

KAMSA Chronicle

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KAMSA Youth orchestra 15th Annual Concert

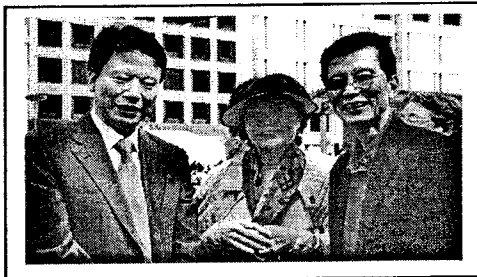
was held on Sat. August 28, 2004, 8pm at Spangenberg Theatre with 600 audiences, filling the summer night with resounding success. The night opened with Franz von Suppe's *Overture to Poet and Peasant* under the direction of Meistro Won Mo Kim.

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KAMSA at KOREAN FESTIVAL

KAMSA participated at Korean Festival held at Union Square in San Francisco on Sat. Sept 18th. Of many distinguished guests, Mr. & Mrs. Consul General S. Jung of the Republic of Korea has visited KAMSA booth and showed interests in KAMSA activities.



San Francisco Mayor Mr. Gavin Newsom also visited and showed special interest in KAMSA Youth Orchestra (2004 KAMSA Youth Orchestra Performance was showing on the screen at the time of his visit.)

KAMSA President Kim with Mr. & Mrs. Consul General S. Jung of republic of Korea KAMSA president Kim with SF mayor Newsom

Annual KAMSA Herbst Theatre West Coast Debut Recital of Pianist Sohn Min Soo, 5:30pm Sunday, Nov. 14, 2004



An Eloquent communicator on the stage, pianist Minsoo Sohn was described as an artist who will create life in music, find listeners, and reward them-*Boston Globe*. Mr. Sohn was awarded second prize in the Cleveland International Piano Competition, third prize and Busoni prize in Busoni Int. Piano Competition

Mr. Sohn has performed with such orchestras as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, National Orchestra of Belgium, the Royal Chamber Orchestra of Wallonia, Real Philharmonia de Galicia, Holland Symfonia, Cleveland Chamber Orchestra, New Hampshire Symphony Orchestra, Tallahassee symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Haydn of Bolzano and Trento, as well as several appearances in Korea.

The Program will be; Bach-Busoni Chaconne, Liszt Grandes Etudes de Paganini, Stravinsky Three Movements from "Petrouchka", Ravel La Valse.

KAMSA Masterclass

KAMSA had its first Masterclass for Violin and Cello on May 22nd and 23rd in New Community Church in Mt.



View. Many students and parents have exclaimed that it was a very interesting and excellent learning experience! For Violin, Joy Back, Tom Cheng, Christine Chon, Jane Park, Jason Park have participated. For Cello, Phillip Jung, Tessa Seymour, Janet Jun have participated.

Prof. Melikian talked about vibrato, importance of correct music reading, ending the phrases, slides, how to practice on certain techniques, how to open the solo part after the orchestra introduction, etc.

Prof. Wilson talked about, again, good and correct reading, especially in rhythm, relaxing and projecting the sound in performance, posture etc.

We'd Like to Share... About Master Class

Jane Park says; *It was good to get another teacher' perspective and comments. He worked on some of the things more in depth than I had and that was good. It was also nice to get a fresh view on how I play.*

Tessa Seymour's mother Kirsten says, " *Oh, She absolutely loved it! She said Sandy is an incredible person and is eager to do again. She'd like to join again if and when KAMSA is holding Sandy's Masterclass again.*

Tessa Isabella Seymour -Having participated in Cello Master Class

Working with Sandy Wilson of the Alexander String Quartet was great opportunity that I was very lucky to have. Sandy made me feel so comfortable that I felt like I had met him before. After the Master class, I was so thrilled that I said to my Mom "*When can I do it again?*"



Starting her cello study at age six and by age seven, she received Command Performances of CMEA. She played in Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestra by age eight as Principal Cellist. She has toured China and Performed at the Beijing Conservatory of Music. She is currently performing in Townsend Opera Player and Modesto Performing Arts. She will be performing Boccherini Cello Concerto as the featured soloist with the Stockton Chamber Ensemble. Tessa has won many awards, including the State VOCE competition in Los Angeles. Tessa aspires to be a concert cellist and wants to thank everyone for all the opportunities that have come her way.

Parent's Voice ---Jaeson Chon (Christine Chon's Father)

I attended KAMSA Masterclass in which my daughter Christine played violin. I was very impressed with the class; the teacher, and the whole program. I really appreciate that KAMSA board provided this class for the students. I was surprised that not many students participated, but of course, it is summer time and students are busy with many other things. It was a very precious learning experience for both the performers and the fellow students and their parents. Even when performers made mistakes, it gave the audience the joy of laughing. I hope many students will join Masterclass next season. It is a great opportunity provided by many of our KAMSA community.

I encourage the students to attend Masterclass because they will benefit from different approaches to music presentation and practice. They will also be exposed to a variety of music compositions, as well as providing opportunities for solo performances. Of course, joining this class will require students to practice more. But, practice makes Perfect. Or, as we are fond of saying, "No pain, no gain." That is why I am writing this article. This is to encourage our children with pride and respect, and also to share my experience with my KAMSA family friends.

