sérénade: Modérément animé III. Finale: Animé, léger et nerveux

Mensajes del Agua Andrea Casarrubios

(b. 1988)

Cello Sonata Kevin Day

I. Allegro agitato (b. 1996)

II. Lento III. Giocoso

INTERMISSION

Cello Sonata in D minor, Op. 40 Dmitri Shostakovich

I. Allegro non troppo (1906-1975)

II. Allegro

III. Largo IV. Allegro

Elegy for Cello and Piano, Op. 96 Nikolai Kapustin

(1937-2020)

TOMMY MESA



Cuban-American cellist **Dr. Tommy Mesa** has established himself as one of the most charismatic, innovative, and engaging performers of his generation. The recipient of the Sphinx Organization's 2023 Medal of Excellence, its highest honor, he has appeared as soloist at the Supreme Court of the United States on four occasions and with major orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and The Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras. He gave the world premiere of Jessie Montgomery's cello concerto *Divided* in 2022 and has been its exclusive soloist across the U.S. and Brazil, including at Miami's New World Center

and Carnegie Hall and in his orchestral recording debut released on Deutsche Grammophon.

Orchestral highlights in the 2024-25 season include serving as Artist in Residence with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra and debuts with the Delaware Symphony and Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra. Mesa is also launching a tour with pianist Michelle Cann, Curtis Institute faculty and soloist, that includes Chamber Music Pittsburgh and St. Paul's The Schubert Club, and is performing with piano and organ at the Phillips Collection, Bargemusic, and more. Pianist Ilya Yakushev is another frequent collaborator.

As an ensemble musician, Mesa has toured with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Itzhak Perlman; is the principal cellist of Sphinx Virtuosi and collaborates with Jupiter Chamber Players; and has appeared as soloist with the GRAMMY-winning ensemble The Crossing Choir, with whom he performed the U.S. premiere of Wolfgang Rihm's Astralis. Recent releases include tango works with performer-composer JP Jofre and premieres by Black and Latinx composers with Michelle Cann. His first solo album, Division of Memory on PARMA Recordings, received rave reviews such as in PianoMania, "Do not hold your breath for Yo-Yo Ma to record this repertoire, for the just-as-excellent Mesa has the field entirely to himself." He was featured on the GRAMMY-nominated album Bonhoeffer with The Crossing Choir and is collaborating with pianist Olga Kern on another album.

Mesa's career launched after he won First Prize in the 2016 Sphinx Competition and the 2017 Astral Artists National Auditions. He received his BM from The Juilliard School, MM from Northwestern University, and DMA from Manhattan School of Music. He has given many masterclasses and held numerous faculty positions. He performs on a Nicolò Gagliano cello made in 1767 and a bow by Andre Richaume, both generously loaned by Canimex Inc.

With many awards and honors to his credit, Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev continues to astound and mesmerize audiences at major venues on three continents. He has performed from New York's Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall to St. Petersberg's Glinka Philharmonic Hall, Seoul's Sejong Performing Arts Center, and Singapore's Victoria Hall. His solo appearances with orchestra have included the San Francisco Symphony, BBC Concert Orchestra, Boston Pops, Rochester Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, and Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra. In



2023-24, many of his concerts celebrated the triple anniversary of Rachmaninoff's 150th birthday, the 150th anniversary of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, and the 100th anniversary of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, for which he put together a special accompanying slide show of the artwork depicted in the music.

In February 2014, British label Nimbus Records published Yakushev's *Prokofiev Sonatas* Vol. 1 CD. *American Record Guide* wrote, "Yakushev is one of the very best young pianists before the public today, and it doesn't seem to matter what repertoire he plays – it is all of the highest caliber." The Vol. 2 CD was published in January 2017, and an all-Russian repertoire CD in September 2017.

Winner of the 2005 World Piano Competition which took place in Cincinnati, OH, Yakushev received his first award at age 12 as a prizewinner of the Young Artists Concerto Competition in St. Petersburg. In 1997, he received the Mayor of St. Petersburg's Young Talents award, and in both 1997 and 1998, he won First Prize at the Donostia Hiria International Piano Competition in San Sebastian, Spain. In 1998, he received a national honor, The Award for Excellence in Performance, presented to him by the Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation in Moscow. Most recently, he became a recipient of the prestigious Gawon International Music Society's Award in Seoul, Korea.

Yakushev attended the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music in his native St. Petersburg, Russia, and subsequently came to New York City to attend Mannes College of Music where he studied with legendary pianist Vladimir Feltsman. He is a Yamaha artist.



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Wednesday, February 5 - Tuesday, February 18, 2025

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JULIAN RHEE, VIOLIN CHELSEA WANG, PIANO

Selections from 24 Preludes for Violin and Piano, Op. 46

Lera Auerbach

(b. 1973)

Violin Sonata No. 4 in A Major, D. 574 ("Grand Duo")

Franz Schubert

I. Allegro moderato

(1797-1828)

II. Scherzo: presto

III. Andantino

IV. Allegro vivace

I. Andante molto

Three Romances for Violin and Piano, Op. 22

Clara Schumann

(1819-1896)

II. Allegretto: mit zartem Vortrage

III. Leidenschaftlich schnell

A Paganini

Alfred Schnittke (1934-1998)

Violin Sonata No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 12

Ludwig van Beethoven

I. Allegro con spirito

(1770-1827)

II. Adagio con molta espressione

III. Rondo. Allegro molto

JULIAN RHEE



Winner of the prestigious 2024 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Korean-American violinist **Julian Rhee** has been praised for his refinement and beauty of sound and "the kind of poise and showmanship that thrills audiences." (*The Strad*) He came to international prominence following his prize winning performances at the 2024 Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition and Silver Medal finish at the 11th Quadrennial International Violin Competition of Indianapolis. Previously the first prize winner of the 2020 Elmar Oliveira International Competition and Astral Artists National Auditions,

he was awarded the Aspen Festival's Dorothy DeLay Fellowship, Arkady Fomin Scholarship Fund, Theodore Presser Scholar Award, The Foote Award, and the Manfred Grommek Prize from the Kronberg Academy. He is a Young Strings of America Ambassador sponsored by SHAR Music.

