

REBECCA PENNEYS PIANO FESTIVAL

June 27 - July 17, 2023



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

WELCOME TO RPPF 2023!

I am delighted to welcome you into our second decade, the 11th season of the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival at the University of South Florida! We are honored to continue to celebrate the force and healing powers of creative spirits and the incredible magic and beauty of music. Though the world is troubled by profound turbulence and tragedy, we remain steadfast in our faith in humanity and proud to continue our theme, Legacy of Piano and Planet.

New to RPPF this year is our Dreamscape Weekend. Three award-winning composers, Connor Chee, Catarina Domenici, and Kenneth Frazelle, are presenting pieces composed for and dedicated to RPPF. All will have world premieres this summer. We hope the Dreamscape programming will provide an opportunity for our young artists to open the windows of their souls, exploring diverse and less-traditional career paths as well as different modalities of musical expression.

At the heart of RPPF, we strive to help each aspiring pianist develop a unique artistic voice and shape a successful future. Every summer we alter the scope and depth of the festival and bring in fresh ideas while encouraging participants to personalize their experience according to their individual needs. The exceptional pianists, along with our stellar multigenerational faculty thrive during these three weeks that feature intense private study, superb daily masterclasses, unparalleled legacy sessions, distinctive special topic classes, and thrilling performances.



“Penneys’ playing is simply revelatory”

AMERICAN RECORD GUIDE

Our performances unite inspiring music with enthusiastic audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Faculty share their stories in an intimate setting that blends performance with conversation. RPPF Satellite Concerts (formerly Ambassador Concerts) reach out to the community, presenting RPPF students in venues throughout Tampa Bay. Our closing tradition remains to present two USF events: the 2 Piano 8 Hands Extravaganza, a seriously silly event that explores what pianos and pianists do for fun, and Student Showcase, a fabulous finale that highlights each of the 40 RPPF participants playing a short encore piece.

From modest beginnings, our tuition-free festival has grown into a well-established program that we hope will continue to have an impact for generations to come. We enthusiastically support the Tampa Bay Community and embrace other charities as well. This year, RPPF has donated to Oceana, Tampa Bay Watch, and Seaside Seabird Sanctuary in an effort to help our home and sustain quality life for all. In 2021, I established the RP USF Music Fund, which supports graduate music students at USF.

RPPF is my gift to you all. As we reach further and deeper into the global music community, I remain so grateful to USF, the Music Gallery, the RPPF faculty and staff, the RPPF family of donors and volunteers, and many others, for making RPPF possible year after year. Your support means the world to us and ensures a bright future ahead.

Please join us this summer, live or virtually, and enjoy the legendary classical piano repertoire. Welcome to our 11th Season!

Rebecca Penneys
Founder & Artistic Director

REBECCA PENNEYS is a recitalist, chamber musician, orchestral soloist, educator, and adjudicator. For over six decades she has been hailed as a pianist of prodigious talent, has concertized throughout all the continents north of Antarctica, and represented the USA in Information Service State Department Cultural Tours over a ten-year period. She made her recital debut at age 9 and performed as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra at 11. At 17 she received the unprecedented Special Critics’ Prize at the VII International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, an award created in her honor. Other prizes include Naumburg Chamber Music Award, on two separate occasions, Most Outstanding Musician Prize in Vianna Da Motta Competition, and top prize in Paloma O’Shea Competition. Critics worldwide have acclaimed her live performance and recordings. She made her NY Debut at Alice Tully Hall in 1972. An International Steinway Artist, she has received accolades for her ability to teach Motion and Emotion, an approach to keyboard technique that helps pianists achieve individual performance goals without physical strain or injury. In 2021 she was inducted into the Steinway Teachers Hall of Fame. Having completed 43 years of full-time collegiate teaching, she retired in 2017 and is now Professor Emerita of Piano at Eastman and courtesy Steinway-Artist-in-Residence at USF. She was Chautauqua Piano Chair for 34 years and started its chamber music program. Launched in 2013, RPPF, a tuition-free festival, is supported by Rebecca Penneys Friends of Piano, non-profit 501c3. Her many CDs, DVDs, HD performance/teaching videos, and Chicken Soup for Pianists are available on-line. Current and former students include prizewinners in international competitions and hold teaching posts worldwide. A graduate of Indiana University, Rebecca’s teachers include Aube Tzerko, Leonard Stein, Rosina Lhevinne, Artur Rubinstein, Menahem Pressler, György Sebök, Janos Starker, and Josef Gingold. rebeccapenneys.com, [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/rebeccapenneys)

PUBLIC EVENTS

USF BARNES HALL, 3755 USF HOLLY DRIVE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND - FREE ADMISSION - PLEASE BRING A MASK, JUST IN CASE
DONATIONS AT THE DOOR IN ANY AMOUNT KEEP THESE PROGRAMS OPEN TO ALL!

Celebration Concerts

July 15 - 7:00pm - **2 Piano 8 Hand Extravaganza!**

What Pianos & Pianists Do For Fun

July 16 - 2:00pm - **Student Showcase**

Featuring Our 40 RPPF Artist Students

Satellite Concerts (formerly Ambassador Concerts)

July 3 - 2:00pm - **Allegro Hyde Park** (800 W Azele St, Tampa)

July 3 - 7:00pm - **Florida College** (Puckett Auditorium, 119 N Glen Arven Ave, Temple Terrace)

July 6 - 4:00pm - **Eckerd College** (ASPEC Lewis House, 4200 54th Ave South, St. Petersburg)

July 6 - 6:30pm - **Westminster Shores** (125 56th Ave South, St. Petersburg)

July 9 - 8:30am & 11:00am Worship Services - **Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church** (3501 San Jose Street, Tampa)

July 9 - 3:00pm - **Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church** (110 S Fort Harrison Ave, Clearwater)

July 10 - 2:00pm - **Unison Senior Living** (12401 N 22nd St, Tampa)

July 10 - 7:00pm - **Canterbury Towers** (3501 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa)

HEAR LIVE Performances & Interviews on WUSF: July 7 @ 11:00am, July 13 @ 1:00pm

Soirée Performances: Music & Conversation

June 28 - 3:30pm - **RPPF Staff - Esther Jeehae Ahn, Sarah Gao, Klyde Ledamo, Rie Tanaka**

June 29 - 2:30pm - **Inna Faliks** - Breaking Barriers: Say, Corigliano & Beethoven

July 1 - 2:30pm - **Arthur Greene** - Chopin, Brahms, and Thoughts of Death

July 1 - 6:30pm - **RPPF Students Performance Soirée**

July 5 - 2:00pm - **Christopher Harding** - Beethoven's Unfinished Business

July 7 - 2:00pm - **Lowenthal & Oppens** - Schubert Meets Faure

July 8 - 2:00pm - **Dreamscape World Premieres:**

Connor Chee performs Connor Chee

Catarina Domenici performs Catarina Domenici

E-Na Song performs Kenneth Frazelle

July 8 - 6:30pm - **RPPF Students Performance Soirée**

July 12 - 3:30pm - **Lydia Artymiw** - Exploring Argentinian Composer Carlos Guastavino

July 13 - 2:30pm - **Ann Schein** - Carter & Chopin, An Unlikely Pair

Masterclasses:

Open Lessons With Master Teachers

June 28 - 6:30pm - **Kathryn Brown** (CIM)

June 29 - 3:30pm - **Rebecca Penneys** (ESM Emerita)

June 29 - 6:30pm - **Soyeon Kate Lee** (Juilliard)

June 30 - 3:30pm - **Inna Faliks** (UCLA)

June 30 - 6:30pm - **Arthur Greene** (UMichigan)

July 2 - 2:00pm - **Alan Chow** (ESM) & **Alvin Chow** (Oberlin)

July 5 - 4:00pm - **Steven Spooner** (Peabody)

July 5 - 6:30pm - **Jerome Lowenthal** (Juilliard)

July 6 - 3:30pm - **Ursula Oppens** (CUNY/Mannes)

July 6 - 6:30pm - **Roberto Plano** (RNCM)

July 7 - 3:30pm - **Roberta Rust** (LynnU)

July 7 - 6:30pm - **Christopher Harding** (UMichigan)

July 10 - 2:30pm - **Antonio Pompa-Baldi** (CIM)

July 12 - 6:30pm - **Ann Schein** (Mannes/Peabody)

July 13 - 3:30pm - **Jose Mendez** (NorthwesternU)

July 13 - 6:30pm - **Hie-Yon Choi** (Peabody)

July 14 - 3:30pm - **Lydia Artymiw** (UMN Emerita)

July 14 - 6:30pm - **Douglas Humpherys** (ESM)

July 15 - 3:30pm - **Spencer Myer** (IU)

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES



Recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and the Andrew Wolf Chamber Music Prize, Philadelphia-born **LYDIA ARTYMIW** has performed with over 100 orchestras world-wide including the Boston Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, National Symphony, LA Philharmonic, and the St. Luke's and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras. She has performed solo recitals in most major American cities, important European music centers, and throughout the Far East. Critics have acclaimed her seven recordings for Chandos, and she has also recorded for Bridge, Centaur, and Naxos. Her debut Chandos "Variations" CD won Gramophone Magazine's "Best of the Year" award, and her recording of the "Complete Mendelssohn Cello/Piano Works" with cellist Marcy Rosen for Bridge was nominated for a 2018 Grammy. Festival appearances include Aspen, Bantry, Bravo! Vail, Caramoor, Chautauqua, Hollywood Bowl, Marlboro, Montréal, Mostly Mozart, RPPF, Seattle, and Tucson. Artymiw has collaborated with Yo-Yo Ma, Richard Stoltzman, Arnold Steinhardt, Kim Kashkashian, Benita Valente, and the Guarneri, Tokyo, American, Alexander, Borromeo, Miami, Orion, and Shanghai Quartets. A recipient of top prizes in the 1976 Leventritt and 1978 Leeds International Competitions, she graduated from Philadelphia's University of the Arts and studied with Gary Graffman for twelve years. Artymiw was a juror for the 2015 Cliburn Junior International Piano Competition, First China International Competition, Beijing (2019), 2017 Lang Lang Futian International Piano Competition, and the 2022 New York International Piano Competition. She has also been a juror for twenty piano concerto competitions at Juilliard and has been a frequent guest piano teacher at Juilliard since 2015. Artymiw was Distinguished McKnight Professor of Piano at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis from 1989-2020 and was awarded Emerita status. She received the 2015 "Excellence in Graduate Teaching" Award and the 2000 Dean's Medal. lydiaartymiw.com



KATHRYN BROWN has performed around the globe as concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She gave her New York Recital Debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and has appeared in concert at New York's 92nd Street Y. She was featured on the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago, Cleveland's Severance Hall and the German Embassy, the Philips Collection, and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. International highlights include concerts at Prague's Rudolfinum Hall, the University of London, and the National Theatre in Ghana, Africa. A recipient of the Louis Sudler Prize for the Arts, Brown is an advocate of contemporary music, recording and premiering works by Menotti, Fitch, Tcimpidis, Brouwer, Hersch, and Pinscher. Pianist and co-founder of the Myriad Chamber Players, her chamber music credits include performances at the Marlboro Music Festival with members of the Guarneri String Quartet and Beaux Arts Trio. She has also performed with the Cavani String Quartet, members of the Lincoln Center Chamber Players, and The Verdehr Trio, and was featured with Dmitri Ashkenazy on Ravinia's Rising Stars series. She has been featured on the British Broadcasting Network, the PBS Artistry of... series, Chicago's WFMT Radio, and NPR's Performance Today. Her discography includes releases with Telarc, New World, Albany, and Crystal labels. An accomplished singer and recitalist, Brown's performances include premieres at Severance Hall with the Cleveland Orchestra and feature roles at the Aspen Music Festival and Tanglewood Music Center. She is an enthusiastic pedagogue and a frequent juror of competitions, nationally and internationally. She currently serves as Head of the Piano Department and Keyboard Division at The Cleveland Institute of Music. Visit cim.edu/faculty/kathryn-brown to learn more.



