



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 MAY 13 'SINFONIA' CONCERT
TO SHOWCASE STUDENT CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Program Will Include Works of Beethoven, Haydn, Saint-Saëns, de Bériot

DATE: Saturday, May 13
 TIME: 8:00 p.m.
 PLACE: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto
 PROGRAM: Violin Concerto No. 9 in A Minor, Op. 104, Charles-Auguste de Bériot
 Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Major, Franz Joseph Haydn
 Havanaise, Op. 83, Camille Saint-Saëns
 Romance in G, Ludwig van Beethoven
 Symphony No. 100 in G Major ("Military"), Franz Joseph Haydn
 TICKETS: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$5 students
 FOR INFO: (650) 856-3848
info@pacomusic.org
<http://www.pacomusic.org>

PALO ALTO, Calif., April 3, 2006 – Winners of the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra's 2005 student concerto performance competition will be the four featured soloists at the May 13 concert by the group's Sinfonia section.

Sinfonia will perform Haydn's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Major and Symphony No. 100 in G Major, Beethoven's Romance in G, Saint-Saëns' Havanaise, and de Bériot's Violin Concerto No. 9 in A Minor.

The concert, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at 8:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto.

The four soloists, ranging in age from 10 to 14, were the winners of PACO's fourth annual concerto competition, held in December 2005. Open to members of all five levels of PACO orchestras, the competition requires that each student perform a full orchestral piece on the instrument or his choice.

"It has become an annual PACO tradition that the concerto competition winners be the soloists at our spring Sinfonia concert," Simon said. "This year's concert will feature four student violinists: fifth-grader Stephen Kim on de Bériot's exciting Violin Concerto No. 9 in A Minor, eighth-grader Tom Yaron on Haydn's masterful second Violin Concerto in G Major, ninth-grader Emily Hou on Saint-Saëns' virtuosic homage to Cuba – the popular Havanaise – and eighth-grader Timothy Kim on Beethoven's lovely

Romance in G. Capping the program will be Haydn's Symphony No. 100, a witty and wonderful composition subtitled 'Military' because it incorporates elements of a regimental marching band."

About the Soloists

Stephen Kim, 10, has studied violin since the age of three and is currently in the pre-college division of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He joined PACO's SuperStrings group in 2004, and a year later was promoted to the Debut Orchestra. In his spare time Stephen composes music, performs on a volunteer basis at the Sunnyvale Senior Center and Stanford Hospital, and at his school, Regnart Elementary in Cupertino, is a math tutor and member of the student council.

Tom Yaron, 13, is an eighth grader at Blach Intermediate School in Los Altos. Currently in his second year in PACO's Debut Orchestra, he is also a member of the Baroque Sinfonietta. Tom likes to play computer games, fly remote-controlled aircraft and travel.

Emily Hou, 14, a San Mateo High School freshman, began playing piano at age five and violin at seven. Currently in her third year with PACO, she is co-concertmaster for the Sinfonia orchestra. She is also concertmaster for the San Mateo-Foster City school district. Emily has won first place awards in both the violin and piano divisions of the Crestmont Scholarship competition. She is a member of her school's cross-country and swimming teams, and is secretary of her class council.

Timothy Kim, 14, an eighth grader at J.L.S. Middle School in Palo Alto, started playing violin at the age of six and joined PACO Sinfonia in 2005. He won second place in Countdown, the Chapter MathCounts competition, in 2005, and enjoys playing tennis.

About PACO

Founded in 1966, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive auditions. One of the few youth orchestras in the nation devoted exclusively to chamber music, PACO has participated in many international music festivals, has toured worldwide by special invitation, and has made 15 concert recordings. PACO was founded by William Whitson, who served as the orchestra's music director for 36 years, until his death in August 2001. PACO Sinfonia, formerly known as Junior PACO, is the second most senior of the five levels of orchestra within PACO.

For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit <http://www.pacomusic.org>.

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Public Service Announcement

PACO'S 'SINFONIA' CHAMBER ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM FEB. 13

PALO ALTO, Calif., April 3, 2006 – Four winners of the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra's 2005 student concerto performance competition will be the featured soloists at the May 13 concert by the PACO Sinfonia Orchestra. On the program are Haydn's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Major and Symphony No. 100 in G Major, Beethoven's Romance in G, Saint-Saëns' Havanaise, and de Bériot's Violin Concerto No. 9 in A Minor. Soloists Stephen Kim, Tom Yaron, Emily Hou and Timothy Kim are student musicians ranging in age from 10 to 14. The concert, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at 8:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. The 40-year-old Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive audition. For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit www.pacomusic.org.

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