Since his Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra debut at age eight, Rhee has performed with the Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, and San Diego Symphonies and the Belgian National Orchestra, among many others. He has appeared in an array of worldwide venues including Argentina's Teatro El Círculo, Vienna's Musikverein, Miami's New World Center, Ravinia's Bennett Gordon Hall, and the John F. Kennedy Center as a U.S. Presidential Scholar, receiving his medal at the White House.

Equally invested in chamber music and collaboration, he is in the newest class of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Bowers Program and began his rigorous three-season residency in the fall of 2024. He has performed at the Ravinia Steans Institute, Marlboro, Rockport Music, and North Shore Chamber Music Festivals alongside esteemed musicians such as Jonathan Biss, Mitsuko Uchida, Kim Kashkashian, and Peter Wiley. He has also appeared with Time For Three on NPR's "From the Top" and Jupiter Chamber Players and on the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, WQXR's Young Artists Showcase, and Milwaukee and Wisconsin public radio and television.

Rhee studied with Hye-Sun Lee and Almita Vamos at the Music Institute of Chicago Academy and received his bachelor's and master's degrees as teaching assistant of Miriam Fried at the New England Conservatory. He began studies with Christian Tetzlaff at the Kronberg Academy in the fall of 2024. He is the recipient of the outstanding 1699 "Lady Tennant" Antonio Stradivari violin and Jean Pierre Marie Persoit bow on extended loan through the generosity of the Mary B. Galvin Foundation and the efforts of the Stradivari Society.

Praised by *The New York Times* as an "excellent young pianist," **Chelsea Wang** has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician throughout North America, including at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Merkin Hall, Perelman Hall, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Guarneri Hall, and extensively in Europe and Asia. She is a prizewinner and finalist of the Seoul, Washington, and New York International Piano Competitions and many more.



Wang made her orchestral debut at the age of six and has performed with multiple orchestras since

then, including the Fort Worth, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, and New Orleans Civic Symphonies, Northwestern University Chamber Orchestra, and musicians from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Her many festival appearances include Music@ Menlo, Ravinia Steans Institute, Bravo!Vail, PianoTexas, Banff, Amalfi Coast, and Norfolk. She has also performed as a guest artist with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Manhattan Chamber Players, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, and Dame Myra Hess Series.

She has collaborated with Ida Kavafian, Ani Kavafian, Steven Tenenbom, Peter Wiley, Roberto Díaz, Anne-Marie McDermott, Hsin-Yun Huang, Bright Sheng, Arnaud Sussmann, Kristin Lee, Matthew Lipman, Yoojin Jang, Dimitri Murrath, Jose Franch-Ballester, and Sebastian Manz. She has had the honor of playing for many notable musicians including Sir András Schiff, Richard Goode, Gary Graffman, Robert McDonald, Seymour Lipkin, Jonathan Biss, Miriam Fried, Paul Biss, Leonidas Kavakos, Arie Vardi, Aldo Ciccolini, eighth blackbird, and the Emerson and Tokyo String Quartets. Radio appearances include "What Makes It Great" with Rob Kapilow, NPR's "From the Top," and programs on New York's WQXR, Chicago's WFMT, Philadelphia's WHYY, and Sarasota's WSMR.

A native of West Des Moines, Iowa, Wang is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where she studied with Meng-Chieh Liu and Ignat Solzhenitsyn and was awarded the prestigious Sergei Rachmaninoff Award upon graduation. She received her Master of Music degree and Graduate Performance Diploma at the Peabody Conservatory under the tutelage of Leon Fleisher and Yong-Hi Moon, and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music with James Giles. Additionally, she is a member of the prestigious New York-based Ensemble Connect, a highly selective two-year fellowship program under the joint auspices of Carnegie Hall, The Weill Institute, and The Juilliard School.

VIANO QUARTET



Praised for their "virtuosity, visceral expression, and rare unity of intention" (*The Boston Globe*), the Viano Quartet are one of the most sought-after performing young ensembles today and in residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Bowers Program from 2024-2027. Since soaring to international acclaim as the First Prize winner at the 13th Banff International String Quartet Competition, they have captivated audiences around the globe, including in New York, London, Berlin, Paris,

Hong Kong, Beijing, and Los Angeles.

During the 2024-25 season, the quartet debuts in New York's Alice Tully Hall in CMS Lincoln Center's opening concert and David Geffen Hall with Sir Stephen Hough for the world premiere of his new piano quintet, and in Canada at the Cecilian Chamber Series and Toronto's Royal Conservatory of Music. They will also be appearing at Wolf Trap, Chamber Music Yellow Springs, and many other music series, performing a program in Kingston with famed guitarist Miloš Karadaglić, and presenting concerts and engaging with the community as the inaugural June Goldsmith Quartet-in-Residence for the Music in the Morning series in Vancouver.

2023 marked the release of the quartet's first album *Portraits* on the Curtis label, featuring pieces by Schubert, Florence Price, Tchaikovsky, and Ginastera. They are also dedicated advocates of music education, working with students at Music@Menlo, Duke University, University of British Columbia, and many others. They return this season to the University of Victoria for several weeks of residency and previously held graduate residencies at the Curtis Institute and Colburn Conservatory and were the Peak Fellowship Quartet-in-Residence at Meadows School of the Arts at SMU.

In their formative years the quartet never entered a major competition without capturing a top prize. Before their career-defining achievement at Banff, they earned major prizes at the Wigmore Hall, Osaka, Fischoff, ENKOR, and Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competitions. Each member is grateful to the neverending support from their distinguished mentors at Curtis and Colburn, including members of the Dover, Guarneri, and Tokyo Quartets.