With over 45 years of experience as a teacher of Dalcroze Eurhythmics and a lifelong performer of chamber music, **TERRY BOYARSKY** specializes in integrating music and movement into the curriculum. Her unique, multifaceted approach evokes deep listening and playful experimentation. Students work together to understand the components of rhythm and sound, develop attention, improve coordination, and challenge the mind. Her collaborations have spanned the United States, Canada, France, Switzerland, Thailand, and Venezuela. In 1998, Terry earned a M.A. in Ethnomusicology from Kent State University and has been listed in "Who's Who" since 2000. Recent articles include "Dalcroze Eurhythmics and the Quick Reaction Exercises" published in the Orff Echo, and "Encouraging Collaboration" published in the Dalcroze Society of America Connections. Terry frequently presents at national conferences, is a teaching artist with the Kennedy Center's Ohio State-Based Collaboratives, is on the [Ohio Teaching Artist Roster](http://ohio-teaching-artist-roster.org), and is an artist for Creative Aging Ohio. She sings with the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Festival Chorus and Choral Arts Society. Her solo piano program "Classical Expressions of the Folk Tradition" has been received with great acclaim. Terry teaches Vocal Music of Russia and the former USSR at Case Western Reserve University. Since 2007, Terry and Siberian balalaika virtuoso Oleg Kruglyakov have performed throughout North America as Russian Duo. terryboyarsky.blog



From Page, Arizona, Navajo pianist **CONNOR CHEE** is known for combining his classical piano training with his Navajo heritage. Chee began piano at age 6 with Sue Barney, and later Debbie Mitchell. At 10, his family relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he attended the School for Creative and Performing Arts studying with Anna Weinstein and Simon Goykhman. At 12, Chee won a gold medal in the World Piano Competition's Young Artist Division, earning him his first performance at New York City's Carnegie Hall. In subsequent years, he won multiple awards in the World Piano Competition, earning performances at the United Nations, and an international feature on CNN. While in Cincinnati, Chee performed with the Cincinnati Pops, the Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony Orchestra, and the Blue Ash Montgomery Symphony Orchestra. At 17, he entered the Eastman School of Music under Professor Rebecca Penneys. He received his Bachelor of Music degree there in 2009, and his Master's degree from the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music with Professor Elizabeth Pridonoff. Chee was awarded First Prize in the 2016 Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition and performed in the winners' recital at Carnegie Hall. He has released 3 studio albums of original pieces and piano transcriptions of Navajo music. The Navajo Piano won Best Instrumental Recording at the 16th Annual Native American Music Awards, and his piece "Beginnings" won Best New Age Song. In addition to winning Best Instrumental Recording, Chee was nominated for Best New Artist and Record of the Year. His most recent release, *Scenes from Dinétah*, features piano pieces written about elements of Navajo life and culture and has been accompanied by several music videos filmed on the reservation. Chee is currently a voting member of The Recording Academy (GRAMMY® Awards) and continues to perform throughout the United States. connorchee.com



South Korean pianist **HIEYON CHOI** first appeared on the international piano music scene after winning prizes at Kapell, Epinal, Busoni and Viotti competitions. She has performed with prestigious orchestras in Europe, US and Korea such as Rundfunkorchester Berlin, National Symphony Orchestra, Northern Sinfonia, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and Korean Broadcast Symphony Orchestra. A milestone of her career was the four-year cycle of all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas at Kumho Art Hall in Seoul. For this series she received the 2005 Arts Award by the Korean Arts & Cultural Association. Ten years later she completed another Beethoven cycle, all piano trios, violin sonatas and works for cello and piano which took place in Korea, Germany and the USA. HieYon has collaborated with renowned musicians Truls Mørk, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Peter Stumph, Mark Kosower, Romain Guyot, Stephan Dohr, Ulf Wallin, Mikyung Lee, and Soovin Kim. A strong advocate of new music, HieYon was the inaugural Artist-in-Residence of Tong-Yeong International Music festival performing many contemporary works. HieYon led many contemporary music projects at SNU and in 1999 she joined the SNU piano faculty. HieYon continues to teach worldwide at the Guildhall School (London), Ecole normale (Paris), top schools in Germany, China and USA.. HieYon has multiple albums with Decca Korea and for TV & radio the USA, Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, and Germany. She is a frequent guest at KBS classic radio which features her live lecture concerts. Born in Incheon, South Korea, HieYon debuted with the Incheon Philharmonic Orchestra at age 6. She won all four major competitions in Korea studying with Professor Joong-Won Koh. Subsequently she moved to Germany to study with Professors Klaus Hellwig and Hans Leygraf. She studied with Professor György Sebök at Indiana University. In 2023, HieYon joins the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University piano faculty. hieyonchoi.com/



ALAN CHOW has performed in recital and in concert with orchestra in nearly all fifty states, throughout Asia, and in Europe. He has been presented at New York's Lincoln Center and Merkin Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center and Ravinia, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and Vienna's MozartHaus. He has also appeared as soloist with the National, Pan Asian, Utah, Oakland, Kansas City, and Omaha Symphonies and the Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Tulsa Philharmonics. Competition honors include First Prizes at the Concert Artists Guild International Competition, UCLA International Piano Competition, and Palm Beach Invitational International Piano Competition, in addition to the Silver Medal and Audience Favorite Prize at the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition. He has collaborated with the American, Pacifica, Miami and Escher String Quartets and has been a guest artist at numerous festivals. In addition, he appears in recital in the Cheng-Chow Trio with pianists Angela Cheng and his twin brother Alvin Chow. He has given masterclasses throughout North America, Europe and Asia at conservatories, universities, and summer festivals and is an active juror for piano competitions in the US, China, and Singapore. Chow has served as guest professor at the Central Conservatory in Beijing, honored visiting professor at the Shenyang Conservatory, and Visiting Associate Professor at Oberlin Conservatory. He has also presented masterclasses for the conservatories in Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuhan and Xian. Chow graduated Co-Valedictorian (with his brother) at the University of Maryland, where he studied with Nelita True. At the Juilliard School, he studied with Sasha Gorodnitzki and at Indiana University, he was a student of Menahem Pressler. Formerly on the artist faculty at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, Chow currently teaches and is Chair of the Piano Department at the Eastman School of Music. Visit esm.rochester.edu/directory/chow-alan



ALVIN CHOW has appeared throughout North America and Asia as orchestral soloist and recitalist. In addition, he has performed extensively in duo-piano recitals with his wife, Angela Cheng, and his twin brother, Alan. A native of Miami, Florida, he graduated summa cum laude and Co-Valedictorian (with his brother) at the University of Maryland, where he was a student of Nelita True. Mr. Chow received the Victor Herbert Prize in Piano upon graduation from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Sascha Gorodnitzki, and held the Joseph Battista Memorial Scholarship at Indiana University as a student of Menahem Pressler. Mr. Chow has been presented as recitalist in such cities as Hong Kong, Shanghai, Vienna, Montreal, Toronto, New York, and Los Angeles, and has appeared as soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra, Colorado Symphony, Alabama Symphony, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Pan-Asia Symphony in Hong Kong, Shanghai Philharmonic, and the Mozarteum Orchestra in Salzburg, among others. Mr. Chow has presented numerous master classes and lectures at music institutions throughout the United States and abroad, including the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Colburn School, Eastman School of Music, and Indiana University. He has taught and performed at numerous summer festivals, including the Shanghai Piano Festival, Banff Piano Master Classes, Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Southeastern Piano Festival, Adamant Music School, Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria, and the Lake Como Summer Piano School in Italy. Formerly on the faculty at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Mr. Chow has been a member of the artist faculty at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music since 1999. He currently serves as Chair of the Piano Department. From 2011-14 he was the Ruth Strickland Gardner Professor of Music, and was awarded Oberlin's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2016. oberlin.edu/alvin-chow



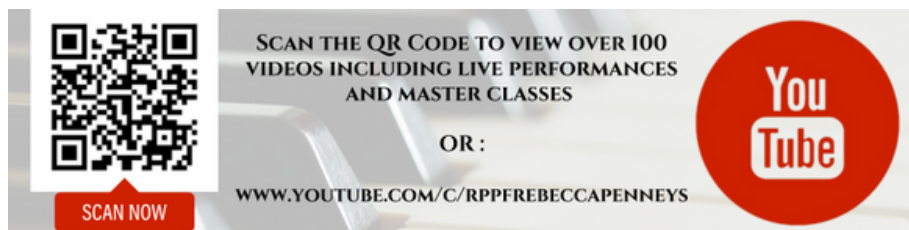
Pianist, composer and researcher, **CATARINA DOMENICI** is a Full Professor at the Federal University at Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, where she teaches both graduate and postgraduate levels. She received a Master and a Doctoral degree from the Eastman School of Music, where she served as an assistant to Professor Rebecca Penneys, and was awarded the Performer's Certificate and the Lizzie Teege Mason award. She has received scholarships from the Chautauqua Institution and the Brazilian Government Agency for the Development of Science (CNPq), and was a post-doctoral fellow at the University at Buffalo. Her research on composer-performer interactions in contemporary music has been published and presented in international symposiums in Asia, Europe, and South America. She is a frequent guest speaker at national symposiums and international institutions, and has served as faculty in several music festivals in Brazil and abroad. As a pianist she has performed in England, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Uruguay, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Brazil and the US, and has received several prizes as a soloist and chamber musician for her performances and recordings. As a composer, she received commissions from King's College London, Fundação Teatro Municipal de São Paulo, Santo Andre Symphony Orchestra, and her works have been performed by USP Symphony Orchestra, Federal University of Paraíba Symphony Orchestra, Porto Alegre Symphony Orchestra, and Santa Maria Symphony Orchestra. Her chamber and piano solo works have been presented in Germany, Italy, England, Brazil, and the USA. Catarina Domenici is a leading figure in the Brazilian musical scene. catarinadomenici.com



Ukrainian-born American pianist **INNA FALIKS** is renowned for her commanding performances of standard piano repertoire, as well as genre-bending interdisciplinary projects, and inquisitive work with contemporary composers. She has appeared around the world in recital and with major orchestras, performing with conductors Leonard Slatkin, Keith Lockhart and many others. Recent seasons include performances at Ravinia Festival in Chicago, National Gallery in Washington DC, Chigiana Academy in Italy, as soloist with US orchestras nation-wide, and repeated tours of all the major venues in China. Faliks collaborates with and premieres music by some of today's most significant composers, including Billy Childs, Richard Danielpour, Timo Andres, and Clarice Assad. She founded the award-winning poetry-music series Music/Words in 2008, with performances in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, both on stage and on WFMT radio. She regularly tours her monologue-recital Polonaise-Fantasie, the Story of a Pianist, which tells the story of her immigration with music by Bach, Chopin, Gershwin, and Carter (recorded on Delos). Faliks' discography includes Reimagine: Beethoven & Ravel (Navona, 2021), for which she commissioned nine composers to respond to Beethoven's Bagatelles op 126 and Ravel's Gaspard de la Nuit. Also released in 2021 (MSR Classics) is The Schumann Project, Volume 1, which includes Clara Schumann's G minor sonata and Robert Schumann's Symphonic Etudes opus 13. Other releases include all-Beethoven and Rachmaninoff/Ravel/Pasternak discs for MSR Classics, and The Master and Margarita project, featuring three world premieres on Sono Luminus (2022). Faliks is professor and head of Piano Studies at UCLA, and in demand world-wide as a masterclass artist and adjudicator. She has articles and essays appearing in Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post. A musical memoir, titled Weight in the Fingertips, will be published in 2023 by Globe Pequot. Inna Faliks is a Yamaha Artist. Visit innafaliks.com



Composer **KENNETH FRAZELLE**'s music has been commissioned and performed by numerous prominent artists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Jeffrey Kahane, Dawn Upshaw, Anthony Dean Griffey, Emmanuel Ax, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Ransom Wilson, Paula Robison, John Adams, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Jan DeGaetani and Gilbert Kalish. He has received commissions from Music@Menlo, the Ravinia Festival and the Spoleto Festival. Frazelle first received international acclaim with his score for Still/Here, a multimedia dance theater work for the Bill T.Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. Frazelle has received awards and fellowships from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the American Academy in Rome, and Columbia University, and he was the winner of the 2001 Barlow Prize, the international competition administered through Brigham Young University. He has held residencies with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Santa Rosa Symphony and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Frazelle was a pupil of Roger Sessions at The Juilliard School and attended high school at the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he studied with Robert Ward. His music is published by Subito Music Corporation. Learn more at kennethfrazelle.com



RAY GOTTLIEB, O.D., Ph.D. originally from Los Angeles, is a graduate of UC California, UC Berkeley Optometry School, and Saybrook Institute. He practiced behavioral optometry for over six decades working with patients to improve visual, movement, learning and athletic skills. He worked with Rebecca Penneys at the Chautauqua Institution from 1992-2012, and since 2013, works at RPPF where he applies his stress-point learning approach to teach advanced piano students ways to improve their attention, memory, body coordination, and learning skills. He eliminated his own myopia using Bates natural eye improvement practices and prevented the onset of his presbyopia using an approach he invented. He is Dean of the College of Syntonic Optometry, or optometric phototherapy, a branch of ocular science dealing with the application of selected light frequencies through the eyes. Syntonics has been used clinically for over 80 years with continued success for strabismus (eye turns), amblyopia (lazy eye), focusing and convergence problems, learning disorders, and the after-effects of stress and trauma. Dr Ray's writings include Attention and Memory Training: Stress-Point Learning on the Trampoline and The Fundamentals of Flow in Learning Music (with Rebecca Penneys). Now retired from active optometric practice, Dr. Gottlieb lectures about his optometric training approach to educators, health professionals, and the general public in the U.S. and abroad. He lives in Florida where he researches, writes, swims, invents, and practices eye/brain/body exercises on a sunny Gulf of Mexico beach. Learn more at raygottlieb.com.



