



Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra

William Whitson founder



Benjamin Simon music director

Kris Yenney director of SuperStrings and Preparatory Orchestras

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 43rd SEASON FIRST CONCERT
A PROGRAM OF ROMANTIC AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
October 18 Concert Features Music from Russia and
PACO Concerto Competition Winner: PACO principal cellist Aki Toyoshima**

DATE & TIME: Saturday, October 18, 8:00 p.m.
 PLACE: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University

PROGRAM: Tchaikovsky's second string quartet, Andante
 Anton Arensky's " Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky"
 Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No.1

TICKETS: \$15 adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 students
 CONTACT: (650) 856-3848
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<http://www.pacomusic.org>

PALO ALTO, Calif., September 9 – The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will perform their first concert of the 2008-09 season on Saturday, October 18. The concert will feature music from Russia and PACO concerto competition winner.

Three great Russian works will be featured on the concert. First, a lovely arrangement of the "Andante" movement from Tchaikovsky's second string quartet, followed by Anton Arensky's brilliant and virtuosic "Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky". Moving into the 20th century, this program features Shostakovich's powerful Cello Concerto No. 1, written in 1959, and performed by PACO's own principal cellist, Aki Toyoshima. Chamber music by PACO ensembles will also be featured on this program.

The concert, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at 8:00 p.m. at Dinkelspiel Auditorium on the Stanford University campus.

About the Soloist

Aki Toyoshima, principal cellist of the Senior Orchestra, started playing the cello at age nine. While he originally began on the violin at four, he took interest in and switched to the piano and cello, the latter which he has been studying with Roger Emanuels. In 2001, he joined PACO. Since then, he has soloed with the Preparatory Orchestra in 2004, and was the winner of the 2007 PACO Concerto Competition. He

also participated in the 2005 Zephyr Chamber Music Course and Festival in Italy. His quartet plays at various gigs throughout the Bay Area, and is available for booking through the PACO office.

Aki is currently a senior at Monta Vista High School, and was a founding member of the Monta Vista Golf Club. He also volunteers as a teaching assistant at San-Iku Gakuin Japanese School, from where he graduated in 2007. Besides music, he enjoys golf, video games, and hanging out with friends.

About PACO

Founded in 1966 by William Whitson, who served as the orchestra's music director for 36 years, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive audition. As being one of the few youth orchestras in the nation devoted exclusively to chamber music, PACO performs adventurous repertoires, features first class soloists, tours internationally and accomplishes frequent recordings. Appointed music director in 2002, violist Benjamin Simon has brought with him a new level of energy and creativity in directing PACO programs, while continuing its tradition of excellence in performance. For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit <http://www.pacomusic.org>.

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Public Service Announcement

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