The name "Viano" was created to describe the four individual instruments in a string quartet interacting as one. Each of the four instruments begins with the letter "v", and like a piano, together they play both harmony and melody, creating a unified instrument called the "Viano."

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025 - 3:00 PM

MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH

VIANO QUARTET

String Quartet No. 67 in F major, Op. 77, No. 2 Franz Josef Haydn I. Allegro moderato (1732-1809)

II. Menuet: Presto

III. Andante

IV. Finale: Vivace assai

Moonshot Alistair Coleman I. July 16, 1969 (b. 1999)

II. July 20, 1969

III. July 21, 1969

INTERMISSION

String Quartet No. 13 in G Major, Op. 106

I. Allegro moderato

II. Adagio ma non troppo

III. Molto vivace

IV. Finale. Andante sostenuto – Allegro con fuoco

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)

This concert is sponsored by James A. Schmid III in memory of his grandparents June L. Panduro Wollwage and Walter E. Wollwage Jr., both professional musicians in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Viano Quartet is represented by and appears by arrangement with Opus 3 Artists, 348 West 57th St., Suite 282, New York, NY 10019 www.opus3artists.com



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Canadian violinist **Lucy Wang** has garnered praise for her "technical prowess, tonal mastery and stage presence" (*Peace Arch News*) and performs internationally as a soloist, chamber, and orchestral musician. She is a recent graduate of the Curtis Institute's Nina von Maltzahn Quartet-in-Residence program and holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Colburn Conservatory, where she studied with Martin Beaver. She maintains an active individual presence on social media, with over 50 million views and 600,000 followers, and seeks to build bridges across different musical and cultural communities. She performs on the ca. 1700 Bell Giovanni Tononi violin, generously on loan from the Canada Council for the Arts Musical Instrument Bank.

"Personal, impassioned, courageous, and unostentatiously brilliant" (*Musical America*), American violinist **Hao Zhou** made his Carnegie Hall debut at the age of 12 and rose to acclaim as both the Grand Laureate and Audience Favorite of the 2019 Concours Musical International de Montréal and a member of the prize-winning Viano Quartet. He is a recent graduate of the Curtis Institute and has been invited to perform at the Kronberg Academy Festival. He was the first recipient of the Frances Rosen Violin Prize at Colburn Conservatory, where he studied with Martin Beaver and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees. He plays on a 1783 Joseph and Antonio Gagliano violin, on generous loan from the Aftergood family.

After first playing violin, American **Aiden Kane** began to study viola with Daniel Foster through the National Symphony Orchestra's Youth Fellowship Program and earned a Bachelor's and two Master's degrees at Colburn Conservatory under Paul Coletti. As a member of the Calla Quartet, she won the Silver medal at the 2015 Fischoff Chamber Music Competition and presented Colburn's inaugural Musical Encounters outreach program. She then joined the Viano Quartet, with which she has won more prizes, studied in the Curtis Institute's String Quartet-in-Residence program, and joined the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Bowers Program. She loves quartet life, especially the cornucopia of repertoire and awesome people.

Canadian cellist **Tate Zawadiuk** has charmed audiences around the world with his dynamic and zestful musicianship. He has performed as a soloist with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, New Westminster Symphony, among others, and has also collaborated with world renowned artists such as Emanuel Ax, Marc-André Hamelin, Inon Barnatan, Ida Kavafian, and Steven Tenenbom. He is a graduate of the Curtis Institute as a member of the Nina von Maltzahn String Quartet-in-Residence and holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Colburn Conservatory, where he studied with Clive Greensmith and Ronald Leonard.

ALEXANDROV-SKLIAR DUO



Both masters of mandolin and domra, Alexey Alexandrov and Ekaterina Skliar formed a unique duo in 2015 that presents a repertoire ranging from Bach duets to Russian songs, and from Alexey's own compositions to neo folklore and jazz. Their arrangements of baroque and other masterpieces for their unique instrumentation bring together the traditions of classical music and the atmosphere of freedom from folk origins.

Performer, composer, and 2018 Made in

NY Jazz Competition Winner, Alexey plays domra in both classical and jazz styles, expanding the boundaries of this Russian folk string instrument. He has collaborated with artists all over the world, including John Lee, Al Foster, Oliver Lake, Alain Musichini, Bobby Sanabria, and Vadim Repin. He won the I prize at the First and Third Libertango International Competitions and the Golden prize at the International "Gold Iria" Ethno Music Competition and is a founder of the ethno-jazz project Shake, which has also won multiple awards. He earned his DMA at the prestigious M. Glinka Novosibirsk Conservatory.

Winner of the 2019 Astral Auditions, Ekaterina debuted with the Russian Folk Instrument Orchestra of the Buryatia Republic at age 11. In 2018, she was one of three winners in the Kaleidoscope Instrumental and Vocal Competition, chosen from more than 2,000 international applicants. A winner of many other competitions, she also earned a Silver Medal Global Music Award in 2019 and 2020 for her domra and mandolin recordings. She has appeared in solo recitals and with chamber ensembles and orchestras throughout the U.S. and Russia, and received her Bachelor's degree with Honors in Music Performance from M. Glinka Novosibirsk Conservatory.

The Alexandrov-Skliar Duo has performed concerts across the U.S. and Europe to many positive reviews. It was a nominee for the "MIRA" World Music Award (Russia) and won Best Instrumental Project in the International Music Festival "Ustuu-Huree" (Republic Tuva). Mark Linkins, Musical Director of Munier Mandolin and Guitar Orchestra, wrote that the Duo "enthrall audiences with their virtuosic skill and impeccable artistry. The combination of Skliar's pure, crystalline tone (mandolin) and Alexandrov's warm, harp-like tone (domra) is magical." In 2022, the Duo was invited to perform at the 47th International Festival Plectro de La Rioja in Spain, where they presented an eclectic program of their transcription and arrangements for mandolin and domra.

