

The  
Sejong Cultural Society



[www.sejongculturalsociety.org](http://www.sejongculturalsociety.org)

The Fourteenth Annual Sejong Music Competition

## **Winners Concert and Award Ceremony**

Sunday, January 07, 2018  
2:00 – 5:00 pm

Claudia Cassidy Theater

Chicago Cultural Center, 2nd floor  
78 East Randolph, Chicago, IL



Design Donated by Hyesook Lyu



## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Sejong Cultural Society, welcome to the 14th Sejong Annual Winners Music Concert. I would like to applaud all the participants of the Sejong Music Competition for their hard work, and congratulate the winners for their achievement. I am very proud of all the young music performers who are so dedicated to make high level of music performance. Thank you to the parents, families, and teachers. Without their support and investment, their level of achievement could not have been possible.

Since its foundation in 2004, Sejong Cultural Society has been in the forefront of introducing Korean culture to mainstream America through music and literature. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Sejong Music Competition planning committee members, advisors, executive director, board members, and all the volunteers of the Sejong Music Competition.

I wish great success to all music students who participated in Sejong Music Competition regardless of the outcome. Congratulations and thank you to all the great performers, families, supporters, and everyone involved.

You Sim Kim  
President, Sejong Cultural Society



## GREETINGS FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR

On behalf of the Competition Planning Committee, I would like to welcome everyone to the Fourteenth Winners' Concert of Sejong Music Competition.

Especially in a year where we witness the decline of the governmental support for the arts at a policy level, it is very encouraging and delightful to see so many young musicians who study classical music in a serious manner coming together and showing off what they value in life. Perhaps not everyone who studies Classical music in depth will actually go on to be a professional musician. I believe, however, every one of these young musicians will contribute greatly to enriching the soul of modern society and its culture because of what they know and have experienced in music. Congratulations to all the participants, their families and the teachers for bringing their passion, artistry, discipline, focus, support and courage. It is our pleasure to be able to provide them an occasion to test their talent and celebrate Classical music each year.

The Sejong Cultural Society's mission is to introduce a piece of Korean heritage to the American audience through a common language we share; music and literature. We are very proud of these young musicians who not only dedicate and discipline themselves to master an art form that touches us throughout our history but also challenge themselves to study newly written compositions based on the traditional music from a different culture in preparation for our competition. It is our sincere hope that all contestants found their participation in the Sejong Music Competition a valuable experience in the course of their study. We will continue to work to present new pieces for everyone to enjoy.

The performers you will hear in this concert today have been chosen by the panel of judges after a careful and comprehensive consideration based on their performances during the competition which took place on November 12, 2017. As we bring in the New Year, please join me in celebrating the joy of music with these promising young musicians on today's program.

Sincerely yours,

Kay Kim  
Chair, Sejong Music Competition Planning Committee



## GREETINGS FROM THE HONORABLE JONG-KOOK LEE



*Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago*

*Consul General*

January 7, 2018

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 14<sup>th</sup> Sejong Music Competition Award Ceremony and Winners Concert. I would like to express my sincere congratulations and appreciation to Sejong Cultural Society for their dedication and passion for organizing this meaningful event.

Since the establishment of Sejong Cultural Society, they have been accomplished a distinguish mission to advance the cultural richness and diversity through promoting Korean culture. Particularly, this annual Sejong Music Competition has provided a great opportunity for many young musicians to express their musical talents through the engagement with Korean traditional music. Such efforts have encouraged understanding in Korean culture and harmony among people of various backgrounds in the United States.

I would like to share my deep congratulations to all participants and performers for presenting their talents. I hope this event will be a valuable experience for everyone to enjoy the Korean traditional music.

I once again convey my heartfelt appreciation to the Sejong Cultural Society and its board members for their tireless efforts in hosting today's event.

Sincerely yours,

  
Jong-Kook Lee

**WE THANK THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEER STAFF  
(2004-2017)**

Adam Adamovic	Sang Ho Han	Jiha Kim	Jessica Phung
Sara Alharbi	Jin Man Hong	Chris Lee	Sunhee Rhim
Daphne Barin	Hyerye Hong	Joohyun Lee	Haesook Ryoo
Asher Bryant	Myungah Hyon	Moon Noh Lee	Jennifer Salud
Cathy Cha	Kayla Inthabandith	Nicole Lee	Sokea Seng
Eugene Chang	Hellin Jang	Rachel Lee	Dachwan Shin
Iris Chang	Dawn Juhn	Ada Lu	Daniel Shin
Seoung Joo Chang	Christopher Kang	Linda Lugo	Kyung Ae Shin
Rev. Chang	In Sook Kang	Rauthany Ly	James Smetana
Manali Chingre	Young Kook Kang	Hyesook Lyu	Wally Soriano
Kyung Ja Cho	Youngho Kim	Lisette Martinez	Hannah Suhr
Jenna Choi	Miyoung Kim	Carol Merriweather	Sireethon Supangjaras
Kyounghee Choi	Andrew Kim	Grace Moon	Christopher Tong
Sun Ah Chung	Kaylyn Kim	Tag Moon	Eric Washington
Dani DeCesaro	Hanae Kim	Ashley Pak	Annie Wheatley
Cristina Gonzalez	Helen Kim	Jane Park	DJ Yang
Euyil Han	Jeawoo Kim	Chong-hea Park	Kristin Yoo
Paul Han	Jennifer Kim	Maya Powers	

**SEJONG COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS 2004-2017**

		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Music</b>	<b>Total</b>	45	21	36	47	39	37	79	91	85	84	80	99	95	114
<b>Writing</b>	<b>Total</b>			61	78	351	847	1169	1346	1748	1503	1948	1403	1257	1123
	Essay			61	78	208	399	463	677	799	655	640	475	242	209
	Sijo			-	-	143	448	706	669	949	848	1308	928	1015	914
<b>Sejong Prize</b>	<b>Total</b>		52			40				38			51		
	Korean		13			8				17			39		
	US		32			28				14			12		

# PROGRAM

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Parangsae . . . . . Teddy Niedermaier  
Grande Polonaise Brillante. Op.22 . . . . . Frédéric Chopin

Ashley Kim, *piano*  
*Piano senior division • second place & best interpretation winner*

Curious Cuckoo . . . . . Heeyoung Yang  
Waltz No. 14 in E minor, Op. Posthumous . . . . . Frédéric Chopin

Joshua Park, *piano*  
*Piano primary division • first place & best interpretation winner*

Seen My Flower, Seen My Friend? . . . . . Heeyoung Yang  
Fantasia in D minor, K.397 . . . . . Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Matthew Hahn, *piano*  
*Piano elementary division • first place & best interpretation winner*

Dream of Blue Bird . . . . . Misook Kim  
Sonata in A major, K331 . . . . . Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
III. *Alla Turca*

Jayden Kim, *piano*  
*Piano elementary division • second place winner*

Sonata in C Major, No. 50, 1st Movement . . . . . Joseph Haydn

Noah Kim, *piano*  
*Piano junior division • second place winner*

Scattered Melody . . . . . Misook Kim  
Concerto No. 2 . . . . . J.S. Bach

Henry Auxenfans, *violin*  
*Violin elementary division • first place winner*  
Maya Galperin, *piano*

Concerto No. 1 in A minor . . . . . J.S. Bach

Riko Pang, *violin*  
*Violin primary division • first place winner*  
Beverly Pendowski, *piano*

La Folia . . . . . Arcangelo Corelli  
Blue Bird's Journey . . . . . Timothy Balton

Aiden Yu, *violin*  
*Violin elementary division • second place winner*  
Maya Galperin, *piano*

Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26 . . . . . Max Bruch  
I. *Vorspiel: Allegro moderato*

Esme Arias-Kim, *violin*  
*Violin junior division • second place winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

Variations on an original theme in A Major . . . . . Henryk Wieniawski

Linda Wang, *violin*  
*Violin junior division • first place winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

Milyang Arirang . . . . . Insik Lee

Sidney Lee, *violin*  
*Violin junior division • best interpretation winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

Barcarole-joie de vivre . . . . . Misook Kim

John Heo, *violin*  
*Violin senior division • third place & best interpretation winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

Chant de L'oiseau . . . . . Min Jong Park  
Sonata in G Major, K 301 . . . . . Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

I. *Allegro con Spirito*

Thompson Wang, *violin*  
*Violin senior division • second place winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

Ta-Ryung I . . . . . Eun Young Lee  
Concerto in D minor Op. 47, . . . . . Jean Sibelius

III. *Allegro ma non tanto*

Ria Honda, *violin*  
*Violin senior division • first place winner*  
Milana Pavchinskaya, *piano*

## 2017 PIANO WINNERS

	SENIOR	JUNIOR	ELEMENTARY	PRIMARY
<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Derek Chung</b> Long Grove, IL Sueanne Metz	<b>Aliya Alsafa</b> Chicago, IL Sueanne Metz & Matti Raekallio	<b>Matthew Hahn</b> Lake Forest, IL Christina Tio	<b>Joshua Park</b> Hinsdale, IL Sueanne Metz
<b>SECOND</b>	<b>Ashley Kim</b> Wilmette, IL Brenda Huang	<b>Noah Kim</b> Indian Creek, IL Yumy Kim	<b>Jayden Kim</b> Chicago, IL Yumy Kim	<b>Rosabelle Shi</b> Long Grove, IL Brenda Huang
<b>THIRD</b>	<b>Emily Cho</b> Schaumburg, IL Brenda Huang	<b>Howard Dai</b> Northbrook, IL Sueanne Metz	<b>Audrey Yixin Yin</b> Vernon Hills, IL Sueanne Metz	<b>Evangeline Wang</b> Chicago, IL Brenda Huang
<b>HM</b>	<b>Justin Chang</b> Schaumburg, IL Sunghoon Mo	<b>Myroslav Mykhailenko</b> Wood Dale, IL Lyudmila Lakisova	<b>Kenneth Gallwas</b> Elmhurst, IL Soyoung Kee	none
	<b>Daniel Souvigny</b> Hampshire, IL Marta Aznavoorian			
<b>INT.*</b>	<b>Ashley Kim</b> Wilmette, IL Brenda Huang	<b>Aliya Alsafa</b> Chicago, IL Sueanne Metz & Matti Raekallio	<b>Matthew Hahn</b> Lake Forest, IL Christina Tio	<b>Joshua Park</b> Hinsdale, IL Sueanne Metz

