



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 'S 'SINFONIA' SEASON FINAL CONCERT

June 7 Concert Features Winners of PACO's Annual Concerto Competition

DATE & TIME: Sunday, June 7, 2009, 3:00 p.m.
 PLACE: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University

PROGRAM: Sarasate Navarra for two violins
 Saint-Saens Cello Concerto
 Vivaldi Chaconne
 Kreisler Praeludium and Allegro
 Haydn Symphony No. 102 in B-flat major

TICKETS: \$10/general, \$5/ senior and student
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<http://www.pacomusic.org>

PALO ALTO, Calif., April 30, 2009 – PACO's Sinfonia will perform their final concert of the 2008-09 season on Sunday, June 7. The program will feature five winners of PACO's annual concerto competition: PACO's 'Debut' violinist Angela The, PACO's 'Debut' violinist Max Woo, PACO's 'Sinfonia' violinist Leonard Woo, PACO violinist Nicole Chen and PACO's 'Sinfonia' cellist Randy Chen.

Five extremely talented young musicians will perform a wide range of solo works: Sarasate Navarra for two violins, Vivaldi Chaconne, Kreisler Praeludium and Allegro, and the Saint-Saens Cello Concerto No. 1. Also on the program will be Franz Josef Haydn's delightful Symphony No. 102 in B-flat major performed by the talented young musicians who comprise the Sinfonia Ensemble, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra's second-highest level. The concert, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at 3:00 p.m. at Dinkelspiel Auditorium on the Stanford University campus.

About the Soloists

Angela The, 11, is a violin student of Jenny Rudin. She joined PACO in 2006 and has since performed solo and in group with Ben Simon and PACO's Sinfonia orchestra. Angela has also been fortunate to take the stage with the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra in their excellent Family Concert series, and with members of PACO at the Bach and Handel Celebration concerts. She has received honorable mention in competitions at the Strings International Music Festival in Philadelphia, and was chosen to participate in a master class with

David Kim. Angela is a sixth grader at Carden Day School of San Jose, and also studies piano with Lena Grozman. Her favourite pastimes are reading and hanging with friends. She is very grateful to all her music friends, coaches and teachers for all their loving support.

Nicole Chen, 15, is currently a sophomore at Mountain View High School. She has been playing the violin since she was 4 years old and currently studies with Robin Sharp. Her previous teachers include Jenny Rudin, Arthur Mikhailov, Michiko Lin, and Susan Young. Prior to joining PACO in 2005, she was a member of the California Youth Symphony as well as the Peninsula Youth Orchestra. This past summer, Nicole attended the California Summer Music Festival in Pebble Beach, CA. In February, Nicole's chamber ensemble, the Fantasea, won the MTAC Santa Clara Branch Chamber Music Competition. In April, the group competed in the State competition in Orange County. Nicole is a weekly maternity ward volunteer at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and also enjoys coaching various PACO ensembles. Additionally, Nicole likes playing tennis and has been a member of the Mountain View High Girl's Varsity Tennis Team since freshmen year. In her free time, Nicole enjoys running, photography, watching T.V. and movies, and hanging out with friends.

Randy Chen started playing piano and violin at the age of four and began his cello lessons at the age of seven. Randy has been playing cello ever since. Randy is currently studies with Kyeong Hwa Kim. Other than participating in PACO, he also plays in the California Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. He is in 8th grade at Lawson Middle School. Randy was the principal cellist in the school orchestra. During his free time, he enjoys parties, watching T.V/Movies, playing games, football, and sleeping.

Max and Leonard Woo were born in the Bay Area and have lived most of their lives in Palo Alto. Urged on at an early age, they grew up playing the violin. As siblings, they always practiced together, and inevitably, there was almost always a duet for them to practice. Unrestricted to just classical music, they enjoy modern music as well. Influenced by this wide variety of music styles, Max and Leonard often find themselves devoting more time to improvising together than working on their individual pieces. They both started to join PACO at the Superstrings level and have stayed with PACO ever since. Max is 13 and Leonard has just turned 16.

About PACO

Founded in 1966, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented musicians chosen by competitive auditions. The young musicians typically enter the PACO organization at the "Superstrings" level, moving up through the Preparatory, Debut, Sinfonia and Senior PACO orchestras. One of the few youth orchestras in the nation devoted exclusively to chamber music, PACO has participated in many international music festivals and has toured worldwide by special invitation. PACO has made 16 concert recordings. For more information, visit our website www.pacomusic.org or call (650) 856-3848.

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Public Service Announcement

PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 'S 'SINFONIA' SEASON FINAL CONCERT JUNE 7

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