Sunday, April 6, 2025 – 3:00 pm

Main Line Unitarian Church

ALEXANDROV-SKLIAR DUO ALEXEY ALEXANDROV, DOMRA & GUSLI EKATERINA SKLIAR, MANDOLIN & DOMRA WITH THOMAS WEAVER, PIANO

Sonata No. 2 for Flute and Violin, Op. 51

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier

(1689-1755)

I. Vivace

II. Allegro

III. Aria: Affetuoso

IV. Giga

Le Coucou Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

La Poule Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764)

Duo for 2 Flutes, WoO 26 Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Sonatas K. 104, 87, 96 Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

Humoresque No. 7, Op. 101 Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

Suite for Domra & Balalaika Josef Tamarin

I. Spring Morning (b. 1948)

II. Fall of the Leaves

III. On the Frost

Medley on Russian folk tunes arr. Alexey Alexandrov (b. 1984)

Escualo Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992))

INTERMISSION

Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Trois Nouvelles Études, B. 130

Frédéric Chopin

Études, Op. 10

(1810-1849)

Variations on a Theme of Paganini

Sergei Lukin (b. 1957)

Dumka

Nikolai Budashkin (1910-1988)/arr. Alexandrov

Muerte del Angel

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)



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Thomas Weaver is a pianist, composer, and conductor currently on faculty at the Curtis Institute of Music and Boston University Tanglewood Institute. He began his musical training at age eight, first performed in public at age nine, and has appeared in major concert halls throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, including for Carnegie Hall Presents, La Jolla Music Society, Princeton University Concerts, New York Philharmonic Ensembles Series, New York Chamber Music Festival, and Red Rocks Music Festival. He has performed as a soloist with ensembles including the Curtis 20/21 Ensemble, Boston University Tanglewood

Institute Young Artists Orchestra, and Young Artists Wind Ensemble, collaborating with notable conductors such as Bruce Kiesling and H. Robert Reynolds.

He is also an active chamber musician, performing with eminent musicians such as Jess Gillam, Anthony McGill, Elmira Darvarova, Brittany Lasch, and members of the Philadelphia, Boston Symphony, and Metropolitan Opera Orchestras and the New York Philharmonic. He is currently a member of the Amram Ensemble. He is a strong proponent of new music and has given the premiere of works by David Amram, Reena Esmail, Anthony Plog, and numerous others. His recordings can be heard on albums released by Affetto Records and include music by Hungarian composers for violin and piano and Astor Piazzolla.

An award-winning composer, Weaver's works blend neo-Romanticism and modernism and have been heard across four continents and appears on albums released by Affetto Records. His compositions have been commissioned by the New York Chamber Music Festival, Penn Museum, Boston University College of Fine Arts (in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the School of Music), Pharos Quartet, and Daraja Ensemble, among others. He has also conducted performances of both classical repertoire and other styles, including jazz, in Philadelphia, New York City, and Boston. He formerly served as the music director of the Marian Anderson Museum and Historical Society, regularly leading performances in collaboration with operatic voices.

As a member of the Musical Studies faculty at Curtis, Weaver teaches courses in harmony, counterpoint, analysis, score-reading, orchestration, and composition. At Boston University Tanglewood Institute, he has taught theory, coached instrumentalists, and started the Collaborative Piano Fellowship. He has also given many lectures and masterclasses and served on juries for the Soloist of New England Young Soloists, Rowan University String Ensemble Concerto, and International Fringe Association Online Competitions, among others.



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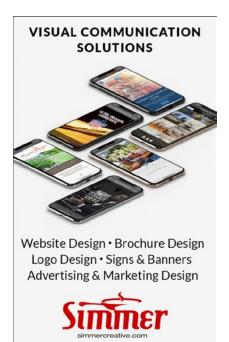
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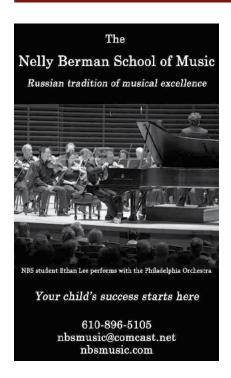
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2025 YOUTH FESTIVAL AUDITION WINNERS

SENIOR ENSEMBLE

First Place Sforzando Trio: James Luo, piano; Triona Tsai, violin;

Sophia Cui, cello

JUNIOR ENSEMBLE

First Place Ling Lings: Raymond Wu, violin; Mia Yue, violin

Second Place Woodbine Trio: Frederic Phelizon, piano; Amon Givler,

violin: Desmond Fuccillo, cello

SENIOR MUSICA DIVERSA

First Place Sofia Tang, harp

SENIOR PIANO

First Place Roy Hur Second Place Vincent Gao

JUNIOR PIANO

First Place Aavi Sircar Second Place George Zhang

SENIOR STRINGS

First Place Daniel Loza, cello Second Place Julie Zheng, violin

JUNIOR STRINGS

Second Place Audris Tsai, violin

SENIOR WINDS

First Place Kenneth Mellon, clarinet Second Place Steven Guard, flute

JUNIOR WINDS

First Place Pauline Tang, clarinet Second Place Stephen Lee, clarinet

PROGRAM

Passacaglia from Suite No. 7			
in G minor, HWV 432George Frideric Handel (arr. Halvorsen)			
Ling Lings			
Raymond Wu, violin; Mia Yue, violin			
Meichen Liao-Barnes, teacher			
Scherzo No. 1 in B minor, Op. 20 Frédéric Chopin			
Vincent Gao, piano			
Igor Resnianski, teacher			
Grand Duo Concertant in E-flat Major, Op. 48, J. 204:			
Mvt. III, Rondo: allegro			
Pauline Tang, clarinet			
Gi Lee, teacher; Jinhyun Park, accompanist			
Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 53:			
Mvt. I, Allegro ma non troppo Antonín Dvořák			
Julie Zheng , violin			
Meichen Liao-Barnes, teacher; Hsiao-Han Yang, accompanist			
Fantaisie pour flûte et piano			
Steven Guard, flute			
Rebecca Simon, teacher; Christina Emata, accompanist			
Nocturne in B-flat minor, Op. 9, No. 1 Frédéric Chopin			
Aavi Sircar, piano			
James Anemone, teacher			
Cello Sonata in C Major, Op. 119:			
Mvt. I, Andante graveSergei Prokofiev			
Daniel Loza, cello			
Jennifer Jie Jin, teacher; Ekaterina Popova, accompanist			