\* Best interpretation of Korean piece

## 2017 VIOLIN WINNERS

	SENIOR	JUNIOR	ELEMENTARY	PRIMARY
<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Ria Honda</b> Wilmette, IL Almita Vamos	<b>Linda Wang</b> Lincolnshire, IL Hye-Sun Lee	<b>Henry Auxenfans</b> Chicago, IL Stacia Spencer	<b>Riko Pang</b> Inverness, IL Betty Haag-Kuhnke
<b>SECOND</b>	<b>Thompson Wang</b> Glenview, IL Almita Vamos	<b>Esme Arias-Kim</b> Hoffman Estates Almita Vamos	<b>Aiden Yu</b> Chicago, IL Lucinda Ali-Landing	<b>Reina Hisada</b> Deerfield, IL Betty Haag-Kuhnke
<b>THIRD</b>	<b>John Heo</b> Northbrook, IL Almita Vamos	<b>John Lee</b> Vernon Hills, IL Injoo Choi	<b>Elle Cho</b> Park Ridge, IL Olga Kaler	<b>Claire Moon</b> Palatine, IL, Hye-Sun Lee
		<b>Claire Metcalf</b> Schaumburg, IL Betty Haag-Kuhnke		
<b>HM</b>	<b>Rabia Brooke</b> Chicago, IL Desirée Ruhstrat	<b>Hannah Ding</b> Naperville, IL Almita Vamos	<b>Ava Isabella Angeles</b> Chicago, IL Lucinda Ali-Landing	<b>Eliana Song</b> Lake Zurich, IL Betty Haag-Kuhnke
	<b>Claire Arias-Kim</b> Hoffman Estates, IL Almita Vamos	<b>Kaylee Kim</b> Round Lake, IL Betty Haag-Kuhnke	<b>Julia Perekhozhuk</b> Westchester, IL Olga Karabinovych	
			<b>Aki Santibanez</b> Chicago, IL Miki Santibanez	
<b>INT.*</b>	<b>John Heo</b> Northbrook, IL Almita Vamos	<b>Sidney Lee</b> Arlington Heights, IL Hye-Sun Lee	<b>Lauren Kim</b> Hoffman Estates, IL Injoo Choi & Almita Vamos	<b>Rebekah Kim</b> Vernon Hills, IL Desirée Ruhstrat

\* Best interpretation of Korean piece

# WINNERS' BIOGRAPHIES

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## || PIANO SENIOR | FIRST PLACE

**DEREK CHUNG**, 18, studies piano with Sueanne Metz. He is the first place winner of the MostArts Competition, the Arthur Fraser International Piano Competition, and the Los Angeles International Piano Competition. He has had the honor of performing with the South Carolina Philharmonic and the University of Alicante Philharmonic in Perugia, Italy. He recently co-founded a not-for-profit organization, 88Keys to Cure, which uses music to bring awareness to charitable causes.

## || PIANO SENIOR DIVISION | SECOND PLACE & BEST INTERPRETATION

**ASHLEY KIM** is 14, currently studies with Brenda Huang. She started piano lessons when she was five and a half years old. Ashley is the second place winner of the 2017 Emilio Del Rosario Concerto Competition Junior division and an honorable mention in 2017 Depaul Concerto Festival. Also, she got 1st place at the Sejong Music Competition junior division 2016, 1st place of the Society of American Musicians Competition 2016 intermediate division and 2015 junior division. She is the winner of the 2015 Granquist Music competition, olympic division. Ashley has received numerous awards including the Illinois State Music Teacher's Association, and NSMTA, CAMTA, and Sonata-Sonatina Festival. Beside piano, Ashley loves playing violin with school symphony orchestra. She also likes math and hanging out with friends. She performs at retirement homes around the Chicago and suburbs area.

## || PIANO JUNIOR DIVISION | SECOND PLACE

**NOAH J. KIM** began studying piano at the age of four under the direction of Alexander Rowney at Solo Classic, Buffalo Grove, Illinois. Noah transitioned his study under a new instructor, Dr. Yumy Kim in 2015. Noah also began Music Institute of Chicago Chamber Trio under the direction of Elaine Felder in the fall of 2016 and Chamber Duo in 2017. His accolades include gold medal winner at N.S.M.T.A. 2013 in Winnetka, gold medal winner at C.A.M.T.A. Sonata-Sonatina Festival 2016 and 2017 in Chicago, 2017 merit scholar at the Music Institute of Chicago and second prize winner at Chicago National Youth Competition for piano duos 2017 at Music Institute of Chicago. Solo performances include winner's recital N.S.M.T.A. 2013 at Northwestern University, Evanston and C.A.M.T.A. Sonata-Sonatina Festival 2016 and 2017 at Sherwood CMS at Columbia College, Chicago and solo recital at Chicago Suzuki Institute 2017. Noah was selected to perform in John O'Connor Master class 2016 in Nichols Concert Hall in Evanston. He also received master classes from Jeffery Biegel, Alan Chow, Esther and Sun-A Park in 2017. In addition, Noah plays violin in Hawthorn Elementary South orchestra and Illinois Music Education Association Junior Orchestra in 2017. Noah's hobbies include drawing, reading, writing and tae-kwon-do. He won silver medal at PanAmerica Tae Kwon Do tournament 2015. His restaurant review essay featured in Buca diBepo headquarter's February 2016 newsletter and Music Achievement Award in 2017.

## || PIANO ELEMENTARY | FIRST PLACE & BEST INTERPRETATION

**MATTHEW HAHN**, age 10, is a fifth grader at Lake Forest Country Day School. He studies piano at the Music Institute of Chicago with Dr. Christina Tio. Matthew has been a winner at many competitions, including: First Place winner of North Shore Music Teachers' Association (NSMTA) Competition 2017 Elementary Division; Illinois State Music Teachers Association (ISMTA) North Competition 2017 Third Place winner, Elementary Division; Second Place winner of Sejong Music Competition 2016; Gold medal winner of NSMTA Sonata-Sonatina Festival 2017, 2016, and 2015. Matthew also won Second Place in his division for the Classics Alive Young Artists National Auditions 2017. Matthew is a Merit Scholar of the Music Institute of Chicago, having been awarded the MIC Artists of Tomorrow merit-based scholarship for the 2017-2018 school year. Matthew was selected to perform at numerous recitals and events, including the WFMT Bach Keyboard Festival 2016 at the Alice Millar Chapel at Northwestern University, the Suzuki Association of Americas Biennial Teachers' Conference 2016 in Minneapolis, as well as recitals at the Music Institute of Chicago and Suzuki Summer Institutes. Matthew also has had the privilege of performing in several masterclasses: with Alan Chow of Northwestern University, Jeffrey Biegel of Brooklyn Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College, and with Asaf Zohar of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. In addition to piano, Matthew enjoys playing golf, soccer, skiing, and math.

## || PIANO ELEMENTARY DIVISION | SECOND PLACE

**JAYDEN KIM** is 10 years old and a fifth grader at the gifted program at Bell Elementary School. He started the piano at age four and studies with his mother Dr. Yumy Lee Kim. Jayden was a winner and soloist at the 2015 & 2016 DePaul Division Concerto Festival

and won gold medals at NSMTA's and CAMTA's Sonata-Sonatina Festival in 2012, 2016, 2017. In May 2017, he was awarded "Artist of Tomorrow" merit scholarship of the Music Institute of Chicago through the Wallace Foundation and participated that year also in masterclasses with Alan Chow and Dennis Alexander. In June 2017, he won the 2. Prize at the Chicago National Duo Competition with his partner Noah Kim. Participating frequently in Suzuki Summer Institutes, he was invited to play in the Honor's recital of the Chicago Institute in 2016 & 2017. Jayden plays also the cello, loves to read and to spend time with his three turtles.

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### **VIOLIN SENIOR | FIRST PLACE ||**

Violinist **RIA HONDA**, 17, is the Rachel Barton Pine Merit Scholarship Fellow at the Academy of the Music Institute of Chicago where she studies with Almita Vamos. She previously studied with Margaret Pressley and Jan Mark Sloman. Ria has won first prize at the MTNA Junior Strings Competition, Seattle Music Teachers Association Simon Fiset Competition, DePaul Concerto Festival, Sejong Music Competition, Seattle Symphony Young Artists Auditions and Cascade Symphony Young Artists Competition. Additionally, she has been a top prize winner in numerous competitions including the Coeur d'Alene Symphony Young Artist Competition, Sammamish Symphony Concerto Competition, and DuPage Symphony Young Artists Competition. She was recently one of 20 competitors selected from worldwide to participate in the Menuhin International Competition and has been a finalist in the International Cooper Violin Competition. She was the recipient of the Dorothy Richard Starling Foundation Scholarship from 2008-2014. She has been on WFMT's Introductions and was recently named a 2017 YoungArts Winner. Ria has been featured on the Young Steinway Concert Series and has performed as soloist with orchestras such as the Seattle Festival Orchestra, Cascade Symphony Orchestra, the Oistrakh Symphony, and the Seattle Symphony. Ria has participated in master classes and lessons with artists such as Ray Chen, Tong-Wei Dong, Grigory Kalinovsky, Leonid Kerbel, Ani Kavafian, David Nadien, Stephan Picard, Joseph Silverstein, Pavel Vernikov, Yo-Yo Ma, and the Ying Quartet. She has participated in programs at the Meadowmount School of Music and The Institute for Strings as a full-scholarship recipient, Miyazaki International Music Festival, Musica Mundi music festival, Ishikawa Music Academy, Academie Musicale de Villecroze, and MusicAlp Académie Internationale de Musique à Tignes. A passionate chamber musician, Ria has been a 1st prize winner in numerous chamber music competitions including the M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition, St. Paul String Quartet Competition, Enkor International Competition, and Naperville Women's Club Young Adult Music Competition. She has additionally received the silver medal at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition and Grand prize at Pearl G. Barnett Chamber Music Competition. Ria is currently in 12th grade at New Trier High School.

### **VIOLIN SENIOR DIVISION | SECOND PLACE ||**

**THOMPSON WANG**, age 17, is a scholarship recipient at the Academy of the Music Institute of Chicago, studying with Almita Vamos and Roland Vamos. He started playing the violin at the age of 4 with Wendy Castille, and during the summer of 2012, he started attending the Colburn School in Los Angeles, and studied with Sam Fischer. Thompson was recently chosen as a finalist in the Crain-Maling CSO Young Artists Competition. He has also won first place in numerous competitions, including the Westside Concerto Competition, JCM Concerto Competition, SYMF, CSA Sinfonia Concerto Competition, ASTA Southern California Finals, and the San Fernando Valley Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition. Thompson has gotten the opportunity to perform in prestigious halls such as the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Chicago Symphony Center, Segerstrom Hall in the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Zipper Hall, and The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage. Thompson has also had the opportunity to solo with orchestras such as the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, San Fernando Valley Orchestra, the Santa Monica College Symphony and the Orange County Symphony. Thompson has been a consistent participant in the Montecito International Music Festival, Idyllwild Arts Chamberfest, and the Brian Lewis Young Artists Program. Thompson currently plays on a 1906 Vincente Postiglione generously loaned by the Chi-Mei Cultural Foundation.