ARTHUR GREENE was born in New York City and received degrees from Yale, Juilliard, and Stony Brook. He studied with Martin Canin. Greene treasures the inheritance of our rich piano repertoire, which he considers among humanity's greatest achievements, and is grateful for the opportunity to bring it to life and share it with as many people as possible. He has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the San Francisco, Utah, and National Symphonies, the Ukraine National Symphony, the Czech National Symphony, the Tokyo Symphony, and many others. He has played recitals in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Moscow Rachmaninov Hall, Tokyo Bunka Kaikan, Lisbon Sao Paulo Opera House, Hong Kong City Hall and concert houses in Shanghai, Beijing, Seoul, and throughout Japan. He was an Artistic Ambassador to Serbia, Kosovo, and Bosnia for the United States Information Agency. Greene recorded the complete Etudes of Alexander Scriabin for Supraphon, and piano works of the Ukrainian composer Mykola Lysenko for Toccata Classics. He has made many recordings together with his wife, the violinist Solomia Soroka, for Naxos and Toccata. He has performed the 10 Sonata Cycle of Alexander Scriabin in many international venues, including multi-media presentations with Symbolist artworks. He has performed mazurkas with the Janusz Prusinowski Kompania, a Polish folk ensemble. He has been a faculty member of many summer festivals, including the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Perugia MusicFest, and Vivace Music Foundation. Greene is a member of the piano faculty of the University of Michigan. There he won the Harold Haugh Award for Excellence in Studio Teaching. He and his students presented a recital series of the complete solo works of Chopin in nine concerts. His current and former students include prizewinners in international competitions, and his former students hold important teaching positions throughout the United States. Visit arthurgreene.com



CHRISTOPHER HARDING, Chair and Professor of Piano Performance at the University of Michigan, maintains an international career, presenting solo, concerto, and chamber music performances in venues as far-flung as the Kennedy Center and Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Seoul Art Center (IBK and Recital Halls), the National Theater Concert Hall in Taipei, as well as in Canada, mainland China, Israel, Italy, Russia, and Romania. His concerto performances have included concerts with the National Symphony and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestras, San Angelo and Santa Barbara Symphonies, and the Tokyo City Philharmonic. As a duo partner and chamber musician, he has collaborated with such renowned artists as Karl Leister and András Adorján, and members of the St. Lawrence and Ying String Quartets, as well as his many distinguished colleagues at Michigan. Harding has presented numerous master classes and lecture recitals across the United States, Europe, and many parts of Asia. He has held a Fulbright Senior Specialist residency at Seoul National University, simultaneously holding a Special Chair in Piano of Piano Performance at Ewha Womans University, and is a permanent guest professor at the Sichuan Conservatory in Chengdu, China. He has taken 25 first prizes in national and international competitions and in 1999 was awarded the special “Mozart Prize” at the Cleveland International Piano Competition. He has edited several volumes of the music of Debussy and Mozart for the Schirmer Performance Editions. His recordings and live performances of American solo piano music (Barber, Bolcom, Gershwin, Copland), the violin and piano sonatas of Johannes Brahms (with violinist Stephen Boe), the complete piano chamber music of Franz Xaver Mozart, and American flute music (with Amy Porter) can be found on YouTube and at christopherhardingpiano.com



Since winning the gold medal at the first Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, **DOUGLAS HUMPHERYS'** concert career has spanned four decades across four continents. A Steinway Artist, he has performed and taught throughout Asia, including twenty tours of China, plus engagements in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, and Argentina with Teachers del Norte-Pianists del Sur, a project sponsored in part by the U.S. Embassy. He has performed in Moscow, Novgorod, Berlin, Hamburg, Prague, Barcelona, Venice, Dublin, the Czech Republic, Montenegro, Serbia, and throughout the U.S. and Canada. Recently, he appeared with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra at the DiMenna Center Concert Series (New York City). Humpherys completed graduate degrees at Juilliard (MM) and Eastman (DMA), where he served as Chair of the Piano Department for twenty years and is currently Professor of Piano. His teachers include Nelita True, Martin Canin, and Robert Smith. He has taught masterclasses at the Central Music School of the Moscow Tchaikovsky State Conservatory, throughout the Chinese Conservatory system, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the Korean National School of the Arts, and the Royal Irish Academy of Music. His students have won prizes at the Honens, Cleveland, Maria Canals, Olga Kern, Virginia Waring, Hilton Head, Washington DC, Poulenc, UNISA, and Sussex (UK) International Piano Competitions, as well as five national first-prize winners of MTNA Competitions. In 2016, Humpherys received Eastman's Eisenhart Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 2021 he was inducted into the Steinway National Teachers Hall of Fame. Currently, he is Artistic Director and Jury Chair of the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition. He has been a faculty member at Bowdoin, Beijing, Shanghai, Gijon (Spain), Wallace (New Zealand), and Rebecca Penneys Piano Festivals, the Philadelphia Young Pianists Academy, and the Miami, Washington DC, Interlochen, Atlantic, Northern Lights, and North Coast, Music Festivals. esm.rochester.edu/directory/humpherys-douglas/



First prize winner of the Naumburg International Piano Competition and the Concert Artist Guild International Competition, Korean-American pianist **SOYEON KATE LEE** has been lauded by The New York Times as a pianist with "a huge, richly varied sound, a lively imagination and a firm sense of style," and by the Washington Post for her "stunning command of the keyboard." Highlights of recent seasons include appearances at the National Gallery, Library of Congress, Gina Bachauer Concerts, Purdue Convocations, San Francisco Performances, and the Cleveland Art Museum. She was a member of Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society's Bowers program, and is a regular participant in numerous chamber music festivals including the Great Lakes, Santa Fe and Music Mountain Chamber Music Festivals. Ms. Lee has collaborated with conductors Carlos Miguel Prieto, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Jahja Ling, and Jorge Mester with the London, San Diego, Hawaii, Louisiana, Naples symphony orchestras among others. Ms. Lee's discography as a Naxos artist spans the works of Scarlatti, Liszt, Scriabin, and Clementi, and her eco-awareness album on E1, Reinvented, garnered her the Classical Recording Foundation's Young Artist of the Year Award. A laureate of the Santander International Piano Competition and the Cleveland International Piano Competition, Ms. Lee is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where she earned her Bachelors and Masters degrees and the Artist Diploma. She earned her Doctorate at the Graduate Center, CUNY. She has worked extensively with Richard Goode, Jerome Lowenthal, Robert McDonald, and Ursula Oppens. She joined the piano faculty of The Juilliard School in 2022. Prior to her appointment at Juilliard, she was an Associate Professor of Music in Piano at the Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music where she was the recipient of the university-wide A.B. Dolly Award Cohen Award for Excellence in Teaching.



JEROME LOWENTHAL, born in 1932, continues to fascinate audiences, who find in his playing a youthful intensity and an eloquence born of life-experience. He is a virtuoso of the fingers and the emotions. Mr. Lowenthal studied in his native Philadelphia with Olga Samaroff-Stokowski, in New York with William Kapell and Edward Steuermann, and in Paris with Alfred Cortot, meanwhile traveling annually to Los Angeles for coachings with Artur Schnabel. After winning prizes in three international competitions (Bolzano, Darmstadt, and Brussels), he moved to Jerusalem where, for three years, he played, taught and lectured. Returning to America, he made his debut with the New York Philharmonic playing Bartok's Concerto No. 2 in 1963. Since then, he has performed more-or-less everywhere, from the Aleutians to Zagreb. Conductors with whom he has appeared as soloist include Barenboim, Ozawa, Tilson Thomas, Temirkanov, and Slatkin, as well as such giants of the past as Leonard Bernstein, Eugene Ormandy, Pierre Monteux and Leopold Stokowski. He has played sonatas with Itzhak Perlman and piano duos with Ronit Amir (his late wife), Carmel Lowenthal (his daughter) and Ursula Oppens (his life partner). His recordings have garnered two Grammy nominations and have spanned the whole keyboard repertoire from Sweelinck to Rzewski. Teaching, too, is an important part of Jerome Lowenthal's musical life. For thirty years at The Juilliard School and for fifty-three summers at the Music Academy of the West he has worked with immensely gifted students. He gives classes annually at the Bimfa Festival in Beijing and is a regular participant in the piano festivals of Israel, Italy, France, Germany, Korea, and China, as well as those of his own country. Learn more at juilliard.edu/music/faculty/lowenthal-jerome.



Yamaha Artist **JÓSE RAMÓN MENDEZ** has concertized extensively in Spain, the United States, Italy, England, Portugal, Holland, and Japan to great acclaim. Méndez began undergraduate and graduate studies at Manhattan School of Music in New York City with renowned pedagogue Solomon Mikowsky and finished his Doctorate under the tutelage of Byron Janis and Miyoko Lotto. He won top prizes in the Pilar Bayona International Piano Competition, Hilton Head Island International Piano Competition, Frederick Chopin Competition in New York, and Hermanos Guerrero International Piano Competition. Recent performances include Chopin's first piano concerto with the Cuban National Symphony Orchestra and Manuel de Falla's "Nights in the Gardens of Spain" with the Nittany Valley Symphony. His playing has been featured on WQXR's Performance Today and on Classical KMFA. He has also been a guest performer at the Caramoor Festival, Barge Music Series, Festival Internacional de Piano de las Islas Canarias, Music at Penns Woods, Amalfi Coast International Music Festival, "Tocando el Cielo," Musica en Compostela, the Stony Brook International Piano Festival, and Santander International Music Festival. As a chamber musician, Méndez has collaborated with Karl Leister, Itzhak Perlman, Michael Tree, Pascual Martínez-Nieto, and Pinchas Zukerman. He has given masterclasses throughout Spain, as well as in the United States. Méndez was also assistant teacher to Miyoko Lotto at the Perlman Music Program, a program for gifted young musicians founded by violinist Itzhak Perlman. In the summers, he is the Artistic Director and on the faculty of the Gijón International Piano Festival in Gijón, Spain, as well as frequently being invited to perform and teach at various festivals. Méndez has been on the faculty at the University of Texas at Austin, New York University, and Pennsylvania State University. He is now Associate Professor of Piano at Northwestern University. Learn more at joseramonmendez.com.



Lauded for "superb playing" and "poised, alert musicianship" by the Boston Globe, and labeled "definitely a man to watch" by London's The Independent after his 2012 Wigmore Hall recital debut, American pianist **SPENCER MYER** is one of the most respected and sought-after artists on today's concert stage. He has been soloist with The Cleveland Orchestra, the Cape Town and Johannesburg Philharmonics, the Indianapolis, New Haven and Phoenix Symphony Orchestras and Beijing's China National Symphony, collaborating with conductors Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Michael Christie, Robert Franz, Bernhard Gueller, Jahja Ling, Kevin Rhodes, Thomas Wilkins and Victor Yampolsky. His 2005 tour of South Africa included a performance of Beethoven's five piano concerti with the Chamber Orchestra of South Africa, followed by six subsequent return tours. An in-demand chamber musician, he has appeared with cellists Lynn Harrell, Ralph Kirshbaum and Amit Peled, and enjoys a recurring partnership with the Miami String Quartet at the Kent/Blossom Music Festival. Other artistic partners include clarinetist David Shifrin, soprano Nicole Cabell, and the Jupiter and Pacifica String Quartets. Spencer Myer's career was launched with three important prizes: First Prize in the 2004 UNISA International Piano Competition in South Africa, the 2006 Christel DeHaan Classical Fellowship from the American Pianists Association and the Gold Medal from the 2008 New Orleans International Piano Competition. He was a member of Astral Artists' performance roster from 2003-2010. A graduate of Oberlin, Juilliard, and Stony Brook University, he was previously a member of the piano faculty of Boston's Longy School of Music. Currently Associate Professor of Piano at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, he has released five CDs on the Steinway and Sons label - Piano Rags of William Bolcom, three discs with cellist Brian Thornton, and most recently the Four Chopin Impromptus. Spencer Myer is a Steinway Artist. spencermeyer.com



URSULA OPPENS is a legend among American pianists. No artist alive today has commissioned and premiered more new works for the piano that have entered the permanent repertoire. She has premiered works by John Adams, Luciano Berio, Anthony Braxton, Elliott Carter, John Corigliano, Conlon Nancarrow, Charles Wuorinen, Julius Hemphill, John Harbison, Tobias Picker, and many more. A prolific recording artist with five Grammy nominations, Oppens' releases include a recording of Frederic Rzewski's *The People United Will Never Be Defeated*; *Piano Songs*, a collaboration with Meredith Monk; *Winging It: Piano Music of John Corigliano*; *Oppens Plays Carter*; a recording of Elliott Carter's complete piano works for Cedille Records; *Piano Music of Our Time* featuring compositions by John Adams, Elliott Carter, and others; and a two-piano CD for Cedille Records devoted to Messiaen's *Visions de l'Amen* and Debussy's *En blanc et noir* performed with pianist Jerome Lowenthal. Her most recent release is "FANTASY: OPPENS PLAYS KAMINSKY" (Cedille). Oppens appeared in recital at Merkin Concert Hall on February 2, 2019 for the celebration of her 75th birthday, as part of the Kaufman Music Center's series, *Only at Merkin* with Terrance McKnight. She performed solo piano works written for her by Elliott Carter and John Corigliano, premiered *Ursula* by Tobias Picker, and joined the Cassatt Quartet in giving the world premiere of a piano quintet by Laura Kaminsky. Oppens has performed with most of the world's major orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Berlin Symphony, and London Philharmonic Orchestras. She is also an avid chamber musician, performing with the Arditti, Juilliard, and Pacifica quartets, among others. Oppens joined the faculty of Mannes College in fall 2017, and is a Distinguished Professor of Music at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City. Visit colbertartists.com/artists/ursula-oppens



