

*ASTA/NJ SOLO STRING COMPETITION
at Kean University 2009*



Winner's Biographies

As the winner of the concerto competition at the JCC Thurnauer School of Music **CHASE PARK** performed the 1st movement of Saint Saen's Cello Concerto in A minor with the Thurnauer Symphony Orchestra in June of 2008.

Chase won first place in the Goldblatt String Competition for the junior division spring of 2009 and also has won first place in the NY Music Competition for cello and performed at the winner's recital at the Weill Recital Hall spring of 2009.

This year his piano trio won the JCC Thurnauer School of Music concerto competition and will be performing Beethoven's Triple Concerto with their orchestra in June 2010. His piano trio won the AADGT International Young Musicians Competition and will be performing at the Weill Recital Hall on April 18 at 6 pm. He has recently been accepted to attend Itzhak Perlman's Summer Music Program.

Chase is also currently preparing for his first solo cello recital at his music school, JCC Thurnauer School of Music on April 11th at 12:30. His teacher is Madeleine Golz.

ALBERT CAO started playing violin with his grandfather at age five as simply a hobby, and later began his study with Ms. Di Wu. Under Ms. Wu, Albert started his first public performance at age six, and he was part of the Manalapan Battleground Orchestra at age seven.

Albert has participated and won prizes in the New Jersey Music Teachers Association competition, Young Chinese American Artist Violin Competition, and the Crescendo International Music Competition. In 2007 at age eleven, Albert auditioned for the Juilliard Pre-College program and was accepted as one of six violin students that year.

Albert currently studies violin with Ms. Ann Setzer at the Juilliard School. He lives in Howell, NJ, and attends Howell Memorial Middle School.

JENNIFER YUNYOUNG CHOI, a 15-year old cellist from New Jersey, began her cello studies at age 5. She was admitted into Juilliard's Pre-College Division in 2003 at the age of 8. Currently, she studies with Bonnie Hampton at the Pre-College Division.

Jennifer is a prizewinner of the JCC Competition, the New York Competition and the ASTA Competition. She has performed in many halls, such as the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. She has also given many solo performances in Paul and Morse Recital Halls at Juilliard. As a member of orchestras and chamber groups, she has performed at Alice Tully Hall, Paul Hall, Columbia University's Miller Theatre and the Peter Jay Sharp Theatre.

Ms. Choi has served as principal cellist of the Juilliard Pre-College Symphony and Pre-College Chamber Orchestra numerous times. Her previous teachers include Uk-Jin Yang, Jerome Carrington Clara Minhye Kim and the late David Soyer. Jennifer has performed in many master classes for many cellists, including Irene Sharp. Ms. Choi has attended the Meadowmount School of Music in 2005, and this past summer in 2009 with Hans Jorgen Jensen.

LINDY TSAI, 17, has been studying cello for twelve years with Madeleine Golz at the JCC Thurnauer School of Music and the Manhattan School of Music Pre-college. Through the years, Lindy has been selected to perform in master classes with Irene Sharp, Bruce Adolphe, Timothy Eddy, Carter Brey, Rafael Figueroa, Colin Carr, Jian Wang, Paul Tobias, and most recently, Steven Isserlis.

At the Manhattan School, Lindy is a member of the philharmonic orchestra, and in December of 2008, she won the Pre-college's concerto competition and performed the third and fourth movements of Edward Elgar's cello concerto in E minor with MSM's philharmonic orchestra. Lindy has attended many summer programs including the the ARIA International Music Academy. Through these festivals, she's had the opportunity to perform in Steinway Hall and was heard on WQXR radio's Young Artists Showcase.

Lindy's many achievements include winning first place in: the Junior A and Junior B Divisions of the American String Teachers Association of New Jersey Solo Competition, the Bergen Youth Orchestra Young Artists Concerto Competition, and the American Music Teachers League Scholarship Awards Competition where she got to perform in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall.

Lindy has also received the Regina Rubinof Award of the American Music Teachers League Scholarship Awards Competition, scholarships from the Children's Foundation for the Arts, and a semi-finalist title from the Queen's Symphony Orchestra Young Soloist Competition. She was also invited to play Joseph Haydn's cello concerto in C major with the Adelphi Chamber Orchestra in 2009. Lindy is a junior at the Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan where she is principal cellist of the string ensemble and a member of the Tri-M Music Honors Society.

JOO YUN LEE graduated from the Yonsei University with a BM in Violin Performance and is currently taking a year off from the Manhattan School of Music Masters Program due to a hand injury. Ms. Lee has won many awards such as 1st prize in the National Music Competition held

by Yewon Arts University and the Dajeon Catholic Music Competition. She is also the prizewinner for the National Music Competition of Korea Nazarene University, Chungnam National University's National Music Competition, and the Chungnam Music Competition. While in Korea, she was the concertmaster for the T&C Youth Orchestra and was also a featured soloist in the Korea Chamber Music Society Festival.

Ms. Lee has performed with the An Die Music Chamber Music Chamber Orchestra, Sonata da Chiesa Ensemble of New York, Yonsei Orchestra, Yonsei University Chamber Orchestra and String Ensemble, Seoul Culture and Arts Center, and Daejeon Culture and Arts Center. She has also participated in the Summit Music Festival in New York, the Baroque Ensemble Summer Music Camp, Bali Summer Music Camp, and the Winter SMC Music Camp. Ms. Lee currently studies with Mr. Khullip Jeung in Fort Lee, NJ.

The **HILLTOP STRING QUARTET**, Summit High School, is Summit's finest string ensemble. Students are selected by audition each year and the group has been highly successful in competitions such as the ASTA/NJ Quartet Festival and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Young Musicians Program. In addition the group performs for such philanthropic activities as Hospice, Rotary, Lions Club, Art in the Park, and the Newark Museum, as well as local functions for groups throughout Summit. The quartet is coached by Summit High School Orchestra Director Barbara Vierschilling.

BRENNA LARSON is in her second year as the first violinist in the quartet. She has performed with New Jersey Youth Symphony, Waterville Valley Music Center, and the Chamber Music Institute of ASTA/NJ. Brenna studies with Leslie Webster and has reached Level 10 of the ASTACAP Certificate Program. At school Brenna is concertmaster of the orchestra, symphony orchestra, chamber orchestra and pit orchestra. She will attend Oberlin College in the fall.

BEN BONDY is in his second year as the second violinist in the quartet. Ben studies with Milan Malinkovic. Ben plays first violin in the school orchestra, symphony orchestra and chamber orchestra, and is assistant concertmaster of the pit orchestra. He will attend Syracuse University in the fall.

MARISSA JAROSINSKI is principal violist of the school orchestra, symphony orchestra, chamber orchestra and NJ Youth Symphony Orchestra. She also performs with the Greater Newark Youth Symphony as their principal violist. Marissa studies with Caroline Baldaccini and has traveled to Switzerland performing on viola. Marissa will attend Johns Hopkins University in the fall.

CHRISTIAN THOMAS is principal cellist of the school orchestra, symphony orchestra and chamber orchestra and pit orchestra. He has performed with the New Jersey Youth Symphony, and with the Essex County Youth Orchestra where he is principal cellist. Christian has performed with ECSO in Europe. Christian will attend New York University in the fall.