### **VIOLIN SENIOR | THIRD PLACE & BEST INTERPRETATION ||**

**JOHN HEO**, 17, is a Scholarship Recipient Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago Academy. He is a junior at Glenbrook North High school in Northbrook, Illinois. John started playing violin at Betty Haag Academy when he was eight years old. His previous teacher includes Jackie Fisher, Cornelius Chiu and currently studies with Almita Vamos at the MIC Academy. John has won 1st place and awarded in numerous competitions, including Sejong Cultural society competition, American Music Institute Violin Competition, Chinese Fine Arts Society Festival, Musichorale Scholarship Competition, and Midwest Young Artists Walgreens National Competition and Glenbrook Concerto Competition. John has soloed with Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra, Glenbrook Symphony Orchestra, and Ottawa chamber orchestra for twice. As an avid chamber musician, John twice performed with his ensemble in the junior division at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, advancing to the semifinals in 2016. He has participated in the Brian Lewis Young Artists Program in Ottawa, Kansas, for the past two years and went to Bowdoin International Music Festival last summer and had a wonderful time. John has performed in masterclasses for renowned musicians Ilya Kayla, Danielle Belen, Frank Almond, and Dorothy Preucil. Also he has had chamber masterclasses from Marco Dreher, the Yong Quartet, and the Calidore String Quartet. John has been playing

in school orchestras since the third grade and enjoys being in the Glenbrook Symphony Orchestras, a combined orchestra of students from Glenbrook North and South High Schools. Besides playing the violin, he loves playing basketball, working out, and swimming.

### **|| VIOLIN JUNIOR DIVISION | FIRST PLACE**

**LINDA WANG** is 13 years old and an 8th grader at Daniel Wright Junior High School in Lincolnshire. She started her violin studies when she was four years old. She currently studies violin with Dr. Hye-Sun Lee at the Music Institute of Chicago. In addition to violin, Linda also studies piano with Brenda Huang. Her violin awards include first place in Music Festival in Honor of Confucius and MTNA state junior division, second place in the Society of American Musicians Competition, and was honorable mentions in several other competitions, American Music Institute, Sejong Music Competition and DePaul Concerto Competition. She was also featured soloist in the 2015-2016 Young Steinway Concert Series.

### **|| VIOLIN JUNIOR DIVISION | SECOND PLACE**

**ESME ARIAS-KIM** is 11 years old and started playing violin a little before she turned three. She is currently a student of Almita Vamos and studies chamber music at the Music Institute of Chicago as well as piano at the Betty Haag Academy of Music. She made her solo orchestral debut at the age of 10 with the Oistrakh Symphony of Chicago after winning the Depaul University Concerto Competition. As a result of this, she was featured on Chicago's classical radio station WFMT's "Introductions". Subsequently, she won the Chicago Chamber Music Festival Concerto competition which led to her performing the Mendelssohn violin concerto with the Northeastern Illinois University Orchestra. Esme also performed the Bach A minor Concerto with chamber orchestra in Mary Galvin Hall at Northwestern University. Esme is a first place winner in many competitions in the Chicagoland area such as the Confucius Competition, Grandquist Competition and the Sejong Music Competition. She has played in masterclasses for Vadim Gluzman, Ilya Kaler, Grigory Kalinovsky and Desiree Ruhstrat. This past year Esme was the first prize winner of the Enkor International Competition as well as first place winner of the Masters of Violin Concerto division in the Great Composers Competition. This past summer, she attended the Heifetz International Music Institute and was featured on the "Stars of Tomorrow" concert in Francis Auditorium at Mary Baldwin College. During this time, she also performed the Schubert String Quintet in C major which was coached by the Borrmeo Quartet. Previously, Esme studied with Betty Haag-Kuhnke and was a member of the Magical Strings of Youth with whom she toured California (Walt Disney Concert Hall, Segerstrom Hall), New York (Carnegie Hall) and Portugal. This coming year she will be a featured soloist with the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra.

### **|| VIOLIN JUNIOR DIVISION | BEST INTERPRETATION**

**SIDNEY LEE**, age 13 at Cooper Middle School, is a student of Dr. Hye-Sun Lee at the MIC. Her past teachers include Florin Parvulescu and Dr. Tao-Chang Yu. She was born and raised in California, lived in Taipei from 2010-2014, and moved to Chicago in the summer of 2016. Sidney served as a Principal Violinist for the Taipei Kang Chiao Youth Orchestra and the Berkeley Youth Orchestra. While living in California, Sidney achieved Command Performance Gold Awards at CMEA, and she was invited to perform at the Junior Bach Festival in Berkeley. Most recently, she has won awards from SAM and the DePaul Concerto Competition. Sidney has taken master classes with Victor Danchenko, Herbert Greenburg, Stephen Rose, and He Wei. In addition to music, she loves reading, skiing, and solving Rubik's cubes (her record for a 3x3 cube is under 12 seconds!).

### **|| VIOLIN ELEMENTARY | FIRST PLACE**

**HENRY AUXENFANS**, 10, studies with Stacia Spencer, and previously studied with Emilia Blaszak. Henry also plays the piano and studies with Laura Fenster. His chamber music coach is Larry Neuman and his accompanist is Maya Galperin. Currently, Henry is the concertmaster of CYSO's Concert orchestra, and last year he was the concertmaster of CYSO's Debut orchestra. Henry was a repeat first prize winner at the Sherwood Music School's scholarship competition, first prize at Sejoin and top prize at SAM competition. In addition, he received an honorable mention at the Roberta Salver piano contest, and he has been a frequent performer at the Illinois Federation of Music Club's Junior Festival honors' recitals for the past four consecutive years. Henry enjoys playing violin/ piano as a soloist as well as duet with his brother at senior homes, local churches, public libraries, and weddings. Outside of music, Henry is an avid runner, soccer and tennis player. He attends the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools and his favorite subjects are math, writing, reading, and science. Henry has performed in masterclasses for Mimi Zweig and Qing Hou.

### **|| VIOLIN ELEMENTARY DIVISION | SECOND PLACE**

**AIDEN YU** is a 3rd grader at Skinner West Classical. He won 2nd place at Confucius Competition's Youth Division in 2017. He is the Concert Master of Preparatory Strings in Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. Currently he is studying violin with Lucinda Ali-

Landing at Hyde Park Suzuki. Aiden likes ice skating, golfing, math, chess and playing games on iPad.

## VIOLIN PRIMARY DIVISION | FIRST PLACE ||

**RIKO PANG**, age 8 (2nd grade) has been studying with Betty Haag-Kuhnke at the Betty Haag Academy of Music since the age of almost four. At the age of six, she was selected to perform in Carnegie Hall with the Magical Strings of Youth. The following year she traveled to Lisbon Portugal with the violin ensemble where she performed a series of concerts including a Gala concert at the Opera House, a permanence in the Hall of Mirrors at the National Palace, culminating in a special concert sponsored by the Mayor of Lisbon and American diplomats. In the recent summer, Riko passed two rounds of auditions and qualified for the finals in “All Japan Junior Classical Music Competition” in Tokyo Japan. She could not compete in the finals due to returning to the U.S. to start school. Besides her love for music (violin and piano), she is an avid reader and enjoys participation in all sports, especially tennis. She recently won Barrington school district’s 1/2 mile race as the fastest 2nd grade runner. She is also fluent in three languages (Japanese, English, and Mandarin).

## PIANO JUDGES

### PIANO PRIMARY AND ELEMENTARY DIVISIONS

A native of South Korea, pianist **HYEJIN JOO** won various awards from the Wideman International Piano Competition, Northwestern Concerto Competition, Indiana University Concerto Competition, Seoul National University Concerto Competition, Chautauqua Competition, Thaviu-Isaak Competition, Plowman Chamber Music Competition and Kumho Art Foundation Competition.

She received her Bachelors of Music from the Seoul National University where she was awarded the entrance scholarship with honors and the scholarship of academic excellence during the school years. She was granted the position of Associate Instructor upon entering the Indiana University, where she received her Masters of Music degree and a Performer Diploma with full scholarship, studying with Arnaldo Cohen. She appeared in Banff Centre, Chautauqua Fletcher Hall, Pick-Staiger Hall and performed with the Northwestern Symphony Orchestra as the winner of the concerto/aria competition. She was invited to perform Schnittke Concerto for Piano and Strings with the Bienen String Orchestra the following year, under the baton of Victor Yampolsky. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, studying with Alan Chow.



She had the privilege to study with Fabio Bidini, Gerald Fauth, Piotr Paleczny, Matti Raekallio, Boris Slutsky, Nelita True, John O’conor, Stephen Hough, Garrick Ohlsson, Yoshikazu Nagai and Marietta Orlov in masterclasses and music festivals in Leipzig, Berlin, Beijing, Banff and Chautauqua. She was also selected to participate in the Gilmore Keyboard Masterclasses by Northwestern Faculty recommendation. As a member of the Chicago based Stellio Trio, she recently worked with Emanuel Ax and the Dover Quartet and was invited as guest artist from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

A native of Seoul, South Korea, pianist **YOUNG WHUN KIM** is an active soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative pianist both in the United States and South Korea. He began piano studies at the age of 7. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from Seoul National University in South Korea, where he studied with Kwi-Hyun Kim and Sung-Kyun Lee. In 2007, he moved to the United States to continue graduate studies at Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, where he served as an Associate Instructor for the Piano Division, teaching group piano classes and private lessons for undergraduate non-performance piano majors. While there, Kim studied with Shigeo Neriki and received his Master of Music and Performer’s Diploma in piano performance in 2010. Kim is currently pursuing his Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance and literature at the University of Illinois under the tutelage of Ian Hobson. Additional studies include collaborative piano with Dennis Helmrich, and harpsichord with Elisabeth Wright.



As a dedicated collaborative pianist and chamber musician, Kim has performed in a wide variety of vocal recitals and chamber music concerts. He has performed in many Guest Artist Recital Series, most recently with bassist Michael Cameron at DePaul University, Ball State University, Butler University and the University of Illinois. In the summer of 2015, Kim joined the Illinois Summer Youth Music Festival as a collaborative pianist. His extensive participation as a studio pianist includes working with such renowned musicians as Janos Starker, Ik-Hwan Bae, Stefan Milenkovich, and Teresa Kubiak. He has also participated in numerous chamber music masterclasses with such world-class musicians as Gil Shaham, Janos Starker, and Renee Fleming. He has also served as an opera coach in the Chamber Opera Association in Seoul, South Korea. He is currently working as a collaborative pianist and coach for the University of Illinois’s String Division and Lyric Theatre@illinois.

## PIANO JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS



**LUDMILA LAZAR** is acknowledged internationally for her stylistic versatility and intense musicality. Acclaimed in Europe and the United States for her commitment to a diverse and challenging repertoire, Dr. Lazar's recitals and workshops reflect her involvement with multi-cultural music and authentic performance practice. Chicago critics describe Dr. Lazar's playing as "inspirational and informative."

Her students have been winners in local, regional, national, and international competitions. In recognition of her teaching, she received the Master Teacher Certificate from the Music Teachers National Association, and was awarded the title of Master Teacher by the American Musical Scholarship Association. She was also elected by the Roosevelt University community as "Outstanding Teacher of the Year."