1st Prize Winner of the 2001 Cleveland International Piano Competition, the 2018 American Prize and 15 different international competitions in Italy; prizewinner at Van Cliburn, Honens, Dublin, Sendai, Geza Anda and Valencia Competitions, **ROBERTO PLANO** performs regularly throughout the world, notably at Lincoln Center, Salle Cortot, Wigmore Hall and the Herkulessaal. His engaging personality has made him a favorite guest on such radio programs as NPR's "Performance Today," and on TV shows for PBS, Mezzo and NHK. He has appeared with orchestras under the direction of renowned conductors Sir Neville Marriner, James Conlon, Pinchas Zuckerman, Miguel Harth-Bedoya. An avid chamber musician, Plano has played with the Takacs, Cremona, Jupiter, St. Petersburg, Fine Arts, Muir String Quartets, among others. He has recorded for Decca, Brilliant, Azica, Arktos, Sipario, DaVinci, Concerto, being awarded five stars by several music magazines. In Italy, he has appeared multiple times on the cover of *Amadeus Magazine*. Described as the "Pavarotti of the Piano" for his lyricism, music critic Anthony Tommasini wrote in the *New York Times*: "This Italian pianist showed artistic maturity beyond his years... there was a wonderful clarity and control of inner voices in his performances..." Plano studied at the Verdi Conservatory in Milan, the Lake Como Academy and the Ecole "Cortot" in Paris, where he earned the *Diplôme Supérieur de Concertiste*. In 2016 he joined the Faculty of Boston University; in 2018 he was appointed Associate Professor of Piano at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. One of the most sought-after teachers in the world, Mr. Plano also regularly teaches during the summer at Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival and at Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival. Starting in 2023, he will be on the Faculty of Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana (Lugano, Switzerland) and Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester (UK). robertoplano.com



Born and raised in Foggia, Italy, **ANTONIO POMPA-BALDI** won the Cleveland International Piano Competition in 1999 and embarked on a multifaceted career that continues to extend across five continents. A top prize winner at the 1998 Marguerite Long-Jacques Thibaud Competition of Paris, France, Pompa-Baldi won a silver medal at the 2001 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Mr. Pompa-Baldi appears at the world's major concert venues including New York's Carnegie Hall, Cleveland's Severance Hall, Milan's Sala Verdi, Boston's Symphony Hall, Shanghai's Grand Theatre, and Paris' Salle Pleyel, to name a few. He has collaborated with leading conductors including Hans Graf, James Conlon, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Theodore Kuchar, Benjamin Zander, Louis Lane, and Keith Lockhart. He has performed with colleagues such as Takacs String Quartet, Alison Balsom, Sharon Robinson, and principals of the Cleveland Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and Juilliard Quartet, among others. Pompa-Baldi has recorded over 30 CDs to date, for various labels including Centaur Records, Harmonia Mundi, Steinway, TwoPianists, Azica, and Brilliant Classics. Antonio Pompa-Baldi is a Steinway Artist since 2003. He is often invited to judge international piano competitions such as the Cleveland, Hilton Head, E-Competition (Minneapolis), BNDES Rio de Janeiro, and Edward Grieg (Bergen), among others. He serves as president of the jury and artistic advisor for the San Jose International Piano Competition since 2006. Pompa-Baldi is on the Piano Faculty of the Cleveland Institute of Music. He was named Vice Director for Education at Lang Lang Art World-Hangzhou, China in 2023. In 2015, Pompa-Baldi founded the Todi International Music Masters festival, of which he is also Artistic Director and Faculty Member. This summer festival takes place every August in the beautiful Italian town of Todi. It features internationally renowned faculty members, and students from all over the world. pompabaldi.com



ROBERTA RUST has concertized to critical acclaim around the globe and has been hailed for her recordings on the Navona, Centaur, and Protone labels. She appeared with the Lark, Ying, Serafin, Amernet and Fine Arts String Quartets, performed as soloist with the Houston Symphony and the New World Symphony, served as Artistic Ambassador for the United States, and was awarded a major National Endowment for the Arts grant. Dr. Rust serves as head of the piano department at the Lynn University Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton, Florida and has given master classes throughout Asia and the Americas. During the summers she teaches at the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival and the Adamant Music School in Vermont. She has been a competition adjudicator for the Bösendorfer-Yamaha USASU International Piano Competition, MTNA competitions, the New World Symphony, the Chautauqua and Brevard Festivals, and the Colburn School's Music Academy. For more information please visit robertarust.com



ANN SCHEIN's career has earned praise around the world. She has performed with conductors including George Szell, James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, James dePreist, David Zinman, Stanislaw Skrowacewski, and Sir Colin Davis, and orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony, the Washington National Symphony, the London Philharmonic, the London Symphony, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. One of the premiere Chopin pianists of our time, Schein extended the legacy of her teachers - Mieczyslaw Munz, Arthur Rubinstein, and Dame Myra Hess - by performing six concerts of Chopin's repertoire in Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall (1980-81 season). She and her husband, Earl Carlyss, 2nd violinist of the Juilliard String Quartet, have performed countless chamber music performances as a duo and with other distinguished colleagues. Her recordings include collections of Schumann and Chopin in addition to an album for MSR Classics with the 1945-46 Elliott Carter Piano Sonata, Aaron Copland's Piano Variations, and a work written for her by Grammy Award winner, John Patitucci, entitled "Lakes." Schein has been on the piano faculty at the Peabody Conservatory (1980-2001) and Aspen Music Festival and School (since 1984). She taught as Visiting Professor at Indiana University (2008-09) and the Eastman School of Music (2016-17), and was invited to join the piano faculty at the Mannes School of Music in 2017. Recent highlights include a recital at the 2015 National MTNA convention where she was honored for her more than 50 years as a Steinway Artist. In 2016, she performed Rachmaninoff's Concerto No. 3 with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. Her awards include a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Peabody Conservatory (2012) and a Lifetime Achievement in the Performing Arts by the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. (2018). Visit annschein.com



STEVEN SPOONER is Professor of Piano at the Peabody Institute. His compelling performances have been hailed worldwide. "Such breadth and variety of difficult pieces made me wonder at first if this (recording) was a hoax, But, no....Steven Spooner is the real deal, a pianist of apparently limitless raw technique that's almost note perfect." (American Record Guide) He has released more than 40 recordings, including a project of 16 CDs honoring his pianistic heroes called Dedications. At times he daringly reinvents the solo recital, allowing audiences to vote on the spot for one of five programs he has prepared. A major prize winner at all the international competitions he entered, he has studied at the Moscow and Tbilisi Conservatories, and Indiana University. Spooner has served on the faculty of some of the most prestigious summer festivals and is increasingly in demand for his masterclasses across the globe. He is Artistic Director of the Chicago International Competition and Festival. A dedicated and caring teacher of students from around the world, he has formed winners of multiple prizes at important competitions. Steven Spooner is a Steinway Artist. stevenspooner.com



STAFF BIOGRAPHIES



Applauded for her interpretive coherence and graceful realization (Boston Musical Intelligencer), pianist **ESTHER JEEHAE AHN** enjoys performing and teaching wide-ranging repertoire from traditional works to music of our own time. She has appeared in notable venues including Alice Tully Hall, Boston Symphony Hall, Shalin Liu Performance Center, Seoul Arts Center, Jordan Hall, Flynn Performing Arts Center, Kodak Hall, and Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Her awards include first prizes in the Junior Chopin Competition, Harvard Musical Association Competition, Boston Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, fellowship grants at International Mendelssohn-Academy Leipzig and Summer Institute for Contemporary Performance Practice, Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award, Frances B. Lanier Award from New England Conservatory's Preparatory School, and Arnold C. Taylor Award from Walnut Hill School for the Arts where she graduated summa cum laude. She was a guest artist for South Korea's launching of Steinway sales, its Ministry of National Defense, and US-Korea Conference. Her interest in new music has led to working closely with such distinguished composers as Peter Maxwell Davies, Unsuk Chin, and Rand Steiger; most recently, she gave the world premiere of Amy Dunker's solo works written for the courageous people of Ukraine. She holds degrees from New England Conservatory (BM and MM) and Eastman School of Music (DMA) with a minor in Accompanying and Chamber Music. Esther was on the piano faculty at Clarke University. Currently, she serves as Assistant Professor of Piano at Weber State University where she is also the director of the WSU Piano Festival.



TABITHA COLUMBARE enjoys exploring her varied roles as pianist, pedagogue, and administrator. She studied with Dr. Richard Shuster as an undergraduate at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas and was recognized with the TWU Outstanding Undergraduate Performer Award and the Presser Foundation Award. Her Master's and Doctoral degrees were completed at the Eastman School of Music with Professor Rebecca Penneys. There, Tabitha was awarded the Jerald C. Graue Fellowship for her research on late-nineteenth-century performance practice. She also earned the Certificate in College Teaching with Dr. Donna Brink Fox. Her pedagogical experience includes a musicology internship at Nazareth College and adjunct positions at Texas Woman's University and Tarrant County College, where she taught applied lessons, class piano, and music appreciation. Most recently, she taught piano and theory at the Desert Moon Academy of the Arts in El Paso, TX. Tabitha was a featured alumna for TWU's 2014-15 Music Centennial Celebration, presenting a lecture recital entitled "Rediscovering Chopin" and performing on the Hail, Alma Mater, Hail Reunion Concert. Her other solo and chamber performances have charmed audiences in Texas, Florida, Western New York, and São Paulo, Brazil. Tabitha has been Associate Director and part-time faculty for RPPF since its inception in 2013. She currently lives in Norfolk, Virginia, where her husband (an enlisted trumpet player in the U.S. Army) works operations at the Army School of Music. They have a four-year-old daughter, two-year-old son, and another baby boy who is due this July!



As a pianist, music educator, and arts administrator, **SARAH JINGZE GAO** has extensive experience performing, teaching, and managing arts programs. Gao was a top prize winner in numerous national and international piano competitions and also has been invited to WUSF Live Radio for interviews and performances as their young resident artist. She has gained recognition from the media and music critics for her performances. The Murcia Regional News, described her Schubert performance as "unforgettable" and praised her rendition of Schubert's "The Wanderer" as "exquisite" and "magnificent." Gao has performed recitals and chamber music concerts throughout the U.S., Europe, and Asia. She is in frequent demand as an orchestral pianist working with renowned conductors such as Ken-David Masur, Hugh Wolff, and Jeffrey Kahane. Her music festival performances include Artciál International Piano Competition and Festival, Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Amalfi Music & Arts Festival, and Beijing Internationally Music Festival. Gao received her Bachelor of Music from the New England Conservatory of Music, where she studied with Gabriel Chodos and graduated with Dean's List honors. She earned a Master of Music and Professional Studies Diploma in Piano Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying with Garrick Ohlsson and Yoshikazu Nagai. Currently, Gao is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California, working with Jeffrey Kahane, with a minor in instrumental conducting, music teaching and learning, and arts leadership. Her passion for music education and the arts inspires students and peers to reach their full potential.



KLYDE LEDAMO has appeared throughout Southeast Asia, Europe, and North America as a recitalist and orchestral soloist. A native of the Philippines, his top prizes include the Schubert Club (1st), Lynn Concerto (1st), Tampa Bay Symphony Concerto (1st), and USA's National Society of Arts and Letters Piano Competition (Florida Chapter-1st, Missouri Chapter-1st, and National Finals Round-4th). Klyde completed his MM from Lynn Conservatory in 2019, winning the "The Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Education." In 2017, he attended the summer academy of the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. An avid chamber musician, Klyde has concertized in Austria, Italy, Germany, and around the US. He has appeared as soloist with the UP Orchestra, Manila Symphony Orchestra, and the Lynn Philharmonia. He has presented masterclasses in his home country and the US and has adjudicated competitions including the Philippines National Music Competitions and USA's Quad Cities Baroque Piano Competition. As part of giving back to his community he grew up in, he has been organizing fundraising concerts in his hometown. In the US, Klyde has been invited to a music director position for fundraising events including the most recent "Music for Missions" in Moline IL, and as an inspirational speaker in events including those organized by the Fil-Am organizations. His former teachers include Carolyn Cheng, Nita Quinto, and Roberta Rust. Currently, Klyde is a teaching assistant and DMA candidate at the University of Iowa studying with Uriel Tsachor. Recently, Klyde won the 2023 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award at UI.



