Nicholas Santangelo Schwartz’s memorable performance of the Bottesini concerto at last year’s competition was a high point of his young career. Currently studying with Edwin Barker at Boston University, the now 20-year-old bassist is a very accomplished and diverse musician with an already stellar record.

Schwartz performs classically as the youngest member of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra. He is also a member of folk and jazz ensembles including the Hay Brigade, which has been featured on BBC World Radio. Nicholas performed at the Aspen Music Festival, the Tanglewood Institute, and Berklee’s Summer Jazz Performance Program. He has also been featured on NPR’s “From the Top.”

After winning the Stulberg Competition, Schwartz went on to win the Gary Karr Prize and an award for best interpretation of a piece by Tom Knific in the International Society of Bassists Solo Competition. He performed a solo recital in Chicago’s Dame Myra Hess Concert Series, which was broadcast live on WFMT, the country’s largest classical radio station.

Nicholas stated, “The effect of winning at the Stulberg has helped jump-start my career, opening important doors to experience and visibility.”

The Stulberg International String Competition is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization. The Competition receives support from the Arts Fund of Kalamazoo, the Burdick-Thorne Foundation, the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, the Weisblat Foundation, the Dorothy G. Doherty Foundation, the Harold and Grace Upton Foundation, the Ruth and Paul L. Dunham Fund of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, and matching gift programs of Eaton, Merck, and IBM.

As in past years, last year’s judges were an extraordinaire trio of seasoned performers and teachers. Award-winning violinist Miriam Fried has performed as a soloist with orchestras across North America and Europe. Fried taught violin at Indiana University for many years and now teaches at the New England Conservatory. Fried’s teachers have included legends Isaac Stern, Ivan Galamian, and Joseph Gingold. Principal cellist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic for 24 years, Ronald Leonard currently conducts and teaches at the Colburn School and has taught at the Eastman School of Music. Richard Young was the violist in the Vermeer String Quartet and has performed around the globe. He has taught at Oberlin Conservatory, Northern Illinois University, the University of Michigan, Northwestern University, and North Park University.

As we prepare for the exciting 2010 Competition, you can help us continue to support the dreams of the next generation by donating online at www.stulberg.org.
IVAN CHAN

In 1985, Ivan Chan won the Gold Medal with a performance of the Chausson Poem. He was 17 years old and a freshman at the Curtis Institute of Music. In 2003, Mr. Chan also judged the Competition in 2003 along with the rest of the Miami String Quartet.

According to Chan, “The Julius Stulberg Competition, with its high level of artistic integrity and rich tradition, continues to be one of the most influential events in a young musician’s career. I am proud to be a part of this wonderful gift.”

Born in Hong Kong, Chan received his early training with Thomas Wang. He made his debut with the Hong Kong Philharmonic at the age of 13. Shortly thereafter, he continued his studies in the United States with Jasha Brodsky, David Cerone, Felix Galimir and Jaime Laredo at the Curtis Institute of Music, and with Miriam Fried at Indiana University.

Mr. Chan has appeared as a soloist with orchestras including the Detroit Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, New World Symphony, Houston Symphony and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta. As a chamber musician, he toured regularly with “Musicians from Marlboro” and has collaborated with artists from ensembles such as the Guarneri String Quartet, Orion String Quartet, Emerson String Quartet, Johannes Quartet, KLR Trio, Beau Art Trio, Opus 1, TASHI and Lincoln Center Chamber Music.

In 1995, he became a member of the acclaimed Miami String Quartet. The Cleveland Plain Dealer stated, “In Ivan Chan, the group has a prodigious first violinist whose tonal sweetness is matched by impeccable taste, purposeful energy and unerring sense of phrasing.”

With the Miami String Quartet, Mr. Chan toured extensively in North America and Europe. Regularly featured on the nation’s premier chamber music series, their performances have been heard from the stages of Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Verizon Hall, Severance Hall, and the Kennedy Center, among others.

A dedicated pedagogue, Mr. Chan has given master classes and chamber music coachings at the Curtis Institute of Music, Settlement Music School, Temple University, Cleveland Institute of Music, University of Missouri in Kansas, Western Michigan University and Encore School for Strings. Currently, he is on faculty at the Hugh Glauser School of Music at Kent State University.

THE JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET
2010 competition judges

Nick Eanet, violin ▪ Ronald Copes, violin ▪ Samuel Rhodes, viola ▪ Joel Krosnick, cello

The Juilliard String Quartet is internationally renowned and admired for performances characterized by a clarity of structure, beauty of sound, purity of line and an extraordinary unanimity of purpose. Celebrated for its performances of works by composers as diverse as Beethoven, Schubert, Bartok and Elliott Carter, it has long been recognized as the quintessential American string quartet.

Recent seasons have heard the Quartet in concert at the Kennedy Center, the Kimmel Center, Arizona State University, the Konzerthaus Vienna, the Palacio Real in Madrid, and the Cite de la musique in Paris with an accompanying two-day residency at the Conservatoire National Superieur de Musique. They have also performed for the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, throughout North America, and in Australia. The JSQ honored Elliott Carter’s 100th birthday with the world premiere performance of his Clarinet Quartet with Charles Neidich at the Juilliard School, and the European premiere of the work at the Konzerthaus Berlin.

Annual guests at Tanglewood’s Seiji Ozawa hall, the JSQ is also a frequent participant at Japan’s Miyazaki Festival and at festivals in Europe including the Lucerne Festival. As Quartet-in-Residence at New York City’s Juilliard School, the Juilliard String Quartet is widely admired for its seminal influence on aspiring string players and new American ensembles.

This year Sony classical released four digital download landmark Juilliard String Quartet recordings, including the complete string quartets of Bartok and Beethoven, works by Debussy, Ravel, and Dutilleux, and historic collaborations with Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Yo-Yo Ma and others.

The Juilliard String Quartet will be coming to Kalmaraz in partnership with Fontana Chamber Arts.

The New York Times

“‘The Juilliard Quartet remains the standard by which all other quartets must be judged.”

Check out our judges online at www.juilliardstringquartet.org

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

WENDY WARNER

Wendy Warner won the Stulberg Competition in 1990 at the age of 17, performing the Schumann Cello Concerto. “I will never forget my experience in 1990 with [competition judge] Yehudi Menuhin. He inspired us all.” After judging the Competition herself in 2000, Warner said, “It is very exciting to continue watching the Competition bring light to so many young talents out there.”

Hailed by Strings Magazine for her “youthful, surging playing, natural stage presence and almost frightening technique,” Wendy Warner has become one of the world’s leading cellists. She has collaborated with many leading conductors including Mstislav Rostropovich, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and Pinchas Zukerman. Recital work includes performances in Chicago, Washington, D. C., Boston, Milan, and Tokyo. Festival highlights include performances with El Paso Pro-Musica, Grand Teton Music Festival and Penderecki’s Beethoven Easter Festival in Krakow.

Wendy studied with Mstislav Rostropovich at the Curtis Institute. She made her New York debut with the National Symphony Orchestra in October 1990. She was also the featured soloist on the Bamberg Symphony’s 1991 European tour, making her debuts in Frankfurt, Stuttgart, Köln, Düsseldorf and Berlin. A recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, Warner teaches at Roosevelt University.