2016 KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra Performance

On August 27, 2016, the KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra celebrated KAMSA’s 27th anniversary under the direction of Maestro Leo Eylar at the Santa Clara University Mayer Theater. Soloist Jason Moon played Sibelius’ Violin Concerto in D minor (Op. 47), and soloist Kevin Sung played Brahms’ Violin Concerto in D major (Op. 77). Maestro Eylar also led the orchestra through Dvorak’s The Noon Witch (Op. 108), and the Elgar’s Enigma Variations (Op. 36). Everyone enjoyed an evening of wonderful music together.
The 2017 KAMSA Competition was held on January 14, 2017 to showcase the talent of our young musicians, with Junior and Senior categories for Violin, Viola, Cello and Ensembles. The judges (Leo Eylar and Andrew Luchansky) were very impressed by the superb level of playing by the contestants. The competition culminated in the Winner’s Recital held on January 21, 2017. We congratulate the winners as follows:

Senior Violin: Eunha Kim (1st), Arin Chang (co-2nd), Yoonsoo Cha (co-2nd), Melody Chen (3rd)
Senior Viola: Shinwho Kwun (co-1st), Rhea Park (co-1st)
Senior Cello: Ian Kim (co-1st), Woojin Nam (co-1st), Sarah Chong (co-2nd), Brian Jeong (co-2nd), Woongchan Lee (co-3rd), Thomas Lim (co-3rd), Jaime An (HM), Sonya Lee (HM)
Senior Ensemble: Narratio Cello Quartet (Ian Kim, Jaime An, Zoe Lin, William Gu) (1st), Spiritus Quintet (Miles Kang, Monica Jeon, Kevin Oh, Jin Yu, Nicholas Lee) (2nd)
Junior Violin: Justin Lee (1st)
Junior Viola: Je-Woo Im (1st), Claire Lee (2nd), Sarah Ryu (3rd)
Junior Cello: Simon Minami (1st), Wilson Chen (2nd), Tiffanie Huang (3rd)
Junior Ensemble: Tritonix (Hannah Schendel, Nicole Kim, Eunice Cho) (1st)
Elementary Violin: Rubi Lee (1st), Claire Choi (2nd)
Elementary Cello: Elliott Kim (1st), Hamin Park (2nd)

HM = Honorable Mention
KAMSA President

We welcome the return of Hyo Won Choi to the position of KAMSA president. She had previously served for many years and was instrumental to the success of KAMSA and she will now lead the organization as we approach our 30th anniversary. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to outgoing president Boohyun Lee who led KAMSA these past few years, and look forward to seeing her among our concert audience in the years to come.

Maestro Leo Eylar

The 28th KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra will once again be directed by Maestro Leo Eylar.

Conductor-Composer Leo Eylar, born in Los Angeles in 1958, grew up in a musical family. He began studying violin at the age of nine and was accepted into the private studios of both Jascha Heifitz and Ruggiero Ricci. His early teachers included Virginia Baker, Joachim Chassman and Eudice Shapiro. Eylar attended Northwestern University and the University of Southern California, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree Summa cum Laude. His violin teachers included Glenn Dicterow, currently Concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, and Samuel Magad, Concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony. In 1980 Eylar joined the Seattle Symphony and in 1982 he was awarded an International Rotary Foundation Grant to study conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria. After studies there with Otmar Suitner, he returned to the U.S. and completed his Master's Degree in conducting at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, simultaneously holding the position of Co-Concertmaster of the San Jose Symphony from 1984-89.

Maestro Eylar was on the faculty of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music from 1985-88. He is currently a professor and conductor at California State University Sacramento, a position he has held since 1988. Since 1990 he has been Conductor and Music Director of the California Youth Symphony. Under his masterful and spirited direction the orchestra soon enhanced its reputation as one of the finest youth orchestras in the world and won first prize in the International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria, in July 1994. Over the course of his tenure, the orchestra has performed to great critical acclaim across four continents. He has also guest-conducted extensively throughout Europe and Asia, including prestigious music festivals in Japan, Austria, France, and Australia. Eylar has also been a frequent guest conductor of the San Jose Symphony. With a repertoire of over 300 symphonic works conducted, as well as numerous operas, Eylar brings a vast range of expertise and depth to his conducting.

Maestro Eylar is also a composer of international stature. For information on his numerous compositions, please visit the following web site: http://www.csus.edu/music/faculty/eylar.html

Schedule: Concert Aug 26, 2017

2017 KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra Auditions

The 28th KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra performance will be on Saturday, August 26, 2017. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2017. Application deadline is April 4, 2017. For the application, requirements, and location, please go to the KAMSA web site: www.kamsa.org
2017 Korean-American Young Musician Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to this year’s KAMSA Scholarship recipients:

Cuebeom Choi, Jiho Choi, Joyce Jang, Diane Jo, Dong Hui Kim, Nayoon Kim, Youngmin Kim, Jason Moon, Edward Oh, Hannah Park, Elliot Ryu, Yura Seo, Chaeyeon Song, and Dokyong Yun.

We wish them the best on their continuing musical journey.

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