INTERMISSION

PROGRAM (continued)

Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49:	
Mvt. I, Molto allegro agitato	Felix Mendelssohn
Woodbine Trio	
Frederic Phelizon, piano; Amon Givler, violin	; Desmond Fuccillo , cello
Gloria dePasquale, coa	nch
Rondo Capriccioso in E Major, Op. 14 George Zhang , piano)
Igor Resnianski , teach	er
Sonate pour clarinette et piano, FP 184:	
Mvt. II, Romanza; Mvt. III, Allegro con fuoco	
Kenneth Mellon, clarin Alexander Bedenko, teacher; Elvira Ko	
Alexander Dedenko, teacher, Elvira Ro	bzeva, accompanist
Chanson dans la nuit	Carlos Salzedo
Sofia Tang , harp	
MaryAnn McCann, tead	cher
Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64:	
Mvt. I, Allegro molto appassionato	Felix Mendelssohn
Audris Tsai, violin	
Mei-ching Huang, teacher; Jinhyun P	ark, accompanist
Transcendental Étude No. 8 in C minor ("Wild Hu	nt") Franz Liszt
Roy Hur, piano	
David Brown, teache	r
Clarinet Concerto No. 7 in E-flat Major:	
Mvt. l, Allegro molto	Carl Stamitz
Stephen Lee, clarine	
Gi Lee, teacher; Jinhyun Park, a	ccompanist
Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor ("Dumky"), Op. 9:	
Mvt. V, Allegro; Mvt. VI, Lento maestoso	Antonín Dvořák
Sforzando Trio	
James Luo, piano; Triona Tsai, violin;	Sophia Cui, cello
Jennifer Jie Jin, coach	n

AWARDS CEREMONY

THE ARTISTS

Vincent Gao, age 15, is a sophomore at the Downingtown Stem Academy. He has been studying piano for 11 years, first with Iris Blanco-Urgelles and more recently with Igor Resnianski at The Nelly Berman School of Music. He has appeared in many concerts locally, including at the Academy of Music Ballroom and Rock Hall Auditorium at Temple University, and has played nationally at Carnegie Hall in NY and Roussel Hall at Loyola University in New Orleans. Vincent has also achieved success in many piano competitions. He was named the First Prize winner of the Senior Division of the 2024 MTNA Pennsylvania State Competition and was a winner of earlier competitions such as the Triumph Music Festival, Rising Star International Competition, Crescendo International Music Competition, and American Protégé Music Competition. In July 2024 he was invited to participate in the New Orleans Piano Institute and was awarded the Shearon Horton Scholarship. In April 2024 he was awarded Honorable Mention at West Chester University's National Pre-Collegiate Piano Competition. Besides piano, Vincent does competitive robotics on local, state, and national levels, plays tennis, participates in TSA and DECA, and co-founded the Math Olympiad Club at his school.

Steven Guard, age 18, is a senior at Upper Darby High School. He has been studying flute since he was in 4th grade. He is a member of the Wind Ensemble and Marching Royals at UDHS and has participated in 9 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association festivals, including the All-State Concert Band and All-State Wind Ensemble. He is currently a member of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra and the Delaware County Youth Orchestra. Apart from flute, Steven has played the saxophone since he was in 7th grade and also plays the trumpet and mellophone. Next year, he will be attending the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University for his Bachelor's in Flute Performance. Steven would like to extend his thanks to his teacher, Rebecca Simon, for her years of support.

Roy Hur, age 15, is a 9th-grade student at Garnet Valley High School. He began his piano studies at the age of 8 and is currently studying with David A. Brown. Awarded scholarships at the Darlington Arts Center and at The Music School of Delaware, Roy was the winner in the 2021 Athena Scholarship Competition, 2022 Music School of Delaware Piano Competition, and 2022 Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association Competition. He was also very honored to be invited to perform a concertino composed by David Brown with the Delaware Youth Symphony Orchestra (DYSO). He also performed with the Wilmington Community Orchestra as a winner of its 2023 Concerto Competition. In 2024,

he won the West Chester University Pre-Collegiate Piano Competition. This coming December, he will perform with the DYSO as a First Place winner in its 2025 Concerto Competition. Besides piano, he also plays violin, studying with Kate Ransom. He is a first violin section leader of his high school's orchestra and a second violin co-principal for the DYSO. He is also a member of his school's Model UN and involved in many other clubs.

Stephen Lee, age 12, is a 7th-grade student at Wissahickon Middle School, where he is recognized as a Distinguished Honor student for his academic excellence. Alongside his school achievements, Stephen pursues clarinet studies under the guidance of Professor Gi Lee at Temple University. His dedication to clarinet recently earned him an Honors rating in the 2024 New Jersey Music Teachers Association Spring Concert Competition, and as a result he was featured in an awards recital at Rutgers University. In addition to his musical talents, Stephen is also a committed athlete. He has been a member of his local swim team for the past 5 years, steadily progressing in skill and performance. Most recently, he qualified for the Silver Championships, where he made a significant time drop in all his strokes—a testament to his perseverance and competitive spirit.

The Ling Lings are violinists Raymond Wu and Mia Yue, coached by their teacher Meichen Liao-Barnes.

