

Kenneth Andrews, Music Director

Presents

16TH ANNUAL JAMES & KATHERINE ANDREWS YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

2022

Saturday, February 12th 10 a.m. via Zoom

About the Competition

The James and Katherine Andrews Young Artist Competition was established in 2007 for talented high school students in Northern New York. James and Katherine Andrews were great supporters of various activities for young people and were especially fond of those involving music. Upon the death of James, his wife Katherine and the family decided to have all donations in his name used to establish this event. The competition is one of the few of its kind in the United States that offers both a cash prize as well as the opportunity to solo with a professional symphony orchestra.

The mission of this competition is to inspire the young musicians of this region to reach their highest level of artistry.

We are grateful, once again, to be able to offer this competition via zoom. Our First Place winner will be offered an opportunity to perform as a soloist on April 2nd in Potsdam and April 3rd in Watertown. First Place winner will also receive \$500 cash prize. Second and Third Place winners will receive \$300 and \$150 respectively. All prize monies will be mailed to the winners.

Program

Piano Concerto No. 17 in G Major, K.453 (1784)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

I. Allegro

Victoria Huffman, piano John Spradling, piano (orchestral reduction)

Concerto for Trombone (1924)

Launy Grøndahl (1886 - 1960)

I. Moderato assai ma molto maestoso

II. Quasi una Leggenda: Andante, grave

Sean Alvaro, trombone Josh Corcoran, piano (orchestral reduction)

Piano Concerto No. 5 in F Minor, BWV 1056 (1738)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

I. Allegro

II. Adagio

III. Presto

Soren Alexander Krantz, piano Sabine Krantz, piano (orchestral reduction)

About the Young Artists

Sean Alvaro, 17, is a Junior at West Genesee High School. He has been playing the trombone since the 4th grade and currently studies with Dave Diggennaro of Syracuse. Sean has auditioned for and been accepted into many All-County festivals. He is part of his school's Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Chorale and school musical productions and is currently the Drum Major for the marching band. Sean was the winner of the 2020 Outstanding Underclass Brass Award and recently won Honorable Mention in the CNYAMT instrumental competition. In his free time, he enjoys playing basketball, fishing, golf, and watching sports. Sean has been supported by his parents who are both music educators and by several other amazing music teachers who have helped him work toward his goals. Sean is the son of Anthony and Maureen Alvaro, Syracuse.

Victoria Huffman, 16, is a junior at Indian River High School and studies piano under John Spradling. She has won second place in both the CNYAMT Advanced Piano Competition and James and Katherine Andrews Young Artists Competition. Victoria enjoys playing bass guitar and performing in her school's drama club, chorus, and show choir. She is a member of various school clubs and organizations, and holds the positions of Junior Class Vice President, Student Council Vice President, and National Honor Society Vice President. In her free time, Victoria likes to listen to music and watch movies with her family. Victoria is the daughter of James and Lydia Huffman, Theresa.

Soren Krantz, 16, grew up in a household where his three older siblings all play piano. He started taking lessons at the age of 5 with his mother who is a piano teacher. At age 14, he began studying with his current teacher, John Spradling of Syracuse. Soren has been homeschooled since kindergarten and is now attending Onondaga Community College. When he isn't playing piano (mostly fortissimo), he greatly enjoys playing basketball and chess. He also recently got a pull-up bar which occupies much of his time. The number of strings he has broken on the piano is rivaled only by his older brother who he intends to surpass in this stat. Soren is the son of Alex & Sabine Krantz, Syracuse.

About the Judges

Kenneth Andrews, Music Director, conductor and founder of The Orchestra of Northern New York, has been music director or guest conductor for various professional orchestras and festivals in the US and Italy. A frequent guest conductor for youth and all-state orchestras in the US and Canada, he served as Music Director for the Ohio University and Crane Symphony Orchestras, Syracuse Symphony Youth and Crane Youth Music Orchestras, was a member of the Interlochen Summer Conducting staff and conducted the NY ALL-STATE Orchestra at Eastman. Former Associate Principal Flute with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, he has been Principal or Guest Principal with several orchestras and festivals, a first-prize winner at the Pittsburgh International Wind Competition, Artist-in-Residence at the Bay View Music Festival and Resident Artist at the Banff Centre for the Arts. As a recitalist, soloist, chamber musician, competition judge and clinician, he has performed throughout the United States, Canada and Europe and been featured on public radio and television. A SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus from the Crane School of Music, he taught flute and chamber music, directed the Contemporary Music Ensemble, and performed with the Potsdam Baroque Chamber Players and Woodwind Quintet. He currently performs with Adirondack Pro Musica. Awards include the President's Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Endeavors, SUNY Chancellor's Awards in both Excellence in Teaching and Research/Scholarship, NYS United University Profession's Excellence Award for Outstanding Professional Performance and Community Service as well as the St. Lawrence University North Country Citation.