A graduate of the Ljubljana Central Music School in Slovenia, she later advanced her studies with Rudolph Ganz at Chicago Musical College (now the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University) where she received a Master's degree, and at Northwestern University where she earned a D.M.A. Dr. Lazar's notable achievements have secured her a place of recognition with the American Keyboard Artists and the Who's Who in the American Music World.



**DANIEL PESCA**, pianist and composer, is both a passionate advocate for new music and a committed performer of the chamber music repertoire. He has shared the stage with many leading new music ensembles, including Ensemble Signal, the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Eastman BroadBand, the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, and Ensemble Dal Niente. He has recently performed at the Library of Congress, the Kennedy Center, the Arts Club of Washington, Columbia University's Miller Theatre, the Teatro Diana in Guadalajara, on the Dame Myra Hess concerts in Chicago, at June in Buffalo, and at festivals devoted to contemporary music in Spain, Italy, Greece, and Vermont.

Among his concerto credits are a performance of the Elliott Carter Double Concerto at Carnegie Hall, as well as solo appearances with the University of Michigan Symphony Band, the Orchestra of the League of Composers, the Slee Sinfonietta, the Eastman Wind Ensemble, and the Oberlin Sinfonietta. Daniel is featured on CDs from Centaur Records, Block M Records, and Urtext Classics—including a recording of Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez's piano concerto, *Diaries*, dedicated to Daniel. His recording of the music of Joseph Schwantner, with flutist Sarah Frisof, was released on Centaur Records in July 2016. He holds a doctorate from the Eastman School of Music, where he led a class on contemporary piano music and studied with Nelita True. He has held teaching positions at Ithaca College and Syracuse University. He is currently artist-in-residence and director of the chamber music program at the University of Chicago, where he collaborates frequently with faculty and student composers.



**GEORGE VATCHNADZE** has appeared with orchestras and in recital throughout the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Netherlands, Finland, Italy, Israel, Russia, Japan, Taiwan, as well as Central and South America. He has performed at the Hollywood Bowl Festival, Ravinia Festival, Stresa Festival, and Rotterdam Philharmonic's "Philips Gergiev" Festival. He has also been a frequent guest of St. Petersburg's "White Nights" and "Mikkeli" (Finland) festivals. In 1997 Mr. Vatchnadze made a sensational recital debut at the prestigious Edinburgh International Music Festival and received the "Herald Angel Award" presented by the "Scottish Herald" newspaper. He has appeared on live broadcasts of the Dutch National Radio, BBC and NPR's "Performance Today". In 1999 Mr. Vatchnadze made his New York recital debut at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. Critic and writer Faubion Bowers wrote in *American Record Guide*: "Vatchnadze is a consummate artist, now at the height of his musical and intellectual powers. He can do absolutely anything he wants at the piano. He commands delicate pianissimi, massive diapasons and everything in between".

Mr. Vatchnadze's engagements have included performances with the Mariinsky Orchestra under the direction of Gianandrea Noseda, at the St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theater and London's Covent Garden, as well as appearances at the Salzburg Festival, Maggio Musicale Festival, Stresa Festival, Gilmore Festival, Ravenna Festival, London's Wigmore Hall, and others.

Mr. Vatchnadze studied at the Tbilisi Central Music School for Gifted Children, Tbilisi State Conservatory, Mannes College of Music and Indiana University, where his teachers were Wanda Shiukashvili, Arkady Aronov and Alexander Toradze. He is a winner of numerous International Piano Competitions including 1994 Gina Bachauer Competition, 1998 Palm Beach Invitational Competition, 1996 Alabama competition, and 1997 World Piano Competition.

Mr. Vatchnadze studied at the Tbilisi Central Music School for Gifted Children, Tbilisi State Conservatory, Mannes College of Music and Indiana University, where his teachers were Wanda Shiukashvili, Arkady Aronov and Alexander Toradze. He is a winner of numerous International Piano Competitions including 1994 Gina Bachauer Competition, 1998 Palm Beach Invitational Competition, 1996 Alabama competition, and 1997 World Piano Competition.

Mr. Vatchnadze is the Associate Professor at DePaul University School of Music in Chicago. Throughout his teaching career, his students have won top prizes at the numerous international competitions and have performed extensively throughout the world. Mr. Vatchnadze is a founder and artistic director of the Villa Sandra International Piano Academy in Lesa (Lago Maggiore), Italy.

## VIOLIN PRIMARY AND ELEMENTARY DIVISIONS

A native of South Korea, violinist **SEUL LEE** has performed solo, chamber, and orchestral music in South Korea, France, and the United States. She has won several competitions in Korea, including the Suwon University Competition, and was featured as the soloist with the Korean Wind Ensemble. In 2007, Lee served as concertmaster for the Asia Philharmonic Orchestra Academy under maestro Myung Whun Chung. Lee's extensive orchestral experience in the United States includes playing with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra.



Lee received her Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance from Seoul National University and her Master of Music degree from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where she studied with Mauricio Fuks. She is currently pursuing her doctorate degree at the University of Illinois under the tutelage of Stefan Milenkovich. She has also studied with renowned violinists Ik-Hwan Bae and Sung Sic Yang. Lee has performed in master classes given by Pamela Frank, Midori Goto, Ik-Hwan Bae, Janos Starker, the Cleveland String Quartet and the Jupiter String Quartets.

As an active string quartet player, Lee performed Mendelssohn's Octet at the Krannert Art Museum and the DOCHA Music Festival alongside members of the Jupiter Quartet and other faculty members. Lee won the University of Illinois symphony concerto competition in 2014, landing a performance as soloist playing Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with the University of Illinois Symphony Orchestra. Most recently, she has performed in the 2017 Guest Artist Recital at Olivet Nazarene University and in the REGAIL Music Series at Indiana State University and Eastern Illinois University. She is currently serving as a substitute for the Minnesota Orchestra.

**YOUNGSIN SEO**, a native of South Korea, is an active soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player. Seo has performed in numerous venues including Seoul Arts Center in Korea, University of Bucharest in Romania, and Colby College in the United States. As an active orchestral player, Seo has been playing with many orchestras both in the United States and South Korea including the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the KBS Symphony Orchestra. She is a former member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and currently plays with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra.



Seo holds Doctor of Music in Violin Performance with minor in music theory from Indiana University under the mentorship of Mark Kaplan. She was awarded Artistic Excellence Award, Music Merit Award, and R. Parr Septer Music Scholarship by the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University. Seo has received several awards from competitions including Hyubsung University Competition, Anyang University Competition, and Gimpo University Competition. Passionate about community outreach, Seo performs regularly with Sound of Hope ensemble, serving as a board member of the organization that aims to bring the joy of music to the community. Seo is a faculty at the IUPUI Music Academy.

## VIOLIN JUDGES

### VIOLIN JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS

A native of Busan, South Korea, violinist **SO YOUNG BAE** is an active soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player both in the United States and South Korea. Bae has received numerous awards from competitions including first prize in the Busan Music Association Competition, second prize in the Korea-America National Competition, Gold medal in the Se-Jong University Competition, second prize in the Taegu Broadcasting Competition, and second prize in Nanpa Music Competition. She is also the recipient of various scholarships, including the Joseph Fuchs Scholarship, Knafel Askin Violin Scholarship and Samuel Gardner Grant.



As an active soloist, Bae recently won the Stony Brook Concerto Competition, and will be performing Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in the 2012/13 season. Bae is an active chamber music musician, and has collaborated with artists such as members of the Emerson Quartet, Colin Carr and Tina Dahl. As an orchestral player, Bae has recently joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra appointed by Music Director Riccardo Muti in July 2012. In the past, she has performed with the New York City Ballet Orchestra for its 2012 winter season and with New World Symphony Orchestra. She has also toured Europe with the Juilliard Orchestra under the baton of James DePriest in 2005 and China under Xian Zhang in 2008.

Bae has participated in many festivals over the years including the Aspen Music Festival (2008) and Music Academy of the West (2006), where she was a fellowship recipient. She has also attended Kneisel Hall (2007), Sarasota Music Festival (2006, 2007) and the 2007 Juilliard ChamberFest. In the summers of 2009, 2010 and 2011, Bae was invited to participate in the orchestra of the Verbier Music Festival.

Bae began her studies of the violin at the age of 7. At age 18, she was honored with the rare distinction of early admission at the Seoul National University. She obtained both her Bachelor and Master's degrees at the Juilliard School, where she was a student of Stephen Clapp and Sylvia Rosenberg. She is currently pursuing her Doctoral degree as a full-scholarship student and violin teaching assistant at Stony Brook University studying with Soovin Kim and Philip Setzer.



Violinist **BING GRANT** is currently a member of the Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra. As a soloist, she has performed with the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra. She has played recitals in the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, Young Artists Showcase, Jordan Hall, the Boston Athenaeum, and the Federal Reserve Bank Series. As a member of the Samson Trio, she was showcased on WGBH, Classics in the Morning. She was also a member of the International Trio, a group who recorded Works by Ami Mayyani, released by IMP. The International Trio toured Israel and played the Triple Concerto by Beethoven with the Tel-Aviv Campus Symphony Orchestra. She also performed with the Meeting House Chamber Music Festival.

In addition to Chicago's Lyric, Ms. Grant has played with The Grant Park Orchestra, Chicago Philharmonic, the Contata Singers and Ensemble in Boston, the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and the Boston Ballet. She has served as Concert Master for the New World Symphony, the Gardner Museum Chamber Orchestra, the Chadam Choral, and the Cape Cod Chamber Orchestra. She was the associate Concert Master for Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Philharmonic.

Ms. Grant studied with Roman Totenberg and Masuko Ushioda. Her chamber music coaches include Isidore Cohen, Felix Galimir, Leon Kirchner, Gilbert Kalish, Eugene Lehner, Arnold Steinhardt, Jaime Laredo, and Lorand Fenyes. She has performed chamber music with musicians such as Richard Stoltzman, John Gibbons and Lawrence Lesser. Ms. Grant made her Carnegie debut in 1992, playing the Bach Double Concerto with the New York String Orchestra under the late Alexander Schneider.

She lives in Chicago with her three children and forever contemplating a pet they are not allergic to.



**MIHAELA IONESCU** came to Chicago in 1980 from Europe and over the years she has been very active as an orchestra musician, chamber musician and violin teacher.

Ionescu was born in Romania in a family of physicians (her father was a surgeon and her mother a pediatrician). She started playing the violin at the age of 7, after her parents were convinced that she should study a musical instrument since she sang so well at a very early age. Since the age of 9, Ionescu has regularly played recitals and solo concerts and has participated in national and international competitions, including Bucharest in 1964 and 1976; Sion, Switzerland, in 1976 and 1978; and the International Tchaikovsky Competition in 1978. Since leaving home at the age of 16, Ionescu has traveled, studied, and played in many cities and countries in Europe. Her first stop was Bucharest, where she lived from 1970 to 1977 as a high school student and then as a student at the C. Porumbescu Music Conservatory (graduating in 1977). Her teachers there were Stefan Gheorghiu and Cornelia Bronzetti. She continued her studies with Tibor Varga at the Music Academy of Sion and with André Gertler at the Summer Music Academy in Szombately, Hungary. From 1978 to 1980, she lived in Switzerland, where she received a performance certificate from the conservatory in Bern and held a position in the orchestra of Biel-Bienne. During these summers, she played with the Luzern Festival Orchestra under Sergiu Celibidache.