Korean-born **E-NA SONG** is a concert pianist, collaborative pianist, educator, and Assistant Director of the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival (RPPF). An active performer, Dr. Song loves presenting a variety of music and styles to audiences and has performed throughout the United States, Poland, Spain, Austria, and Korea. She recently performed for the Live from Hochstein Concert Series, "Celebration of Dance," broadcast on WXXI Classical 91.5 FM, featuring dance-inspired music by Beethoven, Kodály, Liszt, and Albright. As an active collaborative pianist, she performed in a Soprano Concert, "Returning Home," in the Weill Recital Hall with music by Schubert, Schumann, Wolf, Debussy, Sibelius, Cipullo, and Won-Ju Lee, as well as Korean folk songs. She recently gave a concert, "Teacher, Student, and a Virtuoso," featuring music by Leek and Franck, with her violinist colleague at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY.

Dr. Song is on the piano faculty at Roberts Wesleyan University, the Hochstein School, and Roberts Community Music School and concurrently holds a collaborative pianist position at SUNY Geneseo and Eastman Community Music School. Dr. Song earned her Bachelor's Degree from Seoul National University, the most prestigious university in South Korea, under Professor HyungBae Kim. She completed her Master's and Doctorate of Music in Piano Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Professor Rebecca Penneys.



CHRISTY SALLEE is a second-year PhD student in Historical Musicology at the University of Florida. She received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in piano performance from the University of South Florida, and she is active in Central Florida as both a soloist and a collaborative pianist. As an educator, Christy maintains a vibrant private piano studio and teaches both Applied Piano and Class Piano at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, FL. In performing and in teaching, she strives to instill a genuine love of the piano in her students and listeners through the exploration of piano literature beyond the standard repertoire, especially music by women composers and by living composers. An organic extension of her work at the piano, Christy's doctoral research is focused on the piano music of fin de siècle French composer Mélanie Bonis.



RIE TANAKA, a native of Osaka, Japan, enjoys a multifaceted career as a performing artist, educator, and artistic director. Praised for her "brilliant and lyrical tone" ('Chunichi Shimbun' Central Japan News) and "lovely sensitivity" (Pioneer Press), Tanaka has been featured by Minnesota Public Radio, Wisconsin Public Radio, StarTribune, and Chamber Music America. She is a prize winner of international and national music competitions, including MTNA Young Artist Competition (West Central, Minnesota and Wisconsin winner), Rosenstock International Piano Competition (Special Judge's Award), Schubert Club Competition (1st Prize), and Chautauqua Piano Competition (Finalist, Commissioned Piece Award). She co-founded "Mirage Performing Arts," a cross-disciplinary group of musicians and dancers, and co-directed ten original productions at a variety of venues from city streets to concert halls in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Japan. Currently, Tanaka serves as a faculty member at MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Before that, she taught piano classes and private lessons at Macalester College and University of Minnesota. An advocate for musicians' health, she is a certified Yoga instructor with an RYT 200 and has led Yoga classes and lectures at the University of Arizona, University of Minnesota Duluth, Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, and various Music Teachers Associations in the states of Minnesota, South Dakota, and Washington. Tanaka received her MM and DMA in Piano Performance from the University of Minnesota, studying under Professor Alexander Braginsky, and her Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, studying with Dr. Raffi Besalyan.

DAILY CALENDAR

KEY:	Tuesday - June 27	Wednesday - June 28	Thursday - June 29	Friday - June 30	Saturday - July 1	Sunday - July 2
Special Topic Class		2:30-3:30pm Special Topic Class: Dr. Ray	2:30-3:30pm Soirée: Faliks	2:30-3:30pm Q&A: Faculty Forum 1	2:30-3:30pm Soirée: Greene	2-4pm Master Class: Chows
Soirée	4:30-7pm	3:30-4:30pm	3:30-5pm	3:30-5pm	3:30-4:30pm	4-5:30pm
Master Class	Mandatory Student Convocation	Soirée: Staff	Master Class: Penneys	Master Class: Faliks	Special Topic Class: Tanaka	Dalcroze 1
Satellite Concert		6:30-8pm	6:30-8pm	6:30-8pm	6:30-8pm	
Dreamscape Weekend		Master Class: Brown	Master Class: Lee	Master Class: Greene	Student Performance Soirée	
Monday - July 3	Tuesday - July 4	Wednesday - July 5	Thursday - July 6	Friday - July 7	Saturday - July 8	Sunday - July 9
	10-11:30am Dalcroze 3			11am-11:30am Live - WUSF Radio 1		8:30-10am Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
2-3pm Allegro Hyde Park		2-3pm Soirée: Harding	2:30-3:30pm Special Topic Class: Dr. Ray	2-3:30pm Soirée: Lowenthal-Oppens	2-3:30pm Dreamscape World Premieres	10am-1pm Dreamscape Theme Classes
3-4:30pm Dalcroze 2	3:30-8:30pm Student Beach Day	3-4pm Q&A: Faculty Forum 2	3:30-5pm Master Class: Oppens	3:30-5pm Master Class: Rust	3:30-4:30pm Dreamscape Forum 1	11am-12:30pm Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
		4-5:30pm Master Class: Spooner	4-5pm ASPEC Lewis House			2:30-4pm Dreamscape Forum 2
			6:30-7:30pm Westminster Shores			3-4pm Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church
7-8pm Florida College		6:30-8pm Master Class: Lowenthal	6:30-8pm Master Class: Plano	6:30-8pm Master Class: Harding	6:30-8pm Student Performance Soirée	
Monday - July 10	Tuesday - July 11	Wednesday - July 12	Thursday - July 13	Friday - July 14	Saturday - July 15	Sunday - July 16
	12-9pm Student Tours:		1-1:30pm Live - WUSF Radio 2			
2-3pm Unisen Senior Living Center	James Museum Chihuly Collection	2:30-3:30pm Special Topic Class: Dr. Ray	2:30-3:30pm Soirée: Schein	2:30-3:30pm Q&A: Faculty Forum 3	2:30-3:30pm Special Topic Class: Penneys	2-3:30pm Student Showcase
2:30-4pm Master Class: Pompa-Baldi	Dolphin Cruise	3:30-4:30pm Soirée: Artymiw	3:30-5pm Master Class: Mendez	3:30-5pm Master Class: Artymiw	3:30-5pm Master Class: Myer	3:30-6pm Student Photos & PARTY
7-8pm Canterbury Towers		6:30-8pm Master Class: Schein	6:30-8pm Master Class: Choi	6:30-8pm Master Class: Humpherys	7-8pm 2 Piano 8 Hand Extravaganza	



STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES



Charismatic and popular with audiences in recital and concerto settings, **Huiping Cai**, age 25, is an engaging pianist renowned for her lyricism, musicality, and formidable technique. After winning First Prize, Best Concerto Award, and Best Recital Award at the 2017 Philadelphia International Piano Competition, she also won first prizes at the 2018 Miami Music Festival Piano Concerto Competition, the 2019 Chopin International Piano Competition in Hartford, CT, and the 2022 Los Angeles International Liszt Competition. Huiping has performed as a soloist across the United States and worldwide including Mexico, Russia, Kazakhstan, and her home country, China. She graduated from the New England Conservatory where she studied with Dang Thai Son. Huiping is currently pursuing her DMA in piano performance and literature at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Professor Alan Chow.



Jeslyn Zhu Cai, 18 years old, has won acclaim in over 40 regional, national, and international competitions. She was 1st place winner in the Junior WA-State MTNA and alternate in NW Division MTNA, 2nd place in National MTNA Duet, as well as 1st place in both Junior/Senior WA Outstanding Artists. In the past few years, she received 1st place for the Princeton Festival International Piano Competition, Rome Grand Prize Virtuoso International Music Competition, Tiziano Rossetti International Music Competition, Cap Ferret Music Festival, Pacific International Youth Music Society Piano Competition, American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music, and the Russian Chamber Festival and Competition. Regionally and nationally, she received top prizes in the Rising Stars Grand Prix International Music Competition, New Orleans Piano Institute Virtual International Competition, Chicago International Music Competition, WPTA Spain International Piano Competition, Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition, American Prize Piano Performance Competition, Spokane Piano Competition, and Musicfest Northwest. She was invited to play for KPBX Spokane Public Radio and Seattle King FM Radio, and she has performed in venues across the world including Weill Recital Hall in NYC, Sallet Cortot Hall in Paris, Teatro Studio Borgna in Rome, and the Berlin Philharmonic Hall in Germany. In the summer, she has attended the Gijon International Piano Festival, International Institute for Young Musicians (IIYM) Summer Music Academy, Southeastern Piano Festival as a finalist in the Arthur Fraser International Piano Competition, and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. She currently studies with Dr. Peter Mack and Mrs. Karlyn Brett.



Chi-Chun Chang, was born in Taichung, Taiwan and is 22 years of age. He is currently a student at the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studies with Antonio Pompa-Baldi. In 2016, he was one of the prize winners in the 18th Hong Kong Asia Open Competition. In 2018, he was admitted to Pianosummer at New Paltz and took lessons with Vladimir Feltsman, Alexander Korsantia, and Pavlina Dokovska. In addition, he was a semifinalist in the Verona International Piano Competition in Italy. Currently, in 2023, he is a finalist for the CHIMEI Museum Art Awards in the music category. Besides music, he has a strong passion for writing and drawing, and likes to explore different types of art forms.



At 22 years of age, **Joy Chen** (Australian) recently completed her Bachelor of Music Performance (Honors) Degree at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney, with Dr. Parl Rickard Ford (with scholarship). Joy is currently doing her Master of Music Degree (MM) at the New England Conservatory, studying under Professor Pavel Nersessian. Throughout the years, Joy has participated and gained many awards in national and international competitions. Recently, she was invited to participate in the Mozart Competition in Zhuhai (2015), Ettlingen Competition (2020), KE'Alohi International Piano Competition (2022), and Maria Canals Competition (2023). In 2021, Joy received an 'Honorable Mention' at the Lancaster International Competition. She was also a finalist at the Nordic International Competition. In the Balys Dvarionas Competition, Joy received the prize for the 'Best Performance of 20th Century Music', and 'Finalist in Absentia.' In 2022, she won 1st Prize at the Orbetello Online International Competition with the highest point. Joy has also received 2nd prize in the Richter Award Piano Solo Senior Division, and she was a finalist at Australian Youth Classical Music Competition. Joy received 'Best Australian Award in Piano Artist Category' at WPTA Spain 2022. Finally, Joy has participated in many festivals and masterclasses with world renowned pianists such as Arie Vardi, Boris Berman, Matti Raekallio, Zhaoyi Dan, Sa Chen, and Eva Kupiec.



Melody Ho, age 19, is currently studying with Professor Hung Kuan Chen at The Juilliard School. She was born in Macau, China, and began studying the piano at the age of 5. In her 15 years of study, Melody has participated in worldwide competitions and performances, in places such as the United States, Croatia, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Italy, Russia, Germany, and the United Kingdom. She received numerous awards throughout the years, including the following: four 1st prizes and a Blue Crystal for excellent performance in the 22nd United States Open Music Competition, 1st prize (Youth Class and Open Class) at the 15th and 16th Hong Kong (Asia Pacific) Piano Competition, Gold Medal (Senior C) in the 23rd Piara Piano Competition in Japan, three 1st prizes and the Cultural Affairs Bureau Prize (a scholarship equivalent to the first-year tuition at a music conservatory) in the 37th Macau Young Musicians Competition. She was also invited to take part in an interview and performance for the broadcast of Hong Kong TVB's "Cultural Engine 4U", and she was later featured in the CHOPIN magazine in Japan.



Born in 2003, **Eric Hoang** is an American pianist currently holding a full-tuition scholarship at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts studying under Dmitri Vorobiev. Although he did not have a piano teacher in his adolescent years, he played Clarinet for 6 years in his school's Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. By luck, he met Professor Vorobiev when he was 16 and quickly found a great connection with the piano. He began officially studying under Dr. Vorobiev at age 17 by transferring to the North Carolina School of the Arts High School program, graduated in 2021, and now pursues his Bachelor of Music degree. Eric has been featured and interviewed as part of the PBS North Carolina Docuseries about 'life as a pianist' which will air in Fall of 2023. Most recently, he won 1st Prize in the North Carolina MTNA Competition and has also appeared as a finalist in the North Carolina Symphony Concerto Competition. He is also a frequent guest artist and chamber musician for the Lamar Stringfield String Orchestra. He has been the recipient of many grants and scholarships, however, he was the only pianist to ever win the Fuller Blunt Memorial Scholarship. Eric has attended the Vivace International Music Festival in 2021 and 2022, as well as the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival in 2022. Coming from an underprivileged background, he is grateful for every opportunity, and is supported by generous donors, as well as the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts.