Raymond Wu, age 14, is an 8th grader at Valley Forge Middle School. He currently performs with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra and is a scholarship recipient of the Settlement Music School's Advanced Study Program, playing in the Edward L. and Gail W. Snitzer String Quartet. He served as Associate Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra in 2023-2024, Assistant Concertmaster of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra in 2022-2023, and Concertmaster of Youth Strings at the Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra at Paoli in 2021-2022. In 2024, he won First Place in the 11-14 age division at the Philadelphia International Music Festival and in Junior Strings at the Tri-County Concerts Youth Festival and Second Place in the Delaware Concerto Competition for Young Musicians. In February 2025, he served as Concertmaster for the 50th Anniversary Concert of the Schuylkill Valley Area Orchestra. Most recently, Raymond won First Place in the age 13-18 division of the Warminster Symphony Orchestra Young Artists Competition as well as the Ambler Symphony Orchestra competition for the Menges Scholarship, and he will perform as a soloist with both orchestras during their 2025-2026 season. He was also accepted into the 2025 National Youth Orchestra (NYO2) summer

program and is thrilled to be performing at Carnegie Hall and the Edinburgh International Festival this summer. Besides the violin, Raymond actively participates in his school's music programs, including orchestra, ensemble, choir, and flute in the school band. In his free time, he enjoys math, learning Spanish, reading, swimming, and a variety of school clubs.

Mia Yue, age 13, is a 7th grader attending Valley Forge Middle School. She began her violin lessons 6 years ago with Kathleen Hastings and has been studying under Meichen Liao-Barnes for around two years. She performs in her school ensemble as principal second and in Philadelphia Sinfonia Players as Associate Concertmaster, and has also played in the Philadelphia Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra. She was invited to join the Philadelphia Music Educators Association Spring Fest 2024 as an Associate Concertmaster and plans to audition for the Philadelphia International Music Camp and Girl Scouts this summer. Mia's passion for science, inspired by her dad, a research associate professor at Thomas Jefferson University, is evident in her love for her science class at school and her aspiration to become a scientist. She also enjoys drawing, swimming, track and field, and occasionally coding in her free time.

Daniel Loza, age 16, is a sophomore at Conestoga High School. He has studied cello for 8 years, mostly with Jennifer Jie Jin. For nearly all that time, he has played in Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute ensembles and is now in his third year of playing in the PYO. He has also participated in multiple festivals of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association, including District, Region, and All-State Orchestra. He has also been part of other ensembles, including piano trios, a cello quartet, and theatre orchestras. Performing solo, Daniel has earned many awards. He received a merit score and an Associate of the Royal Schools of Music Diploma from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, along with other certificates. He won Second Place at the Tri-County Concerts Youth Festival (2024) and the OPUS Music Competition (2023), a gold medal and two other awards from the Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival, and runner-up in the Music Teachers National Association Competition (2022). He has used his talent to serve the community by teaching music classes in CCATE, a nonprofit organization, and by performing for regional senior centers, churches, and other organizations.

Kenneth (Kenny) Mellon, age 17, is a junior at Lower Merion High School. He currently studies clarinet with Alexander Bedenko at The Nelly Berman School of Music. He plays clarinet in school, the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra,

the Delaware County Youth Orchestra, and the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's District, Regional, and All-State Orchestras. He won Second Prize at the Sydney Forrest Clarinet Competition and the Delaware County Symphony Concerto Competition. He also has won scholarships to study and perform with the Interlochen Arts Camp World Youth Orchestra and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Young Artist Orchestra. This summer he plans to continue to study at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and he looks forward to starting his senior year of high school in the fall. Besides playing music, Kenny enjoys going to concerts and spending time with his friends exploring cities and parks.

To share their passion for music, three Conestoga High School freshmen—James Luo, Triona Tsai, and Sophia Cui—founded the Sforzando Trio last November. They meet regularly to refine their ensemble skills and create harmonious performances under the guidance of cellist Jennifer Jie Jin and pianist Maria Bucco. They earned a silver medal and performed at the 5th Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival. This summer, they have been invited to present a mini concert at the Gretna Music Festival. Their mission is to connect with and bring love to people through music.

James Luo, age 15, began studying piano with Maria Bucco at the age of 6. He has received numerous awards, including First Place in the Crescendo International Music Competition (2020 and 2022) and the Elite International Music Competition (2019). His performances include appearances at the Triumph Music Festival (2021) and PhMTA's Andor and Joy Kiszely Competition (2023–2025). He has also performed as a soloist at Carnegie Hall four times.

Triona Tsai, age 15, began her violin studies at the age of 9 under the guidance of Mei-Ching Huang, a violinist with The Philadelphia Orchestra, while also taking piano lessons with Natalie Zhu. She has participated in several prestigious music programs, including the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra, the Center for Gifted Young Musicians at Temple University, and Settlement Music School, where she developed her chamber music skills under the guidance of Distinguished Faculty Chair Jean Louise Shook. Last summer, Triona attended the Luzerne Music Center Camp and Festival, where she pursued intensive studies in violin chamber music and solo performance.

Sophia Cui, age 14, has been studying cello with Jennifer Jie Jin since the age of 7. She is a member of the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra (PYAO) and the Conestoga High School Orchestra. Her performance experience includes the Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival (2023–2025), Crescendo International

Competition (2023), Triumph Music Festival (2021 and 2023), and Rising Talents Festival (2022). In 2025, she won Second Place in the PYAO Young Artists Solo Competition. Sophia has participated in ensembles such as Temple CGYM, PRYSM, and the Penn Youth Orchestra. She studied solo performance at the Philadelphia International Music Festival over the past two summers and will attend Ascent Summer Camp this year. In addition to cello, Sophia has also been studying piano with Ariane Alexander since the age of 5.