Dr. Christopher Hernacki, a native of Los Angeles, is an international award winning freelance musician/educator and has served as the bass trombonist of the San Antonio Symphony, the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Phoenix Symphony, and Symphony Silicon Valley. He has also performed with such notable groups as the San Francisco Symphony, the Bay Brass, the Utah Symphony, the Finnish National Opera and Ballet, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the Detroit Jazz Festival Orchestra, among many others. He currently serves as the principal trombone of the Orchestra of Northern New York and bass trombone in the Northern Symphonic Winds. As an educator, Dr. Hernacki is on the faculty of the Crane School of Music at the State University of New York at Potsdam, as the Visiting Assistant Professor of Trombone. There, he leads a dynamic studio of avid trombone performers, future educators, and business-minded individuals, who grow and develop to become 21st Century musicians and advocates for the arts in their communities. Dr. Hernacki also serves on the faculty at Idyllwild Arts as a summer low brass instructor — a position he has held since 2012. Prior to his appointment at SUNY Potsdam in 2020, he held positions at Eastern Michigan University, as a lecturer in music education, and the New World School of the Arts, as the low brass instructor. In 2018, Dr. Hernacki co-founded and served as the artistic director and conductor

of the Michigan Youth Trombone Ensemble, an Ann Arbor-based trombone ensemble for high school students. A huge nerd of music, video games, and video game music, Dr. Hernacki writes, performs, and records various arrangements of classic game music, some of which can be viewed on his YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/christoflur. An advocate for the arts, Dr. Hernacki strives to be an agent of change, helping performers realize their utmost potential, connecting audiences of musicians and non-musicians alike, and elevating the music field as a whole so that it will always be a place to thrive for generations to come.

Young-Ah Tak has been praised for her "thrilling blend of fury and finesse" (San Antonio Express-News) and her "winning combination of passion, imagination, and integrity" (New York Concert Review). As a pianist, she enjoys a remarkable career that has taken her throughout the United States, Canada, Austria, Germany, Italy, Korea, and Japan. Dr. Tak made her New York City debut at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Alice Tully Hall with the Juilliard Orchestra. She has since appeared with numerous orchestras including the Roanoke, Lansing, North Arkansas, Orchestra of Northern New York, Venice, Imperial, Filharmonia Pomorska (Poland), Oltenia Philharmonic (Romania). In her native South Korea, she has appeared with the Korean Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Seongnam, Busan, and Ulsan Philharmonic Orchestras. Other notable performances by Dr. Tak have taken place at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Kimmel Center's Perelman Theater in Philadelphia, Jordan Hall in Boston, Columbia University, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Ravinia Festival and Music@Menlo. She has also performed in Korea at major concert halls such as Seoul Arts Center, and at international music festivals in Busan, Seoul and Tongyeong. Her performances have been broadcast on WOXR (NYC), WRTI (Philadelphia), WMFT and LOOP (Chicago), WBJC (Baltimore), WCLV (Cleveland), CKWR (Ontario), and Korea's KBS and Arte TV. Active as a chamber musician, Young-Ah Tak has collaborated with the late violinist Robert Mann, cellist Bonnie Hampton, the Ma'alot Quintet, and members of The Florestan Trio. Dr. Tak received her training from The Juilliard School, New England Conservatory and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University where she earned her doctorate degree under the tutelage of the legendary pianist Leon Fleisher. She currently serves as an Associate Professor of Piano and Head of the Piano Area at the Crane School of Music of the State University of New York at Potsdam. She is the Founding Artistic Director of the Crane International Piano Festival. Young-Ah Tak's debut recording of Judith Zaimont's Wizards - Three Magic | Masters was released by Albany Records to critical acclaim. Her recordings are also available from MSR Classics and on Steinway's Spirio. Dr. Tak's CD recording of works by Beethoven was released on the Steinway & Sons Label in November 2019 as part of the essential series of Steinway Classics. Dr. Tak is a Steinway Artist. [www.youngahtak.com]

Thank You!

A special thank you to Kevin Angstadt, ONNY's Website and Technology Director, for his expertise, time and generosity in helping to create today's presentation which has allowed us to use Zoom technology for the competitors and judges.

Nancy Peschko, Competition Coordinator