Yuchen Jin, age 24, is currently a first-year master's (MM) student at the Jacobs School of Music, where he studies with the distinguished Professor Emile Naoumoff. Prior to his arrival in the United States, Yuchen received his initial piano training at the preparatory school affiliated with Shenyang Conservatory in China under the expert guidance of Professor Danwen Wei. After that, Yuchen pursued his Bachelor of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music, honing his skills with the esteemed Professor Alexander Kobrin. Over the years, he has showcased his exceptional sensitivity and heartfelt sincerity in music through numerous performances, including a notable rendition of Schumann's Piano Concerto with the Budapest Youth Orchestra in Perugia, Italy.



Born in 1998, **HyunJee Jung** began playing the piano at the age of four. She graduated from Yewon School, Seoul Arts High School as a cum laude student and earned her Bachelor of Music degree from Yonsei University in 2022. She is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree with Professor Arthur Greene at the University of Michigan. Her past teachers include Young Lan Han, Shin Kyung Kim, Jong Do An and Andre Boainain. She has won several competitions including Korean Liszt competition, Edu classic competition, J&R music competition, and 1st prize in the Golden Classical Music Awards International Competition, where she was invited to perform in a winners concert at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall in New York. She was also selected as a Korean performer to celebrate the 70th Korea Independent Anniversary concert in New Jersey. HyunJee has performed in Seoul, New York, New Jersey, Halle, Italy and other countries and has participated in many prestigious music festivals such as Euro Music Festival & Academy in Halle, Summit Music Festival at Manhattanville College, Talent Music Summer Course in Italy, and Colburn Virtual Piano Seminar. Through various music camps and festivals, she has studied with Fabio Bidini, Rodolfo Leone, Micah Yui, HyeJin Kim, Arkadij Zenziper, Olivier Gardon, Anti Sirala, Alexandre Moutouzkine, Peter Ovcharov, Ingo Danhorn. Most recently, she had a masterclass with Boris Berman.



Joon Oh Kim, age 24, is a pianist based in Montreal, who has won numerous prizes in competitions such as the piano 1st prize at the Prix d'Europe 2022 and the 1st prize at the Concours de musique québécoise. He is a recipient of scholarships from the Fondation du Conservatoire and the Jeunesses musicales du Canada Foundation among others. He has performed in several regions of Quebec, in England, and Mexico. Joon Oh has received musical advice from many renowned musicians in private lessons and masterclasses such as Shai Wosner, Benedetto Lupo, Jean Saulnier, Charles Richard-Hamelin and Ilya Poletaev. He was a participant at the Domaine Forget Music Academy as well as the Orford Music Academy, where he received coachings from the Gryphon Trio in the Piano Trio Workshop. Having a great sense of community, Joon Oh has worked with children and adult amateurs alike in various settings through workshops, lessons, and piano accompaniment. He is regularly invited to serve as faculty at the Camp Musical du Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean. He has performed as a collaborative pianist in settings including degree recitals, masterclasses, and international competitions. Joon Oh has been studying with André Laplante for the past several years at the Montreal Conservatory of Music and he is now working towards his Master of Music degree in music. He has also studied chamber music with Richard Raymond and Denis Brott.



Angela Lau, age 26, began her musical journey in Hong Kong. Having completed her Master of Music degree, she is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatoire of Music (CCM), under the tutelage of Soyeon Kate Lee. She previously studied at the Royal College of Music, London with Gordon Fergus-Thompson and Ruth Nye, graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree. Lau has performed extensively in the UK including Victoria & Albert Museum, Windsor Parish Church, Pushkin House, and Austrian Cultural Forum. She has been selected to work in masterclasses with Boris Berman, Kathryn Stott, Artur Pizarro, and Patsy Toh. She is also a recipient of a full tuition scholarship to the Bowdoin International Music Festival in 2021. Recently, she was named a 2022 Gilmore Festival Fellow and joined the Art of the Piano Young Artist roster. Lau is a laureate of Seattle International Piano Competition, Ann and Charles Eisemann International Young Artists Competition, and Tuesday Musical Scholarship Competition. She made her concerto debut with the Woking Symphony Orchestra in 2017. Lau is an active chamber musician who regularly performs with students from the CCM and Ball State University. She is one half of 'Duo Orchid', a dynamic piano duo with Jimmy Cheung. The pair recently won the Ohio International Piano Duet and Duo Competition. Equally dedicated to teaching, she is a Graduate Teaching Assistant in piano at CCM and also serves as the Chair for OhioMTA Buckeye Audition Southwest District.



Ashley Lee, age 21, is from Fairfax, Virginia and began studying piano at the age of five. She is a third year undergraduate student at the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University where she studies with Dr. Steven Spooner. In 2022, she participated in the Chicago International Music Festival and the Vivace International Music Festival where she performed in several recitals. Over the course of her studies, she has played in master classes taught by pianists including Roberto Plano, Vladimir Stoupel, and Joseph Rackers. In 2019, she attended the National Symphony Orchestra Summer Music Institute, where she worked with NSO musicians and performed a piano quintet at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage. Ashley is an active collaborative pianist at the Peabody Conservatory and Peabody Preparatory. Along with playing chamber music with her colleagues, she accompanies numerous vocalists and instrumentalists ranging from elementary school to undergraduate students.



Yu-Wei Lee, 19 years of age, was born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan. She started piano at the age 5. In 2016, she was admitted to The Affiliated Senior High School of National Taiwan Normal University studying with Professor Chiao-Han Liao. In 2021, Yu-Wei started her undergraduate degree with Professor Angela Cheng at Oberlin Music Conservatory. In 2014, she won 1st prize of the 38th annual Kawai Piano Competition. In 2017 she received the Tung-Ho Steel Foundation Artist-in-Residence scholarship and won the 1st Fazioli "Pianist of the Next Generation Award." In 2018 she finished in 3rd place in the 63rd International Grottrian Piano Competition. In 2020, she earned 3rd place at the 5th annual Steinway Youth Piano Competition in Taiwan. In 2021, she was a finalist of Peter Tacáks' Beethoven Piano Competition. In 2022, she was semi-finalist in the Youth Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in China. In 2023, she was semi-finalist in the 6th Aarhus International Piano Competition in Denmark. In both 2018 and 2019, she was selected to take part in the International Maestro Piano Festival in Taipei, Taiwan. In 2022, she was selected for the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival and is returning in 2023. She has received mentorship and personal tutelage of such luminaries as Stanislav Ioudenitch, Dan Wen Wei, Ning An, Jerome Lowenthal, ĐặngTháiSơn, Victor Rosenbaum, Mack McCray, Michel Beroff, Andrei Diev, Boris Slutsky, Ian Jones, Nikolai Lugansky, Daniel Shapiro and William Grant Naboré. She has played many concerts in the USA, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the US, Germany, and China.



Bryant Li, 18 years of age, is a senior at Seven Lakes High School, and has been studying with Mr. John Weems and Mrs. Nancy Weems since the age of 6. His musical accolades include Grand Prize Winner at the Juanita Miller Concerto Competition, 2nd prize at the MTNA Piano Performance National Competition, Honorable Mention at the David D. Dubois Piano Competition, 1st at the TMTA Piano Performance Competition, and many more. Bryant has been named a 2022 Texas Young Master in Music, a 2022 YoungArts Winner in Classical Music and an Artistic Ambassador for Music Doing Good, a musical outreach organization centered in Houston. He has appeared with the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, Symphony North of Houston, Clear Lake Symphony, New Orleans Civic Symphony, and has been showcased on NPR's "From the Top" and "Daily Joy" programs. Bryant has been invited to the Second Van Cliburn International Junior Piano Festival and Morningside Music Bridge with full scholarships, as well as the Oberlin Piano Festival and New Orleans Piano Institute. Bryant has been deeply involved with his community, having directed Music of Harmony, a performing arts organization with over 1000 student volunteers across 5 statewide branches, and Practice Pals, a tutoring initiative established during the pandemic to combat inequitable access to the arts. He has worked with renowned pianists such as Dang Thai Son, Stanislav Ioudenitch, Alexander Kobrin, Robert Shannon, Olga Kern, Kenneth Broberg, Logan Skelton, Piotr Paleczny, Krzysztof Jablonski, and more. Recently, he has been admitted to Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music.



Xizhu Liang, Chinese pianist, was born in 2000. In 2020, she earned her Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance at Mannes School of Music with the Steinway Piano Award studying with Professor Vladimir Feltsman. In the same year, she was admitted to many world-renowned music schools with high or full scholarships, including The Juilliard School and New England Conservatory of Music. Currently, she is a second-year MM student at The Juilliard School and studying with Professor Matti Raekallio and Jerome Lowenthal. She participated in national and international competitions winning many awards including the 2nd Italy Imola International Piano Competition, the 7th Steinway Youth Piano Competition, the Yamaha Young Performing Artist competition, the 18th Xinghai Cup Piano Competition, Vienna Mozart International Piano Competition, Birmingham international piano competition and Richter Awards Piano Competition. During her period of studying in the United State, she performed in New York Steinway Hall, Carnegie Hall, Madison Church, the German embassy, the Poland Embassy, and the Union Club. In 2019, she performed chamber recitals touring China in Shenzhen, Guizhou, Chongqing, Hefei, Yichang, and Shijiazhuang. In 2022, she returned to China to perform solo recitals in Shenzhen, Shijiazhuang, Zhoushan, and Zhengzhou. She has participated in many music festivals including Italy Imola International Piano Festival in 2018 and 2020 and the Beijing International Festival and Academy. In 2019 she went to the Chautauqua Music Festival on full scholarship and was admitted to the Aspen Music Festival in 2020 and Piano Summer at New Paltz in 2021.



Audrey Lin, age 20, is from Los Angeles, California. She currently studies with Professor Antonio Pompa-Baldi at the Cleveland Institute of Music. She previously studied with Vera Hoalim and Jenny Shin. She has received numerous awards, including the gold prize in the World Piano Teachers Association (WPTA) Finland International Piano Competition, 3rd place in the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition, honor in the Neapolitan Masters Competition, and many others. Audrey participated in the Bowdoin International Music Festival and studied with Tao Lin, Soyeon Kate Lee, and the Horszowski Trio. She took part in the chamber music program at Colburn School of Performing Arts, and attended the 2020 virtual Culturale Napolinova, World Winter E-Masterclass. She was also the collaborative pianist for South Pasadena High School and Middle School, and the accompanist for GloryStar Children's Chorus. In her free time, she enjoys playing chess and solving puzzles.



Sining Liu is 26 years old and currently a student in the Doctoral program at Manhattan School of Music, under the guidance of Solomon Mikowsky. Her previous study was with Huili Li at Gulangyu Piano Academy, China. She has also worked with Anne-Marie McDermott, Robert McDonald, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Thomas Ungar, Guangren Zhou, among many other renown pianists and educators. Sining Liu won 3rd prize in the Munz Competition in Manhattan School of Music, 1st prize in the Eisenberg-Fried Concerto Competition, and 3rd prize in the X International Vladimir Krainev Competition for Young Pianists. In 2018, she was invited by her professor, Solomon Mikowsky, to perform in International Piano Festivals in Cuba. Her recent New York City performances have been at Manhattan School of Music, Merkin Concert Hall in Kaufman Music Center, Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, and Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center. She has also performed in China, Spain, Ukraine, and Cuba. Her collaborations with orchestras include Kharkov Youth Orchestra, Taoyuan Orchestra of Young Musicians, Cuba ISA Orchestra, Guangxi Philharmonic Orchestra, and MSM Philharmonic Orchestra.



Tigran Mardanyan was born in 2003. He studied at Alexander Spendiaryan Specialized Music School with Professor Vagharshak Harutyunyan. Currently he studies with Professor Michael Lewin at Boston Conservatory at Berklee where he is working on his Bachelor of Music degree. Tigran has participated in and won awards in international competitions in Armenia and other countries. His prizes include 2nd prize and special prize for the best performance of a work of F. Chopin in the WPTA Spain International Piano Competition 2022 (Spain), 1st prize, Carles & Sofia International Piano Competition 2022 (Spain), 1st prize, Sviatoslav Richter International Piano Competition 2022 (South Korea), 1st prize, Orbetello International Piano Competition 2022 (Italy), Winner, Churchill Piano Competition and Concerto Competition at Boston Conservatory at Berklee 2021-22, 2nd prize, Merci Maestro International Piano Competition 2021 (Belgium), 5th prize, Neapolitan Masters International Piano Competition 2020 (Italy), 1st prize, Piano Talents International Piano Competition 2020 (Italy), 2nd prize, International Music Competition Paris International Piano Competition 2020 (France), 1st prize, Viva-Music International Competition 2020 (USA), 2nd prize, Krystian Tkaczewski International Piano Competition 2020 (Poland), 1st prize and Special Prize, International Competition Festival after Arno Babajanyan 2017 (Armenia), 2nd prize Delphic Games 2016 (Russia), 3rd prize Renaissance International Competition, 2014 and Grand Prize, 2019 (Armenia), and 1st prize Art-Music, 2014 (Armenia). As part of Armenia's New Names program, Tigran has had solo performances throughout the world that include major cities in the United States, France, Russia, and Lebanon. As part of the Kammerton program, Tigran performed in Bad-Hersfeld in Germany in 2017.