Since coming to Chicago, Ionescu has been a member of the first violin section of the Lyric Opera Orchestra of Chicago and was principal second violin of the Grant Park Symphony until 1987, when she was appointed to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra by Sir Georg Solti. In addition to solo recitals, she has performed with most local ensembles and her own chamber music group, the Athenaeum Ensemble. She also has appeared with members of the Vermeer Quartet at the Bay Chamber Festival in Rockport, Maine, and on the Dame Myra Hess recital series at the Chicago Public Library.

Mihaela has two adult sons, Michael and David, and two grandchildren. Her top priorities are balancing her career and family, but she greatly enjoys photography, interior design, gardening and traveling.



## COMPOSERS OF KOREAN THEMED MUSIC

**MISOOK KIM** received her B.M. with the honor of Cum Laude from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea. After finishing her “New Star Concert” sponsored by the Cho-Sun Newspaper, she entered the graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin where she completed her M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in composition and the certificate of piano performance. Reviewer Mike Greenberg, writing in the San Antonio Express-News, called the composer “a bold and unrepentant modernist.” He also mentioned in San Antonio Current that “her music was fearlessly modern – spiky, protean, often highly compressed, proudly declining to participate in the fashion for ‘accessibility’ – but she was so sure-footed in her instincts and her craft that she earned her listeners’ trust to lead them safely and enjoyably through the strange realms she conjured.”



Kim has performed as a composer as well as a pianist in various concerts of her own works and other composers’ from solo to larger ensemble compositions throughout the United States and Korea. In addition to commissions for the MUSICOPIA, Hudson Duo, Olmos Ensemble, she has won the International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM) Judith Zaimont Award and the Long Island Arts Council International Composition Competition in 2007. She also won the 2008 International Sejong Music Composition Competition. Her music was broadcast on Classical Spotlight of KPAC (Texas Public Radio) and WFMT (Chicago’s Classical Radio). A founding member of the Chicago New Arts Trio and CASA (Composers Alliance of San Antonio), Kim has served as a board member of SAIPC (San Antonio International Piano Competition). She is a former faculty member at the University of the Incarnate Word and Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. She has also served as music director at KUMC (Korean United Methodist Church). In the fall of 2006, Kim joined the faculty at the Conservatory of Music at Wheaton College, IL.

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**SCATTERED MELODIES:** The literal meaning of *sanjo* – a popular form of virtuosic solo instrumental piece – is “scattered melodies.” The traditional rhythmic accompaniment of a *sanjo* is provided by a *janggu*, an hourglass-shaped drum. Variation on the basic rhythmic pattern is unlimited and this piece is written on one of the rhythmic variants based on the *jung-mo-ri* rhythm, a 12-beat pattern. After a slow and unrestricted opening by piano, the faster interactive rhythm starts with scattered melodies on violin and piano, while the final statement floats more serenely.

**BARCAROLE-JOIE DE VIVRE** for violin and piano (2015) is based on the Korean folk tune “Boat Song” of Kyung-gi Province. After a brisk introduction, the piece starts with a slow rhythm, a loosely interpreted melody, varied and derived from Jainmori Jangdan. This pensive and prolonged part expresses a fisherman’s tiring, daily life. The main theme by the violin is extremely limited yet illustrates the necessary contrapuntal texture with the piano. To expedite the fisherman’s travel in the second half of the piece, sailors would paddle together in faster rhythm creating an energetic groove in which their song would sing as a call and response. The extremely raspy voice of Korean Pansori (traditional story-singing) and of other folk songs is well-known in Korean music. The repetitive triple stops of sharply detached chords are an extra degree of volume and accent, used to obtain the preferred musical timbre in this exciting section.

Composer **INSIK LEE** grew up listening to classical music since early infancy under the influence of his father, who was then a pastor at a Christian church; his desire to become a composer started during early childhood. In 1979, he entered Seoul High School of Music and Art to study composition. During his undergraduate years at Seoul National University, he first encountered the concept of contemporary music and thought that it was an essential genre of music which would convey and sympathize people’s thoughts in our time. During his third year, he became attracted to electronic music and became the leader of the Electronic Music Study Group. He also studied conducting from J. Wuller, who was the chairman of the Goethe Institute in Seoul. He was awarded first place at the Joongang Competition in 1985. In 1986, he went to Germany to study a postgraduate program in composition at Hochschule der Künste Berlin. Professor F. Martin Olbrisch, who is now in Dresden Hochschule, kindly explained to him not only the cultural differences but also resulting differences in expressions and ideas. He also worked in the contemporary music department of the professional contemporary music press, Bote & Bock. He returned to Korea in 1994 and has taken part in many societies, including the Asian Composer’s League, International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM Korea), and Seoul Society of Contemporary Music. In 1998, he became the Professor of Composition at Sungshin Women’s University.



The year 2008 was the turning point for his composing ideology, when he realized that existing contemporary music has overlooked the significance of the general public’s pleasure of listening to music. Therefore, he decided to compose music that can sympathize the message of the music with the general public. In 2011, he finally composed his first compilation of Arirang works, ‘Arirang 2011,’ and still has a great interest in further developing it.

**MILYANG ARIRANG** is based on the eponymous folk song with roots in Milyang, a port city in Korea's eastern region (encompassing the provinces of Gyeongsan, Gangwon, and Hamgyeong). According to legend, *Milyang Arirang* commemorates Arang, the daughter of Milyang's governor. Arang's beauty and intelligence were legendary, and she attracted many young admirers. One night Arang went out to enjoy the full moon when she was suddenly approached by a young man who professed his love for her. Arang fled, but tragically the man chased and killed her. Much later, Arang's spirit appeared to the next governor of Milyang and revealed the crime; the following day, the governor arrested and executed Arang's murderer. Thus, like many other Korean folk songs, *Milyang Arirang* casts a complex web of emotions including loss, beauty, nostalgia, pain, and devotion.

**HANOBAEKNYON** (trans. Five Hundred Years) is based on the popular folk song of the same name from the Kangwon Province. This song is sung in a very slow rhythm, known as *Joongjinmori*. The title comes from the refrain "of course, of course, let's live together for five hundred years."



**EDWARD (TEDDY) NIEDERMAIER**, educator, composer and pianist, serves as Assistant Professor of Core Music Studies at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He previously taught music theory at the Oberlin Conservatory, and has served on the faculty at the European American Musical Alliance summer program in Paris since 2006. Teddy completed a Doctor of Music degree in Music Composition in 2010 from Indiana University, where he studied with Claude Baker and David Dzubay. He earned two degrees in Music Composition (Master of Music and Bachelor of Music) from The Juilliard School as a student of John Corigliano, Samuel Adler, and Robert Beaser.

Teddy's compositions have been performed by the New Juilliard Ensemble, Indiana University New Music Ensemble, Minnesota Symphonic Winds, and by members of the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and Cleveland Orchestra. Several of Teddy's compositions are influenced by Korean culture and traditional music, including *Arirang Variations* for piano (2006) and *Jamwon Sonata* for violin and piano (2013).

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**PARANGSAE (BLUEBIRD, BLUEBIRD) (2014):** Sung as a lullaby, the original Korean melody *Saeya, Saeya, Parang Saeya* (Bird, Bird, Bluebirds) contains only three pitches: D, G, and A. Filled with large leaps and perfect intervals, the melody creates an empty and mysterious feeling. The sad genesis of this folk song lies with general Bong-Joon Juhn's failed popular uprising against corrupt rulers and invading Japanese forces in 1895, in the days leading up to Japan's formal annexation of Korea (which lasted until the end of World War II). This arrangement of Parangsae preserves the leaps and intervals of the original melody, but immediately introduces new pitches (B-flat, A-flat, E-flat, and B-natural in the harmony) that suggest a dark mixture of the G Major and G Phrygian scales. The low, resonant registers of the piano are featured, especially in measures 51 and 75, when the bass states fragmented versions of the melody. Twice we hear outbursts of bird calls in the upper ranges of the piano, which inevitably sink down into more reflective, somber music.



**EUN YOUNG LEE** has been working with the New York New Music Ensemble, Pacifica Quartet, eighth blackbird, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Gemini Ensemble, ECCE, Antico Moderno, Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, dissonArt ensemble, and ensemble mise-en among other ensembles. Many of her works have been commissioned and have received a number of awards, including first prize at the Tsang-Houei Hsu International Music Composition Competition in Taiwan. Her compositions have also been selected for broadcasts. She earned a PhD at the University of Chicago, joined the Boston Conservatory as a faculty member in 2014 and at Tufts University in 2016. Her website can be found at [www.eunyoungleemusic.com](http://www.eunyoungleemusic.com).

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**TA-RYUNG I** for solo violin is based on the Korean folk tune *Sae Taryeong* (Bird Song). While representing the melody clearly, several techniques of violin are used.



**TIMOTHY BALTON** is a senior studying music at Tufts University. After studying classical piano for 11 years and singing in a cappella groups and choirs for 7 years, this last year he has started dabbling in composing and arranging classical music and jazz. He looks forward to continuing to compose after graduating in May and is excited to be able to contribute to the Sejong Cultural Society's annual competition.

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**BLUE BIRD'S JOURNEY** is based on the melody of the Korean folk song *Parangsae* (Blue Bird). A duet for violin and piano, it seeks to evoke a journey that goes from mysterious to frightening to happy and calm.

**HEEYOUNG YANG** holds a M.M. in composition from Yonsei University (Korea) and College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati where she studied with Joel Hoffman. She attended Aspen Music Festival and studied with George Tsontakis. Her music has been performed in Korea, Japan, France, Croatia, Canada as well as in various place in the States. She is also active in Christian choral music, offering various works to churches in Ohio and Indiana area, as well as in Korea and Germany. She is currently working toward her doctoral degree with Joel Hoffman, Mara Helmuth, and Michael Friday at College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati.



**SEEN MY FLOWER, SEEN MY FRIEND?** for solo piano is a short romantic piece based on the Korean traditional play tune *Woori Jip-eh Wae Wannni?* (Why Did You Come to My House?) Its sentimental gestures with simple and minimal melodic line over parallel major triad ostinato evoke a strong feeling of nostalgia for the innocent enthusiasms of childhood.

**AMAZING ARIRANG (AMAZING GRACE AND ARIRANG):** America's most beloved song, *Amazing Grace*, encounters the most well-known and beloved Korean traditional tune, *Arirang*. Amazing! and Graceful!