As a father, I am filled with pride and blessings as I watch my daughter perform. My son also has been playing violin, piano and guitar. I am so proud of both my children; I am proud of the way they have practiced so hard to achieve excellence on violin. My heart swells with pride and wonder as I sit in rehearsal and listen to the fruit of so much practice, It is my dream that someday I will sit in Carnegie Hall watching Christine play. The Masterclass is a very good step on her path to fulfilling this dream. Thank you KAMSA (good name!) for providing this class.

—Jaeson Chon

About the Orchestra...

Long and winding Road (hard working days)~

Bryan Hwang (Viola)

This first year of joining KAMSA Youth Symphony proved to be one of the most enjoyable events I had attended. Even though we had tiring everyday rehearsal for one week, we had a stellar performance and I really enjoyed playing with all other students. The piece that we played, the new people I met, and the sectionals were all of factors that made my week with KAMSA a great experience.



Participating in the sectionals was exciting; we made a large amount of progress during the various sessions, I enjoyed playing all the pieces, especially Beethoven, even though some part of the pieces were a little tough to play together, by practicing by ourselves as a section gave us a chance to hear each other so that we would communicate

better during the performance. As the week progressed, I was able to get to know the people more from my section and others as well, which I really enjoyed. The rehearsals were sometimes frustrating and tiring to go through, especially with school going on at the same time. Even though there were some challenges and struggles on the way, the long and hard working days of practicing repeatedly had made our performance awesome and I was very proud of all the work we'd done that week.

All in all, my experience at KAMSA Youth Symphony resulted in a very enjoyable one. Because I had registered late, I had to sit in the back of the section, which I was not too thrilled about. However, surprisingly, this did not hinder or affect my playing. I found myself not paying much attention about where I sat: just coming to this event and playing was a fun experience for me and I hope to come back next year!

---Bryan is currently a junior at Palo Alto High School. Born in Seoul, Korea, came to US at age six and lived in Columbus, Ohio until he moved to California during his fifth grade. He enjoys playing basketball, football, ultimate Frisbee and plays badminton for the school team. Bryan is pursuing his career in the field of medicine, especially, in orthopedic surgery. ---

In spite of sore lips and cuts in my mouth...

Walter Yoon (Trombone)

Being able to take part of KAMSA this year was a great opportunity to improve my skills on trombone with a big group of very talented friends. Catching up to play with the conductor's standards was a huge deal to me. Since it was my first year playing with an orchestra, I felt nervous. I was afraid that the conductor would pick on me. Due to the shortage of time for my brother and me (we went to Korea and came back about 3 weeks before the first rehearsal), we practiced as if a monster was going to eat us if we did not practice. After we finished practicing for the day, our lips would be sore and we would have many cuts in our mouths (we had braces). I was wondering whether or not this would all pay off. The day of the first rehearsal came and I was incredibly nervous. I was wondering whether I should skip the whole KAMSA. Unfortunately, I could not, because I was bound to a promise to one of the members of the board, Mrs. Mela Hwang. I promised I would practice hard. When I went into the practice hall, everyone seemed to know each other, and they were quite relaxed. We started rehearsing and I had a hard time finding

confidence in myself. As the days went on, with the help from Jonathan (a senior trombone player), I started improving little by little and I started finding confidence in myself. I started to believe I was ready for the concert. The concert day went by like a blur to me, but I still remember several things. I remember sweating in the intense heat of the concert hall and practicing all the songs one last time. I remember hitting the notes solidly, gaining more confidence, and even enjoying playing the music. I remember missing a couple of notes and was hoping that nobody noticed. I remember the incredibly confusing ending (I could not tell if we were done or not. The conductor went on and off the stage about ten times). I remember the long applause from the audience.

Looking back, in spite of the sore lips, cuts in my mouth, nervousness, and the incredibly long practice, I have to say I felt really good being a part of KAMSA orchestra. Believe it or not, I am looking forward to the next concert already. Besides, people tell me that we all look pretty good in our suits and ties.

Parent's Voice—Mr. Clay Back

"Like other students, My daughter Joy has practiced a lot this week. It is her first Orchestra experience and performing such piece as Beethoven's 5th symphony... I am very happy and proud."

Mr. Back along with many other parents have expressed their concern for preventing such schedule delay, as was the first rehearsal day this year due to the flight delay of the conductor.

Continued from page 1 of KAMSA Youth Orchestra...

This season's featured soloists were Christine Choi on *Saint-Saens Violin Concerto* and Jordan Han on *Dvorak's Cello Concerto*. Two Korean Songs arranged for Orchestra were featured; *Heunhwaga* by Prof. Chanhae Lee of Yonsei University and *On the Taehwa River* by Prof. Geonyong Lee of the Korean National University of Art. Second half of the concert was *Beethoven's Symphony No.5 in c minor op.67*. This very well known piece, always wonderful to listen to and perform, one of the master composition of Beethoven, played by our young musician left indescribable impression to all audience. As encore the orchestra played *Gohyang eui Bom*.

Congratulation!

2004 Korean-American Young Musician scholarship recipients
Taemin Oh, Jason Park, June Sung Lee, Sharon Im, Albert Kim, Christine Chang, Jordan Han, Howard yang, Jonathan Lee

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