Seungkyu Oh, age 29, from South Korea, started playing piano at age 6. He graduated Sunhwa Arts High School magna cum laude, and earned his BM degree in piano performance at Seoul National University, where he studied with Professor Hie-Yon Choi. He earned his MM degree in piano performance with Arnaldo Cohen at Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music, where he received a full scholarship funded by the Graduate Tuition Award and Jacobs Chairman's Scholar Award. He has been a prizewinner in many Competitions in South Korea and the United States, such as the Win Piano Competition and the Piano Society in Korea Competition. Mr. Oh won the Concerto Competition at Indiana University (2018), and performed with JSOM Symphony Orchestra under the baton of conductor David Neely. He is 1st prize winner of the NSAL piano competition in Bloomington Chapter (2022). He has participated in many prestigious festivals, such as Amalfi Coast Music Festival and Seoul National University Winter Academy. He has participated in master classes with notable pianists, such as Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Jerome Lowenthal, Niklas Sivelov, and Arthur Greene. He has been invited to many venues in the US, such as a Donation Concert at the Brown County Festival and John Waldron Arts Center in Bloomington as a winner of NSAL Competition. He graduated with a Performer's Diploma at the Jacobs School of Music, holding the Associate Instructor position which provided full scholarships and stipend. In 2022 he began his DMA degree at the Jacobs School.



Born in Seoul, 1999, **Anna Sunmin Park** began playing piano at the age of six. Music became serious for her when she was admitted to Sunhwa Arts High School. She attended Seoul National University studying with Professor HieYon Choi and now she is a MM student at Eastman studying with Professor Alexander Kobrin. Anna took part in various international music academies such as White Nights Piano in St. Petersburg (Russia), Amalfi Coast Music Festival (Italy), and Klang Academy Hamburg (Germany) where she met international mentors and appeared many times in student concerts. In Brescia, 2019, Anna was selected to perform Chopin Concerto No. 2 with Bazzini Consort Orchestra. During her undergraduate studies Anna won several prizes as solo pianist at national and international competitions such as 1st prize at Laszlo Spezzaferri International Music Competition (Italy, 2021); 3rd prize at EPTA International Competition (Belgium, 2021); 1st prize at Ceramic Palace Hall Music Competition (Seoul, 2021). Sponsored by Seoul National University, Anna founded the Piano Ensemble "Klang" with her peers and gave three out-door concerts during the pandemic with great success. With her great interest in contemporary music, Anna premiered Sunghyun Lee's Piano Concerto No. 1 Zauberlehning (2021) and his piano étude Glassy, Glossy, Gliss! (2017, Rev. 2021). At Eastman, Anna has developed an interest in collaborative piano while working as a studio accompanist and opera accompanist. Currently she is focusing on acquiring accompanying experience and wants to continue her study of collaborative piano.



Guoanni (Annie) Qin is 21 years old and started piano at the age of five. She studied at the middle school attached to Xinghai Conservatory of Music from 2013 to 2019. While there, she was selected as one of three talents in the piano department with scholarships awarded each semester. Annie is currently a senior, pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree with Angela Cheng at Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She participated in the North Coast International Piano Festival and was subsequently invited to perform at Carnegie Hall. She also took 1st prize in the Yamaha Music Scholarship Competition and won the bronze medal in the Vanke Mesa Steinway Youth Piano Competition. At Oberlin, she participated in the Danenberg Honors Recital in 2020 and won the Rudolf Serkin Scholarship Competition in 2021, as well as 3rd prize in the Peter Takacs Beethoven Piano Competition. With the Xiamen Song and Dance Symphony Orchestra she performed Rachmaninoff's 2nd piano concerto. In 2022 she received 1st prize in the Beijing International Music Festival Piano Competition and was a finalist in the New York International Piano Competition. Most recently, Annie played Rachmaninoff's 2nd piano concerto with the Oberlin Orchestra as Senior Concerto Competition Winner. She is a member of the 'Back to Bach Project' in the Boston area. This fall she will start her Master of Music degree at Juilliard with Julian Martin. Annnie attended RPPF in 2022 and is returning there in 2023.



Aidan Quintana is an 18-year-old classical pianist of Czech and Puerto Rican descent who currently studies with Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. An experienced soloist, Aidan is a prize recipient at Music Teachers National Association competitions, a finalist at the annual UNCSCA Concerto Competition, and has placed numerous times at North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs piano competitions in addition to frequent recital appearances while studying at UNCSCA. Alongside his solo piano studies, Aidan is an avid chamber musician and can be found performing alongside distinguished guest artists and fellow students, as well as being featured in the UNCSCA Jazz Ensemble and other combo jazz groups in North Carolina. He also strongly supports new music and collaborates with young composers to bring the music on the page to life on the keyboard. When not at the keyboard, Aidan often works on recording projects for fellow students or writing songs. A self-taught sound engineer, he spends hours experimenting with microphone placement and signal paths to achieve the highest quality recordings. As a composer and songwriter, he is a co-founder of the completely virtual pop/rock band “6Clicks” and has released multiple singles and a full-length album “Glide,” arranging and mixing much of the music with his fellow band members over video calls.



Ryan Sheng, age 19, began piano at age four, and is a prizewinner of international and regional competitions, including 1st prize and special prize at the 10th Rosario Marciano International Competition, 3rd prize at the Virginia Waring International Piano Competition, 2nd prize, Audience Award, and the Young Jury prize at the Emory Young Artist Piano Competition, and 1st prize at the 2018 Pacific Music Competition. He won the Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto Movement Competition, the 2020 Ross McKee Foundation Award, Golden State Youth Orchestra Solo Competition, and 2021 Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition. In 2016, he competed in the official Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition. In 2017, he made his solo debut in Belgium at the Brussels Music Festival. As a winner of the 2019 PianoTexas Concerto Competition, he performed Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 21, K. 467 with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra under Maestro Miguel Harth-Bedoya. He performed with the Golden State Youth Orchestra and the Palo Alto Philharmonic in 2022. Ryan has participated in renowned festivals with full-merit scholarships, including the 2019 Cliburn Junior, PianoTexas Young Artist, 2021 Southeastern Piano Festival, and 2022 Morningside Music Bridge. Ryan was a founding member of Evergreen Ensemble and participated in Young Chamber Musicians for multiple years. For ten years, he volunteered at Grace Music Institute, and for two years curated the Youth Artist Benefit Series by Ensemble San Francisco. Ryan studies with Professor Boris Berman at the Yale School of Music. He formerly studied with Professor Frank Levy and Mrs. Anna Polonsky.



Andrew Truong is a captivating and exciting young pianist who inspires his audience and reaches people in need through his music. Born in San Jose, California in 2001, he began his piano studies with Larisa Konokova of the Pacific Music Academy at the age of five. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in piano performance at the Peabody Institute of Music of the Johns Hopkins University under acclaimed Professor Steven Spooner. Andrew is a prizewinner in the Gustav Mahler International, World Piano Teachers Association Finland, United States International Music, and United States Open Music Competitions. He enjoys performing for people who are in need of joy and hope in their lives, and seeks to uplift them through his music and be an inspiration in their lives.



Born in Taiwan in 2000, **Min-Shan Tsai** began her piano study at the age of six. She attended the Gifted Music Programs of Fuxing Elementary School at age nine, where she took intensive piano lessons and professional music training. Subsequently, Min-Shan was accepted into the Gifted Music Programs of the Junior High Division and the Affiliated Senior High School of National Taiwan Normal University. She received her Bachelor of Music degree at Weber State University (Utah) in April 2022 in Piano Performance under Dr. Yu-Jane Yang. Min-Shan is currently a Master of Music degree student in Piano Performance with full scholarship where she studies with Professor Arthur Greene at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Since coming to the United States for collegiate studies in 2018, Min-Shan has received many top-place accolades in competitions. She was the 1st-place state winner of the Music Teacher National Association Senior Piano Competition in Utah (2018) and represented the Southwest Division at the Music Teacher National Association National Final Senior Piano Competition in Spokane, Washington (2019). Min-Shan was awarded the 2nd place state winner of the Music Teacher National Association Steinway Young Artist Collegiate Piano Solo Competition in Utah (2019), and the 1st prize state winner of the Utah Music Teachers Association Piano Concerto Competition (2020). In 2021, Min-Shan was selected as one of the ten semifinalists of the prestigious PianoArts North American Competition. Most recently, Min-Shan was chosen as one of the finalists for the 2022 New York International Piano Competition.



Min-Shu Tsai was born in Taiwan in 2000 and started her piano study at age six. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree from National Taiwan Normal University in May 2022 under Professor Chiao-Han Liao. She is currently pursuing her Master of Music degree at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, studying with Spencer Myer. Min-Shu has participated in many music festivals, including the International Maestro Piano Festival, Mozarteum University International Summer Academy, Lee University International Piano Festival, and Asia Aegean Sea Piano Festival. She has also won several competitions, including 2nd prize in the Lee University International Piano Competition, 2nd prize and Best Piano Accompaniment Prize in the National Taiwan Normal University Piano Concerto Competition. In 2017, she performed in the “840-Pianist Marathon” at National Recital Hall in Taiwan. In 2022, she played a solo recital at National Taiwan Normal University. She has had master classes with renowned pianists such as Fan-Ya Lin, Julian Jacobson, Philip Martin, Cahill Smith, Mirian Conti, Steven Lin, Ivan Yanakov, Boris Slutsky, Ya-Fei Chuang, Robert Levin, Ching-Yun Hu, András Schiff, Ronan O’Hora, and Angela Cheng.



Canadian-born **Spencer Tsai**, is 18 years old, and is equally accomplished as a pianist, violinist and composer. He began his studies in violin from the age of five and piano from the age of seven. At the age of ten, he became one of the youngest performers in history to attain two ARCT Diplomas from the Royal Conservatory of Music, for both violin and piano. Already an experienced soloist, Spencer has performed piano and violin concerti with orchestras in the Greater Vancouver area more than twenty times. These include the West Coast Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra, Abbotsford Orchestra, Delta Symphony and Neoclassical Symphony. Beyond Canadian orchestras, Spencer has also performed as a soloist with international orchestras, such as the Tianjin Opera Symphony in China (in 2019) and the Perugia University Symphony (in 2019) in Italy. The piano concerti he has performed include Chopin Piano Concerto No. 1, Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1, and Mozart Piano Concerto No. 20, all in their entirety. Recently, he was a participant in both the international piano e-Competition in Minnesota and the Arthur Fraser international piano competition from the Southeastern Piano Festival. He was also awarded 1st prize at the 2022 Bellagrande International Music Competition for his age category. Spencer Tsai currently attends the Juilliard School, studying with Prof. Julian Martin. His previous principal teachers include Wayne Weng, Nicholas Rada.



Born in Zhejiang, China, **Jiongli Wang**, is 22 years old, and started to play the piano at the age of six. In 2017, he was accepted by Gulangyu Piano Academy, Central Conservatory of Music. Currently, Wang is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree at Oberlin Conservatory studying with Professor Alvin Chow. Wang has performed in major concert halls in China, including Shanghai Concert hall, Gulangyu Concert Hall, and Ningxia Grant Theatre. He has attended several piano festivals, including Adamant Piano Festival, Shanghai International Music Festival, and Europe International Music Festival. He has been honored to play in masterclasses with well-known musicians such as Angela Cheng, Jeremy Denk, Mikhail Voskresensky, Barry Snyder, Kathryn Brown, Ewa Poblocka, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Yury Shadrin, and Zhe Tang. Wang received 1st prize in the 2022 Peter Takács Beethoven at Oberlin.



Zhiduo Wang is 21 years old and in her sophomore year at Oberlin Conservatory, studying with Professor Stanislav Ioudenitch. She started to learn piano at the age of nine. Before studying in Oberlin Conservatory she studied in Affiliated High School of Jilin University of Arts from 2017 to 2020. Zhiduo has attended several music festivals - the CIM International Academy music festival in 2019, Artciál Festival in 2021, and won 2nd prize in the Harmony International Piano Festival. In 2020, Zhiduo participated in the Orbetello Piano Competition and took 2nd prize. She also earned 2nd prize in the Yamaha Music Scholarship Competition in 2018, the gold medal in Shanghai Youth International Piano Competition in 2019, and 3rd prize in the Chopin International Youth Competition in China. Zhiduo attended master classes with several renown pianists, including Boris Slutsky, Kenny Broberg, Alan Chow, Pavlina Dokovska, Kathryn Brown, Robert Shannon.



Born in Fountain Valley California, **Fiona Wu**, age 21, is currently studying under Professor Angela Cheng at Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Growing up in Taiwan, she received distinguished awards in numerous competitions including the Hong Kong Asia Piano Competition, Taiwan National Student Music Competition, Tainan Municipal Student Music Competition, International Art and Music Festival Piano Competition, Asia Piano Open, Kawai Asia Piano Open, Asia International Junior Piano Competition, and Osaka International Music Competition. She enjoyed participating in many festivals such as the Sejong International Music Festival, Lee University Piano Festival, and Enlightenment Summer Music Festival. Fiona also enjoys playing the clarinet and performing on stage. She had her first solo recital at age 12, and prior to the Covid pandemic, had a chance to perform a violin and piano duo recital with violinist Vladimir Chang in Tainan. Fiona's talent extends to the stage as she was invited to play in a musical with Taiwan Artists Symphony Orchestra in 2019, and in 2020 she participated in National Cheng Kung University "The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals" in Tainan, Taiwan. In addition, Fiona volunteered for the Back to Back Project from 2018 to 2021 as the Global and Regional Director, sharing classical music with underprivileged school children and promoting music education in Taiwan.