**CURIOUS CUCKOO (SAE TARYEONG):** Among many kinds of birds mentioned in the text of the folk song *Sae Taryeong* (Bird Song), which serves as the basis of this piece, the cuckoo is the only bird whose birdcall is directly used in the melody. It was the main focus of attention to establish the character of this short piece at the beginning of composition. The distinctive call of the cuckoo is also used in this piece and the descending chromatic line supports the original tune with inquisitive eyes.

**MIN JONG PARK** (1918-2006) was one of the pioneers of western music in Korea. He was active in music scenes as a violinist, conductor, composer, and an educator. After graduating from the Tokyo University of Arts, he joined the faculty at Ewha Women's University and Seoul National University in Seoul, Korea—both considered top universities in Korea. He held a concertmaster post at the Seoul Navy Jeong-Hoon-Dae Orchestra (which later became the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra) and was concertmaster of the Westfalen Symphony Orchestra in Germany. After returning to Seoul he became Dean of the College of Music at Kyung-hee University, and then Dean of the College of Music at Seoul National University. He was elected the president of the Korean Music Association and music director of the Madri Chamber Orchestra. He concertized until 1985 and conducted chamber ensembles until 1994. As a composer, he left ten pieces of chamber music and violin solo pieces. He received numerous award and accolades, including the Korean National Arts Award (1981), Musician of the Year Award (1984), Bo-gwan Medal of Honor (1987), National Music Award (1994), and 3.1 Cultural Award (1988).



**CHANT DE L'OISEAU (BIRD SONG)** for violin and piano is based on Sae Taryeong (Bird Song), which originated from the Cholla province of Korea. The song describes different types of birds flying and mimics their bird calls.



#### KITE

Fly high my vibrant-colored kite; up into the clear blue sky  
Make a lone colorful dot in the one-colored heavens  
So that I can make my existence known to somebody out there

*Alice Ra, 2012 Sejong Writing Competition  
Sijo category third place (6<sup>th</sup> grade)*

#### OBSCURE PIANO MUSIC

Fingers poised in midair  
My eyes dart to read you  
But all I see is a sea  
of black and white surrounding me  
Oh, why do you act so difficult?  
when all I want is to understand you

*Eunice Hong, 2012 Sejong Writing Competition  
Sijo category honorable mention (10<sup>th</sup> grade)*

## PAST MUSIC COMPETITION WINNERS 2004-2016

*honorable mentions not listed*

*"Korean Music" denotes award for best interpretation of Korean music*

2016			
Instrument	Division	Prize	Name (Teacher)
Piano	Senior	1	Colin Choi, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Esil Empig, Irvine, CA (Valentina Gottlieb)
			Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	3	Derek Chung, Long Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)	
	Junior	1	Ashley Kim, Wilmette, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Harmon Balorda, Berrien Center, MI (Sandra Camp)
		3	Christian Choi, Burr Ridge, IL (Sung Hoon Mo)
	Elementary	1	Richelle Shi, Long Grove, IL (Brenda Huang)
			Melody Xu, Naperville, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Matthew Hahn, Lake Forest, IL (Christina Tio)
	Primary	3	Emmie Guo, Chicago, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		1	Ryan Lee, Bolingbrook, IL (Elaine Felder)
2		Joshua Park, Hinsdale, IL (Sueanne Metz)	
	3	none	
	Senior	1	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek, MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Ria Honda, Wilmette, IL (Almita Vamos)
3		Claire Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)	
Junior	1	Suminne Hong, Vernon Hills, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)	
	2	Barbara Juminaga, Highland Park, IL (n/a)	
	3	Isabel Chen, Northbrook, IL (Jasmine Lin)	
Elementary	1	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)	
	2	Hannah Ding, Naperville, IL (Almita Vamos)	
	3	Elle Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)	
Primary	1	Kai Isoke Ali-Landing, Chicago, IL (Lucinda Ali)	
	2	Emily Chen, Arlington Heights, IL (Injoo Choi)	
	3	Rebekah Kim, Round Lake, IL (Injoo Choi)	
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Colin Choi, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Sebastian Ingino, Libertyville, IL (Ludmyla Turkalo)
		Ele	David Dai, Lake Zurich, IL (Christina Tio)
		Pri	none
	Violin	Sr	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek, MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		Jr	Isabel Chen, Northbrook, IL (Jasmine Lin)
		Ele	Elle Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		Pri	Rebekah Kim, Round Lake, IL (Injoo Choi)
2015			
Piano	Senior	1	John Schindler, Hartland, WI (Alan Chow)
		2	Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Allison Lie, Naperville, IL (Sueanne Metz)

Piano (2015) <i>cont'd</i>	Junior	1	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Won Yang, Wilmette, IL (Elaine Felder)
		3	Joseph Shin, Glenview, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Elementary	1	Etien Balorda, Berrien Center, MI (Lydia Balorda)
		2	Angelika Wang, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
			Joey Zhu, Buffalo Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	3	Caleb D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)	
	Primary	1	Henry Shao, Sylvania, OH (Esther Chiu)
		2	Chloe Palmes, Morton Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
Freya Pang, Darien, IL (Sueanne Metz)			
3	Clara Zhang, Highland Park, IL (Soo Young Lee)		
Violin	Senior	1	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek, MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		3	Lauren Conroy, Barrington, IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Micah Yoo, Northbrook, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Susie Lee, West Bloomfield, MI (Almita Vamos)
		3	Chizuru Tanaka, Buffalo Grove, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Elementary	1	Kaylee Kim, Round Lake, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Primary	1	Jasmine Horton, Glencoe, IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Emily Chen, Alrington Heights, IL (Injoo Choi)
		3	Elle Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	John Schindler, Hartland, WI (Alan Chow)
		Jr	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Ele	Etien Balorda, Berrien Center, MI (Lydia Balorda)
		Pri	Henry Shao, Sylvania, OH (Esther Chiu)
	Violin	Sr	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos)
		Jr	Micah Yoo, Northbrook, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Ele	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Pri	Elle Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
<b>2014</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Amy Lian, Lake in the Hills, IL (Janice Razaq)
	Junior	1	Allison Lie, Naperville, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	George Dalianis, Park Ridge, IL (Katherine K. Lee)
		3	Lilian Xu, Lincolnshire, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Elementary	1	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Alan Zhang, Naperville, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Maggie Peng, Buffalo Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
Primary	1	Emmie Guo, Chicago, IL (Sueanne Metz)	
	2	Audrey Yixin Yin, Rolling Meadows, IL (Sueanne Metz)	
	3	Freya Pang, Darien, IL (Sueanne Metz)	
Violin	Senior	1	Joshua Brown, Gurnee, IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Serena Harnack, Glen Ellyn, IL (Almita Vamos)

Violin (2014) <i>cont'd</i>	Junior	1	Isabella Brown, Gurnee, IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	John Heo, Northbrook, IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Almita Vamos)
	Elementary	1	Abigail Park, Arlington Heights, IL (Hye Sun Lee)
		2	Chizuru Tanaka, Buffalo Grove, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Barbara Juminaga, Highland Park, IL (Hye Sun Lee)
	Primary	1	Lauren Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Injoo Choi)
		2	Elle Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Betty Haag Kuhnke)
		3	Erica Jiyeon Nam, West Chester, OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Derek Chung, Long Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Won Yang, Wilmette, IL (Elaine Felder)
		Ele	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Pri	Emmie Guo, Chicago, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Violin	Sr	Shannon Kollasch, Naperville, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Jr	John Heo, Northbrook, IL (Almita Vamos)
		Ele	Lena Valenti, Chicago, IL (Sharon Chang)
		Pri	Erica Jiyeon Nam, West Chester, Kurt Sassmannshaus
<b>2013</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Sean Choi, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Michael Lee, Hawthorn Woods, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	none
	Junior	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Justin Chang, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Li-jae Woo, Glenview, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Elementary	1	Lilian Xu, Lincolnshire, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Isabel Chen, Northbrook, IL (Inah Chiu)
	Primary	1	Caleb D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Emmie Guo, Chicago, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Freya Pang, Darien, IL (Sueanne Metz)
Violin	Senior	1	Julian Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Hannah White, Germantown, WI (Hye-Sun Lee and Almita Vamos)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos)
	Junior	1	Claire Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Rachel Hsu, Wilmette, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Rebecca Moy, Naperville, IL (Drew Lecher)
	Elementary	1	Isabel Chen, Northbrook, IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Christopher J. Kim, Palatine, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
	Primary	1	Foster Ward, Northbrook, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Kaylee Kim, Round Lake, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Daniel Rong, Vernon Hills, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Jr	David Peng, Buffalo Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Ele	Isabel Chen, Northbrook, IL (Inah Chiu)
		Pri	Richard Li, Buffalo Grove, IL (Soyoung Kee)
	Violin	Sr	Hansuh Rhee, Glenview, IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)

Korean Music (2013) <i>cont'd</i>	Violin <i>cont'd</i>	Jr	Justin Lee, Buffalo Grove, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		Ele	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
			Barbara Juminaga, Chesterfield, MO (Addison Teng)
		Pri	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
<b>2012</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Kyle Jannak-Huang, Palatine, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Amber Scherer, Winnetka, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Pamela Lin, Vernon Hills, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Derek Chung, Long Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Alexander Jin, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Xiaoping Wang, Jr, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Elementary	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Eriko Darcy, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Emily Cho, Schaumburg, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Primary	1	Kimiko Darcy, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Kevin Chlastawa, Kenosha, WI (Brenda Huang)
		3	none
Violin	Senior	1	Tabitha Oh, Chicago, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Hannah White, Germantown, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		3	Emily Jones, Winnetka, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Julian Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Jason Wang, Yorktown Heights, NY (Sungrai Sohn)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos)
	Elementary	1	none
		2	Christina Nam, West Chester, OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)
			Maya Kilburn, Muncie, IN (Chin Mi Kim)
	3	Zechary Mo, Palatine, IL (Injoo Choi)	
	Primary	1	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg, IL (Taka Matsunaga)
		2	Sean Lee, Naperville, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
3		Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)	
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Amber Scherer, Winnetka, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Derek Chung, Long Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Ele	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Pri	Kimiko Darcy, Chicago, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Violin	Sr	Christi Park, Hinsdale, IL (Cyrus Forough)
		Jr	Justin Lee, Buffalo Grove, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		Ele	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Pri	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg, IL (Taka Matsunaga)
<b>2011</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Trenton Takaki, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	William Woodard, Bloomington, IL (Laurene Parsons)
		3	Amber Ginmi Scherer, Winnetka, IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Eric Lin, Hawthorn Woods, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Roger Shen, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Whitney Jin, Naperville, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Elementary	1	Colin Choi, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Joshua Zhu, Long Grove, IL (Sueanne Metz)