Aavi Sircar, age 12, is a 7th grader at Great Valley Middle School and takes piano lessons from James Anemone. He began his studies at age 8 and has since performed at major concert venues nationally and internationally. He has been featured as a young virtuoso on the Steinert & Sons Steinway Stories series and as a guest artist at music salons hosted by Philadelphia-based conductor Karl Middleman and composer Andrea Clearfield. Aavi has played at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Academy of Music Ballroom in Philadelphia, Field Concert Hall at the Curtis Institute of Music, Sala dei Notari in Perugia, Italy, GC de Lijsterbes in Brussels, and Van Cliburn Concert Hall in Fort Worth. As a winner of the 2025 London International Chopin Competition, he performed at the Polish Hearth Club in London. He made his orchestral debut at Perugia, Italy with the Europa Musica Orchestra under Maestro Marius Stravinsky in 2023. Having won the Ambler Symphony Orchestra Scholarship and the Old York Symphony Young Artists Concerto Competition, he performed as a soloist with both orchestras in 2025. He attended the highly selective Piano Texas International Festival and Academy as a junior performer in 2024, and in 2025 will attend the Oberlin Summer Piano Festival, the Cleveland Institute of Music Young Artist Piano Seminar, and the Southeastern Piano Festival. Apart from piano, Aavi enjoys chess and coding computer games in C#, Lua, Java Script, and Unity. He has been actively training in martial arts two to three times a week since he was 5 years old. He is currently a 2nd Dan (2nd Degree Black Belt) in Taekwondo and working towards his 3rd Dan.

Pauline Tang, age 14, is an 8th grader at Radnor Middle School. She has played clarinet for 4 years and currently studies with Gi Lee. She plays in her school's band and jazz band and was principal clarinetist at the Schuylkill Valley Area Band Festival. Besides clarinet, she enjoys playing alto saxophone and volleyball. She also was a 1st place winner in her Region and participated in the 2025 Pennsylvania State National History Day Contest in Scranton, PA. She will be attending the senior session at Luzerne Music Center this upcoming summer.

Sofia Tang, age 14, is a dedicated harpist and high school student at The Baldwin School with a passion for both music and academics. She currently studies harp with MaryAnn McCann. She also plays piano and has passed ABRSM Grade 8 piano with distinction, reflecting her dedication and excellence in music. As a member of her school orchestra, Sofia enjoys contributing to ensemble performances and exploring a wide range of musical styles across both harp and piano. Beyond her musical pursuits, she is an active individual with a love for figure skating and squash, which she appreciates for their blend of discipline, grace, and physical challenge. In her free time, she enjoys reading, especially literature that deepens her understanding of the world and fuels her curiosity.

Audris Tsai, a 13-year-old 8th grader at Valley Forge Middle School, began her violin journey at the age of 9 after patiently watching her older sister take private lessons for an entire year. She has been learning violin for 5 years under the guidance of Mei-Ching Huang, a prominent violinist of The Philadelphia Orchestra, and receives piano lessons from the renowned pianist Natalie Zhu. Audris has engaged in numerous prestigious music programs, including the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra and the Center for Gifted Young Musicians at Temple University, to broaden her experience with large orchestra settings. She has also pursued studies in chamber music performance at Settlement Music School, guided by Distinguished Faculty Chair Jean Louise Shook, and serves as a chamber music education ambassador, encouraging younger generations to engage with the chamber music community. Last summer, she attended Luzerne Music Center Camp and Festival, where she undertook intensive studies in both violin chamber music and solo performance. Beyond her musical endeavors, Audris is a competitive ice hockey player and a gifted program student in Tredyffrin/Easttown School District, where she engages in STEM projects, writing seminars, and leadership roles, including co-founding and presiding over the Asian American Heritage Club.

The Woodbine Trio consists of pianist Frederic Phelizon, violinist Amon Givler, and cellist Desmond Fuccillo. The group was formed this season, and they have enjoyed working with their coach, Gloria DePasquale. Earlier this season, the group was awarded the Audience Prize and "Best Romantic Piece" at the Triumph Music Festival. The trio would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to their teachers and their families for their support.

Frederic Phelizon, age 13, an 8th grader at Black Rock Middle School, is a piano student of Natalie Zhu. Living in Paris until he was 7, he started piano lessons at age 4. He began playing cello in his school orchestra during the pandemic and is also a cellist in the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra. Frederic loves to play soccer and is a member of both the Model UN and TSA teams at his school. He also loves comic books and traveling with his family.

Amon Givler, age 13, also an 8th grader at Black Rock Middle School, is a violin student of Shelley Beard. He is the Associate Concertmaster of PRYSM String Orchestra. He began studying the violin at age 4 and the bass two years ago. He now plays electric bass in three jazz bands, including the Pre-Advanced Studies Band at the Settlement Music School. In addition to his music studies, Amon plays soccer and lacrosse and loves to cook.

Desmond Fuccillo, age 14, an 8th grader at Strath Haven Middle School, is a cello student of Amy Barston. He is a member of the Delaware County Youth Orchestra and began playing the cello at age 5. Desmond loves history and is a voracious reader. He is also a member of the Strath Haven High School JV Ultimate Frisbee team and loves video games.

George Zhang, age 12, is a 7th grader at Valley Forge Middle School. He has been studying piano at The Nelly Berman School of Music since he was 5, first with Elena Berman and currently with Igor Resnianski. He has performed at the Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall and the Academy of Music Ballroom in Philadelphia. He won First Place in the Triumph Music Festival (2024), First Place in the Crescendo International Music Competition (2023), First Prize in the Charleston International Music Competition (2023), and First Place in the Pre-Collegiate Piano Competition at West Chester University (2022), and is the winner of the Princeton Festival International Piano Competition (2022). George likes to use music to express his emotions and enjoys accompanying the school chorus and string players. In addition to playing the piano, he enjoys math and playing squash.

