

## WINNERS OF PACO 2009 CONCERTO COMPETITION BIOGRAPHY



**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 masterclass 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.



Born in the Bay Area, **Max and Leonard Woo** 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 in PACO with the Superstrings ensemble and have stayed with the orchestra ever since. Max is 13 and Leonard has just turned 16.