

For Immediate Release

Prepare for the 2017 Stulberg Competition with classical “Romance”

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KALAMAZOO, MI – 2016 Stulberg International String Competition bronze medalist Austin Haley Berman will perform with the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony in Kalamazoo this February, as part of the lead-up to the 2017 Competition this May.

On **Sunday, February 12**, Berman will perform Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto with the Symphony. The performance is included in the Junior Symphony’s “Romance” program, which also includes works from Wagner’s *Tristan & Isolde* and Tchaikovsky’s *Romeo & Juliet*. The concert will be **4 p.m. in Chenery Auditorium in Kalamazoo. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students.** More information is available at www.kalamazoojuniorsymphony.org.

Berman, 20, has served as concertmaster at several music festivals in his home town of Philadelphia. He began playing violin at age five, and now studies at Princeton University and The Juilliard School with pedagogue Li Lin. In 2016, he was also a semi-finalist in the San Francisco-based 2016 Irving M. Klein International String Competition, along with his Stulberg Competition prize. Berman is also a first-tier sub for the New World Symphony and a member of the TOMO Quartet at Juilliard.

The 2017 Stulberg International String Competition takes place May 13 at Dalton Center Recital Hall at Western Michigan University. Each year’s prize winners earn a guest performance with a West Michigan-based orchestra like the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony.

More than 2,500 young string musicians between the ages of 11 and 20 have participated in the Stulberg International String Competition, which marked its 41st anniversary in 2016. The Stulberg has attracted world-renowned musicians to Kalamazoo to serve as judges and instructors in master classes exclusively for the competitors. The Competition was established in 1975 in honor of former WMU faculty and long-time conductor of the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony, Julius Stulberg.

For more information, contact the Stulberg International String Competition at (269) 343-2776, stulbergcomp@yahoo.com, or www.stulberg.org.