Pno ( <i>cont'd</i> )	Ele. ( <i>cont'd</i> )	3	David Du, West Lafayette, IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)
Violin	Senior	1	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights, IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Claire Bourg, Aurora, IL (Cyrus Forough)
		3	Tabitha Oh, Chicago, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Hannah White, Germantown, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Julian Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Cornelius Chiu)
	Elementary	1	John Heo, Northbrook, IL (Cornelius Chiu)
		2	Christina Jihee Nam, Cincinnati, OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)
		3	Christian Kim, Schaumburg, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates, IL (Betty Haag)	
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Trenton Takaki, Wilmette, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Whitney Jin, Naperville, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Ele	David Du, West Lafayette, IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)
	Violin	Sr	Claire Bourg, Aurora, IL (Cyrus Forough)
		Jr	Tabby Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		Ele	Rachel Shekinah Hsu, Wilmette, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
<b>2010</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Christopher Park, West Lafayette, IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)
		2	none
		3	none
	Junior	1	none
		2	Vivian Jin, Naperville, IL (Brenda Huang) Roger Shen, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Ryan Jannak-Huang, Palatine, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Elementary	1	Sean Choi, Wilmette, IL (Elaine Felder)
		2	Alexandra Woo, Glenview, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Colin Choi, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
Violin	Senior	1	Jennifer Cha, Naperville, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat) Ade Williams, Chicago, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		2	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights, IL (Almita and Roland Vamos)
		3	none
	Junior	1	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek, MI (Hye-Sun Lee) Hansuh Rhee, Glenview, IL (Marko Dreher)
		2	Mira Williams, Chicago, IL (Marko Dreher)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Cornelius Chiu)
	Elementary	1	Hannah White, Germantown, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Rachel Hsu, Wilmette, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Julian Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Christopher Park, West Lafayette, IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)
		Jr	Vivian Jin, Naperville, IL (Brenda Huang)
		Ele	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect, IL (Soo Lee)
	Violin	Sr	Jennifer Cha, Naperville, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat) Ade Williams, Chicago, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		Jr	Karisa Chiu, Palatine, IL (Cornelius Chiu) Hansuh Rhee, Glenview, IL (Marko Dreher)
		Ele	Julian Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hye-Sun Lee)

2009			
Piano	Senior	1	Andrew Ly, Arlington Heights, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Yesse Kim, Ann Arbor, MI (Panayis Lyras)
		3	Hannah Kay, Lincolnshire, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Junior	1	Seoyun Baek, Buffalo Grove, IL (Elaine Felder)
		2	Yoan Ganev, Wheeling, IL (Marta Azanavorian)
		3	Kyle Jannak-Huang, Palatine, IL (Brenda Huang)
Violin	Senior	1	Ethan Hoppe, Chicago, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		2	Lydia Umlauf, Rensselaer, IN (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Laura Park, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
	Junior	1	Adé Williams, Chicago, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		2	Serena Harnack, Glen Ellyn, IL (Julie Maura)
		3	Tabby Rhee, Brookfield, WI (Hey-Sun Lee)
Korean Music	Piano	Sr	Yesse Kim, Ann Arbor, MI (Panayis Lyras)
		Jr	Seoyun Baek, Buffalo Grove, IL (Elaine Felder)
	Violin	Sr	Sofia Kim, Wilmette, IL (Almita Vamos)
		Jr	Adé Williams, Chicago, IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
2008			
Piano	Senior	1	Nathan Noh, Hawthorn Woods, IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Yeji Yoon, Vernon Hills, IL (Micah Yui)
		3	none
	Junior	1	Seung Joon Kim, Glenview, IL (Micah Yui)
		2	Ryan Jannak-Huang, Northbrook, IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	none
Violin	Senior	1	George Hyun, Winnetka, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Laura Park, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos & Marko Dreher)
		3	Shelley Liu, Winnetka, IL (Almita Vamos) Lydia Umlauf, Rensselaer, IN (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Jennifer Eugena Cha, Naperville, IL (Desiree Rhustrat)
		2	Michaela Wellems, Lincolnshire, IL (Marko Dreher) Adé Williams, Chicago, IL (Marko Dreher & Almita Vamos)
		3	Haeji Kim, Bloomfield Hills, MI (Almita & Roland Vamos)
Cello	-	1	Johannes Gray, Wilmette, IL (Gilda Barston, Hans Jensen)
		2	none
		3	Christine Lee, Dublin, OH (Alison Wells)
Korean Music	Piano	Jr	none
		Sr	Nathan Noh, Hawthorn Woods, IL (Brenda Huang)
	Violin	Jr	Adé Williams, Chicago, IL (Marko Dreher & Almita Vamos)
		Sr	Laura Park, Palatine, IL (Almita Vamos & Marko Dreher)
	Cello	-	Johannes Gray, Wilmette, IL (Gilda Barston, Hans Jensen)
2007			
Piano	Senior	1	Paul Juhn, Mundelein, IL (Emilio del Rosario)
		2	Alice Huang, Verona, WI (Shu-Ching Chung)
		3	Matthew Sun-oo Scherer, Winnetka, IL (Soo Lee)
	Junior	1	none
		2	Susie Lee, Naperville, IL (Emilio del Rosario)
			Dongkyu Yoon, Brookfield, WI (Michael Thiele)

Pno ( <i>cont'd</i> )	Jr. ( <i>cont'd</i> )	3	Emma Michalak, Evanston, IL (Soo Lee)
Violin	Senior	1	Samantha Bennett, Evanston, IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
		2	Shelley Liu, Winnetka, IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Hannah Selonick, Evanston, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights, IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
		2	Susie Koh, Buffalo Grove, IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
		3	Connie Liou, Elk Grove Village, IL (Julie Maura) Tabitha Oh, Chicago, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
Cello	–	1	Benjamin Lash, Evanston, IL (Tanya Carey)
		2	Hyunjin Jessica Cho, Glenview, IL (David Cunliffe)
		3	none
<b>2006</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Sean Yeh, Libertyville, IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Paul Juhn, Mundelein, IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		3	Yueun Kim, Chicago, IL (Theodore Edel)
	Junior	1	Lauren Eun Kim, Bannockburn, IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Myung Sook Stella Tu, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Jonathan Lyu, Vernon Hills, IL (Sung Hoon Mo)
Violin	Senior	1	Siwoo Kim, Westerville, OH (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	Emily Hyun, Winnetka, IL (Betti Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Ashley Sachay, Dekalb, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Laura Park, Hawthorn woods, IL (Injoo Choi)
		2	George Hyun, Winnetka, IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Erika Gray, Wilmette, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
Cello	–	1	Mindy Park, Mundelein, IL (Hans Jensen)
		2	Benjamin Lash, Evanston, IL (Tanya Carey)
		3	Hyunjin Jessica Cho, Glenview, IL (David Cunliffe)
<b>2005</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	none
		2	Andrew Kim, Glencoe, IL (Soo Lee)
		3	none
	Junior	1	Paul Juhn, Mundelein, IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Alice Huang, Verona, WI (Shu-Ching Chuang)
		3	Myung Sook Stella Tu, Northbrook, IL (Sueanne Metz)
Violin	Senior	1	Shawn Moore, Elgin, IL (Cyrus Forough)
		2	Yeon Sun Huh, Oberlin, OH (Kyung Sun Lee)
		3	Ji Yeun Yook, Oberlin, OH (Kyung Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Herah Kim, Glenview, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Laura Park, Hawthorn Woods, IL (Injoo Choi)
		3	Jaimie Sachay, Dekalb, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
<b>2004</b>			
Piano	Senior	1	Joeun Shim, Northbrook, IL (Emilio del Rosario) Ada Jeon, Northbrook, IL (Sylvia Wang / Soo Lee)
		2	none
		3	Jonathan Shih, Lisle, IL (Cheryl Cheon-Ae Lim)
	Junior	1	Andrew Yoon, Vernon Hill, IL (Emilio del Rosario)
		2	Paul Juhn, Mundelein, IL (Emilio del Rosario)

Pno ( <i>cont'd</i> )	Jr. ( <i>cont'd</i> )		
		3	Alice Choe, Northbrook, IL (Emilio del Rosario)
Violin	Senior	1	Susan Jang, Wauconda, IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Eun-Hye Dong, Seoul, Korea (Kyung Sun Lee)
		3	Sang Won Chung, Seoul, Korea (Kyung Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Sophia Cho, Park Ridge, IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Herah Kim, Glenview, IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Thomas Huntington, South Bend, IN (Cyrus Forough)
			Jaeyon Chung, Wilmette, IL (Gerardo Ribeiro)



### THE CELLIST, THE EMANCIPATOR

The bend of the aged wood  
fits snug in my chest: it and I are one.  
Wound metal against soft hair—  
that was once wild, organic,  
that is now tame, synthetic—  
it frees doves from their monochrome cage.

*Jeanna Qiu, 2013 Sejong Writing Competition  
Sijo category honorable mention (9<sup>th</sup> grade)*

### STILL AMERICAN

They say go, return to land that I don't know. It makes no sense.  
Born and raised American, so Mexico is still foreign.  
Culture kept, but this is my home. Immigrant, no: Hispanic.

*Roberto Santos, 2013 Sejong Writing Competition  
Sijo category first place (12<sup>th</sup> grade)*

### BACK IN NEW ORLEANS

In the South, Grandpa was born. Paper shack house had a dirt floor.  
As a kid he drank coffee. Milk for them was too expensive.  
They were rich with gospel spirit! In church they sang, and filled their hearts.

*Dante Kirkman, 2016 Sejong Writing Competition  
Sijo category HM & junior essay category second place (8<sup>th</sup> grade)*

## MUSIC COMPETITION JUDGES, VIOLIN & PIANO 2004-2016

Year	Piano Division	Violin Division
2016	Marta Aznavoorian (DePaul University)	Nisanne Howell (Chicago, IL)
	Wael Farouk (Carthage College)	Simon Michal (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Svetlana Belsky (University of Chicago)	Mathias Tacke (Northwestern University)
	Annie Hsiao (Northwestern University)	Kate Carter (Lake Forest College)
	Vakhtang Kodanashvili (DePaul University)	Amy Goldberg (Northwestern Music Academy)
2015	Silvan Negrutiu (Millikin University)	Olga Kaler (DePaul University)
	Rochelle Sennet (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)	MingHuan Xu (Roosevelt University)
	Sung Hoon Mo (Wheaton College Conservatory of Music)	Nelson Lee (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
	Yumy Lee Kim (DePaul University)	Yoorhi Choi (Stellio Trio)
	Mary Rose Norell (Goshen College)	Angelica Lundberg (Fox Valley Symphony)
2014	Amy Briggs (University of Chicago)	So Young Bae (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Haysun Kang (Loyola University)	Jun Kim (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
	Sylvia Wang (Northwestern University)	Joyce Noh (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Luke Norell (Goshen College)	Sang-Kyun Kim (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
	Nolan Pearson (Bienen School of Music)	Angelica Lundberg (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
2013	Elena Abend (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)	So Young Bae (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Marcia Bosits (Northwestern University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Kyomi Sugimura (Indiana University)	Ni Mei (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Yu-Sui Hung (VanderCook College of Music)	Susan Paik (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
	Aaron Stampfl (Benedictin University)	Stacia Spencer (Northwestern University)
2012	Susan Tang (Northeastern Illinois University)	Sue Synnestvedt (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Julian Dawson (Northwestern University)	Sylvia Kim (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Anthony Molinaro (Loyola University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Junichi Sato (DePaul University)	Rodolfo Vieira (Civic Orchestra of Chicago)
	Soyeon Park (Northwestern University)	Jaime Gorgojo (Northeastern Illinois University)
2011	Winston Choi (Roosevelt University)	Ik-Hwan Bae (Indiana University)
	Sung-Mi Im (Indiana University)	Stephanie Jeong (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	George Vatchnadze (DePaul University)	Hermine Gagné (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2010	Kuang-Hao Huang (Roosevelt University)	Karina Canellakis (Midwest Young Artist)
	Ludmila Lazar (Roosevelt University)	Blaise Magniere (Northern Illinois University)
	Daniel Schlosberg (University of Notre Dame)	Janet Sung (DePaul University)
2009	Kenneth Drake (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)	Guillaume Combet (University of Illinois at Chicago)
	Theodore Edel (University of Illinois at Chicago)	Stefan Milenkovich (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
	Meng-Chieh Liu (Curtis Institute & Roosevelt University)	Thomas Wermuth (Western Springs School of Talent Education)
2008	Winston Choi (Roosevelt University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Fredda Hyman (Music In The Loft, Artistic Director)	Ella Ionescu (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	JeongSoo Kim (Northern Illinois University)	Sando Shia (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
		Victor Yampolsky (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)