Julie Zheng, age 14, a freshman at Lower Merion High School, began her music education at age 4 with piano before transitioning to violin at age 6. She currently studies with Meichen Liao-Barnes. She has won Second Place (2025) and honorable mention (2023, 2024) in the Bucks County Symphony Orchestra Youth Concerto Competition and Second Place in Tri-County Concerts Youth Festival's Junior Strings Division (2023), and was a recipient of the Annual

Ambler Symphony Menges Scholarship. She additionally was a finalist in the Philadelphia International Music Festival's 2023 Junior Division. She has played for multiple masterclasses, including for David Kim and Dara Morales. She has also played for other notable figures such as Juliette Kang, Elli Choi, Madison Dae, Marvin Moon, Marc Rovetti, Christine Lim, and Phil Kates. She is currently a member of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, and has previously played in the organization's other youth orchestra groups. She was also a member of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District 11 orchestra. In her spare time, Julia helps teach younger students violin. Apart from music, she plays school and club volleyball and participates in her school's TSA team.

2025 HONORABLE MENTION

Senior Ensemble	. Scherzando Strings: Sophia Shao, violin; Markus Johnson, cello
	Penncrest High School Flute Trio: Ranica Levin; Abby Ryan;
	Abbey Tang
Junior Ensemble	Cello Duo: Abla Elkurd; Olivia Michalsky
	REO: Olivia Kim, violin; Ray Tong, violin; Ethan Qi, viola
Senior Piano	
Junior Piano	Emily Lu, Anya Zhu
Junior Strings	Aileen Chan, cello
Senior Voice	Kayla Greiner, soprano; Angela Jacob, soprano
Senior Winds	Olivia Yong, flute

THANKS TO THE DISTINGUISHED 2025 JUDGES

Ensembles	Cynthia Folio, John Silva, Jennifer Stomberg
Musica Diversa	Lisa Hartman
Senior Piano	Charles Abramovic, Laurie Rogers
Junior Piano	Jim Correnti, Deborah Rodgers
Strings	Cindy Campetti, Heidi Jacob
Voice	Rebecca Gamble, Wendy Schmid
Winds	Cynthia Folio, Jeri Greenfield

IN APPRECIATION 2025

Tri-County Concerts Association gratefully acknowledges the following for their generous support of the 82nd Annual Youth Festival:









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Deena Jo Schneider in memory of Pearl and Judith Steinberg

2025 SPECIAL THANKS

We thank those individuals and institution that supported our Youth Festival in important ways, apart from financial contribution:

West Chester University, Wells School of Music

Dr. Christopher Hanning, Dean Matthew S. Miller, Events Coordinator

2025 Youth Festival Directors: Wendy Schmid and Eleanor James tricountyconcerts.org • tricountyyouthfestival@gmail.com

2024 YOUTH FESTIVAL PRIZE WINNERS

Tri-County Concerts Association's Annual Youth Festival offers talented students an opportunity to audition before and receive critiques from professional musicians. The winners receive monetary awards and the opportunity to perform before a discriminating audience.

SENIOR ENSEMBLE

First Place The Dolce Duo: Julie Chen, cello; Megan Xie, piano

Second Place Rising Crescendo Trio: Elena Lin, piano;

Lauren Wu, violin; Daniel Loza, cello

JUNIOR ENSEMBLE

First Place Scarlett Cello Duo: Grace Hu and Johanna Zeng, cello Second Place Piano Duo: Audrey Hall and Shannon Yue, piano

SENIOR PIANO

First Place Tie Clara Chen First Place Tie Elliot Slater

JUNIOR PIANO

First Place James Luo Second Place Rebecca Santoso

SENIOR STRINGS

First Place Andrew Li, cello Second Place Ryan Wang, violin

JUNIOR STRINGS

First Place Raymond Wu, violin Second Place Zachary Fan, violin

SENIOR VOICE

First Place Niva Menon, soprano Second Place Alexander Scharpf, baritone

JUNIOR VOICE

First Place Daniel Wu, baritone

SENIOR WINDS

First Place Kevin Zhu, clarinet Second Place Sharon Baek, oboe

JUNIOR WINDS

First Place Jeffrey Fan, clarinet Second Place Brydon Lin, bassoon

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Bach Fest

Camerata Ama Deus

Sep 8 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Mozart Requiem, Arias & Con-

Valentin Radu, piano (In memoriam Lewis du Pont

Ama Deus Ensemble

Oct 11 8 pm Kimmel Center, Perelman Theater

Vivaldissimo

Camerata Ama Deus

Nov 9 8 pm St Martin-in-the-Fields Nov 10 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Handel Messiah

Ama Deus Ensemble

Dec 6 7 pm St Mark's Church, Locust Street
Dec 8 4 pm Daylesford Abbey
Dec 20 7 pm Cathedral Basilica of Ss Peter &

Dec 22 4 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Renaissance Noël

Vox Renaissance Consort

Dec 14 8 pm St Martin-in-the-Fields Dec 15 4 pm Church of the Good Samaritan

Gershwin, Grieg & More **Ama Deus Ensemble**

Peter Donohoe, piano

Jan 10 8 pm Kimmel Center, Perelman Theater

Winter Soirée

Peter Donohoe, piano

Jan 12 4 pm Church of the Good Samaritan

Renaissance Candlemas

Vox Renaissance Consort

Feb 1 8 pm St Martin-in-the-Fields Feb 2 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Brilliant Baroque Camerata Ama Deus

Mar 1 8 pm St Martin-in-the-Fields Mar 2 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

ABC: Albinoni, Bach & Corelli

(In memoriam Ruth Williams)

Camerata Ama Deus

Valentin Radu, piano Mar 23 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Bach St John Passion

Ama Deus Ensemble

Apr 18 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Vivaldi Gloria & Magnificat

Ama Deus Ensemble

Jun 8 7 pm St Katharine of Siena Church

Programs subject to change



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Ages 11-17

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Ages 15-22

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Ages 12-22

Prvsm Strings -**New Jersev**

Ages 8-17

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Ages 13-22

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