Yusong Wu, age 20, was born in Guangzhou, China. He began learning piano at the age of 5 and currently studies with Professor Douglas Humpherys at the Eastman School of Music. Previously, he attended the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA)'s junior music program (2013-2020) under the guidance of Professor Eleanor Wong and Professor Gabriel Kwok where he received the HKAPA tuition scholarship for excellent students from 2014 to 2020. Yusong has won many awards at competitions, including 3rd prize in the 2022 Oberlin Piano Festival Competition, 2nd prize in the Irmeler International Piano Competition in 2021, 1st prize in the Colorado Piano Festival competition in 2017, and 4th Prize in the 2019 Pearl River Kayserburg International Youth Piano Competition (Professional Group). He also has participated in international music festivals such as Gijon International Piano Festival, PianoTexas, Seattle Piano Institute, Oberlin Piano Festival, and Colorado International Piano Festival. As well as studying piano, Yusong also plunges into composition and choral conducting. He studied composition for 3 years in HKAPA and has continued this at Eastman School of Music. He has written 100+ works including chamber and solo pieces and has had public debuts in both schools. Yusong made his conducting debut with the Eastman-Rochester Chorus in December 2022.



Heting Xia, age 20, was born in Nanjing, China. He began to learn the piano at age 7. At 13, he attended the Manhattan School of Music pre-college division and studied with Dr. Inesa Sinkevych. He is currently a rising senior at Eastman School of Music, studying with Ms. Natalya Antonova. His awards included 1st prize in the Second Annual youth competition in NYC (2019), and 3rd prize in IX Chopin International Piano competition in Hartford (2018).

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Christopher Yao is 18 years old and currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in piano performance at the Eastman School of Music with Dr. Marina Lomazov. He has been playing piano since he was four and has previously studied with Su-Hui Yang, William Wolfram, and Douglas Humpherys. He has won top prizes at the 2020 Celia Méndez Young Pianists Beethoven Competition, United States International Music Competition, the Silvia M. Ghiglieri Piano Competition, and was a semi-finalist in the 2020 West Virginia International Piano Competition. Other summer festivals he has been invited to include Eastern Music Festival, Music@Menlo, Bowdoin Music Festival, and Aspen Music Festival. Chris is an avid chamber musician and was selected to perform Tchaikovsky Piano Trio in the Eastman's Honors Chamber Recital in Fall 2022. He has played in masterclasses for such distinguished artists as Julian Jacobsen, Horacio Gutierrez, Awadagin Pratt, Roy Bogas, Inna Faliks, Hong Xu, Alexander Malofeev, and Richard Goode. Outside of piano, Chris enjoys playing basketball, crocheting, and hanging out with friends.



David Yu, age 27, a graduate of Juilliard, studied with Jerome Lowenthal and Julian Martin, and was the recipient of the Susan W. Rose Fellowship. From 2020 to 2022, after a year of graduate studies at the New England Conservatory with Victor Rosenbaum, David served as active-duty personnel for 20 months in the Republic of Korea Navy Symphonic Band as pianist, translator, and interpreter. Raised in Southern California he studied with Norman Krieger, Daniel, Alfred Wachs and Yung-Mee Rhee through his teenage years. David has performed throughout the country as soloist, chamber musician, and with orchestras at prestigious venues including Disney Hall, the Kennedy Center, New World Center, Lincoln Center, Jordan Hall, and Carnegie Hall. He has also appeared on stages of Lotte Concert Hall and Art Center Incheon in South Korea. David was a volunteer with the American Cancer Society's Los Angeles Branch performing at galas to raise funds for cancer. He appeared on the National Public Radio show 'From the Top' as a recipient of the \$10,000 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award and participated in the 2014 National YoungArts Week in Miami, Florida. Other accolades include Certificate of Recognition from the Legislature of the State of California, Medal of Recognition from the Admiral of the Korea Navy, and Medal of Friendship from the Chief of the United States 8th Army Band. This fall he returns to graduate school studying with Dr. Carol Leone at Meadows School of the Arts, SMU, Dallas with full scholarship, assistantship, and stipend.



Dongqin Yu is a third-year student studying for a Bachelor of Music degree with Professor Soyeon Kate Lee at the University of Cincinnati. She is 21 years old. Dongqin has received such scholarships as the Bertha Langhorst Werner Scholarship, Gorno Voice Scholarship, Bertha Krehbiel Scholarship, and Freda Kaufman Shocket Memorial Scholarship. In the summer of 2022 she participated in the Bowdoin Music Festival and performed in the Bowdoin International Music Festival Concert Series. In November, she played a solo recital. She has received several awards, including 3rd Prize in the Young Artist Group, 1st Prize in Group-G of the 1st New York Manhattanville Piano Competition Finals, a Merit Award in the Professional 3rd Group of the Zhujiang Kayserburg International Youth Piano Competition Finals, and Outstanding Winner in the Professional Group of the 12th Shanghai International Youth Piano Competition. Dongqin started her piano journey in July 2005 with Dr. Suirong Li, her first piano teacher. In September 2009, she was accepted into the piano department of Sichuan Conservatory of Music's affiliated junior high school and studied with Professor Hanguo Yang through June 2014. From 2014-2017 she continued her education with pianist Yanhua Ding. In September 2017, she was admitted to the piano department of Sichuan Conservatory of Music's affiliated high school and continued her studies with Yanhua Ding until her graduation.



Gehan Zhang, age 21, won the 1st prize in the Golden Sunflower Cup and the 2nd prize in the "Beilei Cup" piano competition when she was 5 years old. In 2012, she studied with Professor Zhang Jin and was admitted to Junior first grade of the Affiliated High school of Central Conservatory of Music. She won 1st prize in the Cardansa piano competition, 2nd prize in the Steinberg piano competition, 3rd prize in the "Hope Cups" piano competition, and American Classical Pianist International Piano Competition. She was invited to perform at Beijing Zhongshan Music Hall. In 2021, she won 2nd prize in the KAWAI Asian piano competition. In addition to these competitions, she performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.3 in Italy. In the same year, she performed in China where she had a successful solo piano recital at Dalian Poly Theater and where she performed the Beethoven Concerto No. 3 with the Dalian Symphony Orchestra. In 2020, she started her Bachelor of Music degree with Professor Douglas Humpherys at Eastman School of Music. In the summer of 2022, she successfully qualified to become a Steinway Young Artist. In the July of the same year, she held a ceremony concert for her Steinway Young Artist title and successfully signed with Beijing Global Audio-visual Publishing House for the release of her first physical album of Prokofiev's 10 Pieces from Romeo and Juliet, Op.75 which will be produced in late 2022.



Jiushi (Jameson) Zhang, born in 2002, began taking piano lessons in Langfang at the age of 4 and studied at the Canada Langfang Secondary school from 2017 to 2020. Currently he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree at Oberlin College & Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Professor Dang Thai Son. His major prizes include 2nd prize at the 8th Steinway Youth Piano Competition in China and winner of the 2022 PianoTexas International Piano Festival Concerto Competition, which gave him the opportunity to perform with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. He has also taken masterclasses with many renowned pianists and pedagogues, including Jerome Lowenthal, Rebecca Penneys, Stanislav Ioudenitch, Alvin Chow, Fabio Bidini, Tamas Ungar, Ewa Poblocka, Douglas Humpherys, William Grant-Nabore, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, and Kathryn Brown. This is his second summer at RPPF.



Sihuan Zhang was born in 1994 in China. She received her first piano lessons at the age of 4. In 1998-2012 she received private piano lessons from Professors Jin Zhang, Xiang Zou and Chun Wang at the China Central Conservatory of Music in Peking. From 2012 to 2016, Sihuan studied at the Academy of Music in Kraków, Poland, in the class of Dr. Romana Podsadeccka. After completing her bachelor's degree in Poland, she began her master's degree at the Cologne University of Music and Dance in 2016 with Dr. Florence Millet. In 2019, she continued her piano studies at Manhattan School of Music earning a Professional Study Certificate with Professor Solomon Mikowsky. Sihuan has received various awards and has performed at music festivals such as the International Euregio Rhein-Waal Student Music Festival in Kleve, Malta International Music Festival, Music Festival for Russian Composers in Kraków, and the Eight Bridges Music Festival in Cologne. She played Mozart's Piano Concerto KV482 with the University Orchestra in Poland, conducted by Professor Paul Badura-Skoda, and has already had numerous successful concerts in China, Poland, the Netherlands, and Germany. She has taken part in master classes of well-known pianists such as Leonal Morales, Paul Badura-Skoda, Arkady Zenziper, Willem Brons, Pascal le Corre, Boris Bloch, Dina Yoffe, Boguslaw Jan Strobe. Currently, she is in the Doctor of Music program at Cincinnati Conservatory of Music studying with Professor Soyeon Kate Lee.



Sixuan Zhang was born in 2001 in Baoji, Shaanxi province in China. She began studying piano at the age of five. At the age of thirteen, she went to the middle school attached to the Xi'an Conservatory of Music and studied with Shuzhen Ren. During this time, she won 1st Prize in the New York International Music Festival & Competition and Gold Prize in the Odysiad International Music Festival. She also won a Yamaha scholarship for 2018 and 2016. She just completed her Bachelor of Music degree at Queens College Copland School of Music, where she studied with Ming Fong. She was the winner of the ACSM concerto competition and performed the Liszt Concerto No.1 with the ACSM orchestra in LeFrak Hall last April. This past March, Sixuan successfully completed her degree recital and Basalm Trio recital requirement at Queens College. In the fall, she will be pursuing a Master of Music degree at Mannes School of Music with Pavlina Dokovska.



Zhengyi Zhang, age 27, is a candidate for Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance under the tutelage of Benjamin Pasternack at Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University. She is a recipient of the Carol Jean and John R. Young Scholarship and an Interplay artist at UMBC. She is on the Teaching Associate Faculty at Peabody Preparatory. In 2018, Zhengyi graduated from the University of Notre Dame with the Outstanding Senior Award. Four years at Notre Dame enriched her love for various disciplines, specifically mathematics, literature and art history. Meanwhile, she studied piano with John Blacklow and subsequently decided to pursue her passion in music. In 2017, she performed for guests including former United States president George W. Bush and former First Lady Laura Bush at the inauguration ceremony of the O'Neill Hall and Duncan Student Center. After her graduation, Zhengyi joined the studio of Benjamin Pasternack at Peabody Conservatory. Ms. Zhang has attended festivals including Aspen Music Festival and School, Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Brevard Music Festival, Music Mountain Chamber Music Festival, and International Keyboard Institute and Festival. She has been mentored in master classes by Stephen Hough, Roger Vignoles, Ann Schein, and Richard Goode. She was the Gold Prize winner in the 2018 International Franz Liszt Piano Competition in China and the 1st Prize winner of the 2015 University of Notre Dame Concerto Competition. Recent performances include a solo debut recital in Jaguar Shanghai Symphony Hall and a concerto debut with the Ningbo Symphony Orchestra. This is her second summer at RPPF.



Born into a Chinese musical family, **Zhiqiao Zhang**, age 25, started lessons with his father. He has performed in Jordan Hall in Boston, ShenZhen Grand Theatre, Shanghai He Luting Concert Hall, and three Poly Theatres in Shanghai. His debut CD features music by American Chinese pianist/composer Yigiang Sun. Having won more than ten international and national piano competitions, recent awards include 1st prize at the 2022 Lancaster International Piano Festival Competition, 2021 Arizona Piano Institute's Solo Piano Competition, 2020 Grand Prix Crown of Stars, 2nd place in the 2019 NEC Concerto Competition, and 1st place at the NEC Piano Honors Competition. Other awards include 1st place at Imola International Summer Piano Festival and Imola International Piano Competition 2013, and 1st place in the 4th China International Youth Piano Competition National Finals Professional Junior Group B Special Gold Award 2014. Zhiqiao received the Dorothy Hinton Congleton Memorial Presidential Scholarship from 2017-2022. In 2020, he recorded and published his own CD on the KNS classical label. Zhiqiao has participated in numerous chamber collaborations and competitions. In Shanghai Music middle school, he won 1st Prize in Piano Trio Professional Group in Shanghai Division of China Youth Music Competition. His chamber work "Time Code" for Violin, Cello, and piano (2016), was performed at the middle school affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory. In 2017, Zhiqiao graduated from Middle School with highest scores and distinctions. He completed a BM degree with honors at NEC and is now an MM student with Professor Wha Kyung Byun.

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