Year	Piano Division	Violin Division
2007	Aglia Angelova (DePaul University)	Nathan Cole (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Elyse Mach (Northeastern Illinois University)	Gerado Ribeiro (Northwestern University)
	Andrea Swan (Evanston Chamber Ensemble)	Akiko Tarumoto (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2006	Svetlana Belsky (University of Chicago)	Stefan Hersh (Roosevelt University)
	Brenda Huang (Music Institute of Chicago)	Kyung Sun Lee (University of Houston)
	Graham Scott (Roosevelt University)	Robert Waters (DePaul University)
2005	Michael Kim (Lawrence University)	Alison Dalton (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Rev. John Palmer (Benedictine University)	Russell Hershov (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Sylvia Wang (Northwestern University)	Yuan Qing Yu (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2004	Inah Choi (Music Institute of Chicago)	Alan Heatherington (Ars Viva, Music Director)
	James Giles (Northwestern University)	Ilya Kaler (De Paul University)
	Abe Stokman (Music Institute of Chicago)	Joyce Noh (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
		Rami Solomonow (Roosevelt University)

## MUSIC COMPETITION JUDGES, CELLO 2006-2008

Cello Division	
2008	Loren Brown (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Paula Kosower (Northwestern University)
	Gary Stucka (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2007	Loren Brown (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Paula Kosower (Northwestern University)
	Gary Stucka (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2006	Kenneth Olsen (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Brant Taylor (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)

## THANK YOU

We thank the following teachers for their support for our music competition.

Adam Chlastawa	Irene Faliks	Myung-Hee Chung
Addison Teng	Irina Gorin	Nadya Dubikovskiy
Akiko Konishi	Jaime Gorgojo	Nan Zhou
Alan Chow	James Giles	Natalia Cernaianu
Aleksey Madan	James Park	Nina Gordon
Alexander Belavsky	Janice Razaq	Oksana Pidruchna
Alison Wells	Janna Williamson	Olga Kaler
Roland Vamos	Jasmine Lin	Olga Karabinovych
Almita Vamos	Jenny Jung	Pam Bates
Anna Trizonov	Jesus Garcia	Panayis Lyras
Anne Mischakoff Heiles	Jina Lee-Aleman	Regan Eckstein
Betty Haag-Kuhnke	Jo Anne Koltyk	Ria Yang
Brenda Huang	Jonathan Sturm	Richard Trumbo
Brigitte Gray	Jorgen Jensen	Robert Sacks
Carina Voly	Julie D. Fischer	Rolando Freitag
Cathy Kuna	Julie Maura	Roland Vamos
Cheryl Cheon-Ae Lim	Jusun Whang	Samantha George
Chin Mi Kim	Kari Johnson	Sandra Camp
Christina Tio	Karin Addis	Sandra Leibowitz
Cornelius Chiu	Karin Addis	Sang Mee Lee
Cynthia Peterson	Kate Carter	Sara Hoffee
Cyrus Forough	Kate Metcalf	Sarah Park
Daira Skriblis	Kate Nir	Shad Ryan Wenzlaff
Daniel Jung	Katherine K. Lee	Sharon Chang
Daniel Kwok	Kevin Xue	Sharon Chung
David Cunliffe	Klin-Ton	Shirley Harris
David Ledgerwood	Krissy Han	Shu-Ching Chuang
David Yonan	Kurt Sassmannshaus	Sojung Hong
Deborah Masloski	Kyung Sun Lee	Solange Sior
Desirée Ruhstrat	Kyung Woo Shin	Soo Yon Choi
Dr. Janice Razaq	Lana Robotewskij	Soo Young Lee
Drew Lecher	Laurene Parsons	Soyoung Kee
Elaine Felder	Lee H. Kwon	Stacia Spencer
Emi Murata	Ling Lee	Stephanie Owen
Emil del Rosario	Lisa Chodorowski	Su Hyon Kim
Erican Tam-Wang	Logan Skelton	Sue Jacula
Esther Chiu	Lorene Parsons	Sueanne Metz
Eugene Purdue	Lori Lynn Graves	Suhong Jin
Eugenia Wie	Lucinda Ali-Landing	Sung Ha Kim
Gabriel Hwang	Ludmyla Turkalo	Sung Hoon Mo
Gerado Ribeiro	Lydia Balorda	Sungkwan Kim
Gilda Barston	Lyudmila Lakisova	Sungrai Sohn
Grace Yi	Manigridas Motekaitis	Susan Breitner
Haans Jorgen Jensen	Maria Bessmeltseva	Taka Matsunaga
Hae Won Song	Marina Lerner	Tanya Carey
Haeok Bahk	Marko Dreher	Tatyana Stepanova
Hue Jeong Jang	Marta Aznavoorian	Terrance Gray
Hye-Sun Lee	Matthew Hagle	Theodore Edel
Hye Young Kim	Maya Galperin	Tina Pappademos
Hyen Lee	Megan Lauterbach	Valentina Gottlieb
Hye-Sun Lee	Micah Yui	Viktoriya Gordiyenko
Hye-Yoon Jung	Michael Thiele	Violeta Field
Hyungsil Mun	Michelle Gribbon	Yeji Yoon
Inah Chiu	Milana Pavchinskaya	Yuliya Mangutov
Injoo Choi	Mi-Young Kim	Yumy Kim
Inna Spevak	Miki Santibanez	You Shin Kim

## KING SEJONG THE GREAT



King Sejong the Great (1397-1450) was the fourth ruler during the Choson dynasty. His reign was a period of great cultural and intellectual accomplishment in Korea. Believing that the basis of good government was a ruler with broad-ranging knowledge, virtue, and the ability to recognize and utilize men of talent for government service, he governed according to Confucian principles that included the belief that justice and righteousness should characterize the relations between sovereign and subject. He placed great emphasis on education and promoted research in the cultural, economic, and political heritage of Korea, and he sponsored many new developments in the areas of science, philosophy, music, and linguistics. To encourage young scholars to devote their time to study, he established grants and other forms of government support.

King Sejong was not only a patron of the arts and education but also a scholar and inventor himself. Among his many contributions are the development of musical notation for Korean and Chinese music, improvements to the Korean system of movable type, and numerous inventions including the rain gauge, sundial, water clock, astronomical maps, and armillary sphere. As a prolific writer, he wrote many books and songs, including a dictionary on proper pronunciation, a biography on the Buddha, and several collections of poems and songs.

Sejong introduced many progressive ideas and implemented reforms to improve the life of the common people. In times of drought and flood, he established relief programs and opened centers to provide food and shelter. He was also a humanitarian who proclaimed that there must be three trials before a final judgment is reached, and he prohibited brutality in the punishment of criminals, such as flogging.

The most outstanding of his achievements by far was the creation of the Korean alphabet, or hangul. Initially, scholars relied on Chinese for written purposes, using awkward systems that made use of Chinese characters to substitute for a lack of Korean script. With the vast differences between Chinese and Korean vocal patterns and sentence formation, the system left much to be desired, and it was with this in mind that King Sejong commissioned a group of scholars to devise a phonetic writing system that would correctly represent the sounds of spoken Korean and that could be easily learned by all people. The system was completed in 1443.

## CURRENT & UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2018 SEJONG WRITING COMPETITION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2018

*in collaboration with the Korea Institute at Harvard University and the Literature Translation Institute of Korea*

Open to residents of the US and Canada

#### ESSAY CATEGORY SENIOR DIVISION (GRADE 12 & YOUNGER) & ADULT DIVISION (AGE 25 & YOUNGER)

Although it was written in 1994, Yi Mun-yol's *An Appointment with His Brother* is still highly relevant today, particularly with North Korea's almost continuous presence in international news headlines. What does the novella say about the complex issue of reunification and the potential problems it raises for both North and South?

#### ESSAY CATEGORY JUNIOR DIVISION (GRADE 8 AND YOUNGER)

Korea has a rich tradition of storytelling, and its folk tales reflect important aspects of its history and culture. Choose a folktale from our website and respond to one of the three topics provided.

#### SIJO POETRY CATEGORY (GRADE 12 AND YOUNGER)

The sijo is a traditional three-line Korean poetic form organized technically and thematically by line and syllable count. Using the sijo form, write one poem in English on a topic of your choice. For examples of sijo, more information, and teaching materials please visit our website.

**PRIZES:** Winning entries may be published in the *Korea Times Chicago*, the *Korean Quarterly*, or *Azalea: A Journal of Korean Literature and Culture*, published by the Korea Institute at Harvard University.

- Adult essay division: First (\$1,000) Second (\$750) Third (\$500)
- Senior essay division: First (\$500) Second (\$400) Third (\$300)
- Junior essay division: First (\$300) Second (\$200) Third (\$100)
- Sijo poetry category: First (\$500) Second (\$400) Third (\$300)
- Friends of Pacific Rim Award for selected essays and sijo (\$50 each)

**For more information, please visit [www.sejongculturalsociety.org/writing](http://www.sejongculturalsociety.org/writing).**

Contact us at [sejong@sejongculturalsociety.org](mailto:sejong@sejongculturalsociety.org) with any questions  
or visit our website at [www.sejongculturalsociety.org](http://www.sejongculturalsociety.org).



### MUSIC INSPIRED BY KOREAN POETRY SIJO POEMS IN SETTINGS FROM CLASSICAL TO HIP-HOP

**Eligibility:** age 35 and younger

Submit a sijo-themed composition from any genre for any ensemble of two or more musicians.

More information TBA on our website at [www.sejongculturalsociety.org](http://www.sejongculturalsociety.org).