

Fall
2014

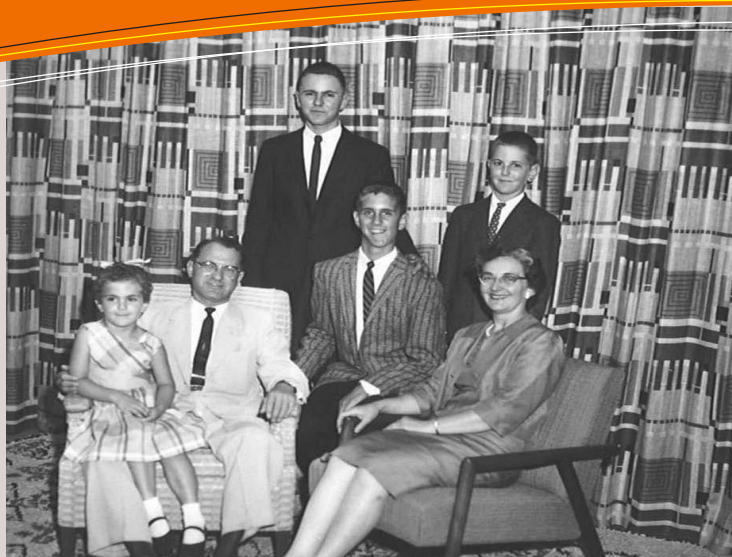
StulbergTimes

Stulberg Gold Medalist Performs With Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra

Zlatomir Fung, 15, 2014
Stulberg gold medalist, will
perform with the Grand
Rapids Symphony Orchestra
at 8 pm on November 7, at
the St. Cecilia Music Center.
For ticket information check
our website at



www.stulberg.org.
A student at New England
Conservatory Preparatory
School, Zlatomir also studies
via Skype with Richard
Aaron at the Juilliard School.
He has appeared on NPR's
From the Top four times.
In June, he won first place in
the Klein String Competition
in San Francisco.



My Dear Children *by Mira Stulberg Halpert*

"My Dear Children" is the phrase my father, Julius Stulberg, used often when working with students. He took every opportunity to make any conversation a teachable moment. He connected with students of all ages in a way that made each one feel special—even when they were being corrected.

Growing up as his 'favorite daughter,' though to be fair his only daughter, I was privileged to benefit from constant teachable moments. His wit, sensitivity, quick thinking, humor and broad knowledge of what us kids would call 'useless information' was put to the test countless times, but he never failed to stop for a student in need. He was fiercely proud of being an American and what those freedoms meant. He took nothing for granted. Being a responsible and giving human being was paramount.

My mother, Esther Stulberg, shared those same ideals. Independent and extremely competent in her own right, my mother always supported my father's belief that students needed a supportive environment to learn and grow from their experiences and treat each student like they were part of a family.

When my father died suddenly at the age of 60, family, friends, colleagues, and students came together to form a kind of support group. It was they who wanted to create an entity that would pass the essence of my father's beliefs to future generations. They knew the focus of whatever was created needed to involve youth, music, learning, and community.



Those seeds planted 40 years ago have grown into an amazing, talented, young musician's mecca. It was my mother's wish that at the heart of the Stulberg Competition be the feeling of genuine pride for supporting, teaching, guiding, encouraging our "Dear Children" to push the limits of what they are capable of achieving.

Like the hundreds of students who have come through the competition,

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OUR MISSION

The Stulberg International String Competition has been helping young artists achieve their dreams since 1975. Our mission is to promote excellence in string instrument performance by gifted young artists under the age of 20.

Midsummer Night's Interlude Showcased Talent while Raising Funds

August 14 was a night to remember as supporters and friends of the Stulberg gathered at the Gull Lake Country Club for outstanding entertainment, great food and a raffle. The proceeds from the annual event help the Stulberg to offer additional community outreach and performing opportunities. Finalist Lillian Lee returned for an outstanding violin performance. The evening also featured performances by violinist Renata Artman Knific, bassist Tom Knific, pianists Silvia Roederer and Gene Knific and drummer Dave Van Haren.



Top: 2014 finalist Lillian Lee assists Stulberg Executive Director Margaret Hamilton with the evening's raffle.

Center: from left to right, Greg Seiler, Stulberg Treasurer; Margaret Hamilton; and Nancy Troff, MSNI Competition Committee member.

Below: Renata Artman Knific & Tom Knific.



SUPPORTERS

The Stulberg is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. The Competition's primary source of funding comes from individual donors. Additional support is provided by the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Fund of Kalamazoo, Burdick-Thorne Foundation, Dorothy U. Dalton Foundation, Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation, Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, The Pinehurst and Fetzer Funds of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, Stulberg Family Trust Fund, William Blair & Company Foundation, The Northern Trust Company, Bronson Healthcare Group, Honigman, Discover Kalamazoo, Ray Financial Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, The Wiser Financial Group, Zhang Financial, and the matching gift programs of IBM, Merck, and Pfizer. Thank you for your support.

My Dear Children continued

the Stulberg Competition has grown and matured into a world-class organization. Our family is truly blessed to have a close extended family where music was shared and values were grounded while always looking forward to what the future may hold. The Stulberg International String Competition is and always will be

just such a family; a community supporting and promoting outstanding young talent, who are truly "My Dear Children." My parents would be delighted with the amazing support from the Kalamazoo area community, volunteers, judges and other musicians from around the world and from the entire Stulberg family.



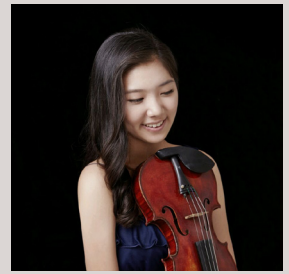
Esteemed Panel of Judges Chooses Three Medalists for Stulberg Competition 2014

Three well-known judges chose three medalists from a field of 12 semifinalists on May 16 at the 39th annual

Stulberg International String Competition. Zlatomir Fung, 15, cellist from Westborough, MA,

was chosen gold medalist; Emma Meinrenken, 14, a violinist from Toronto took the silver; and Charles

Seo, 18, cellist from Houston, won the bronze. Each medalist was awarded a prize package which included a trip back to Southwest Michigan to perform here with regional and local symphonies. Pictured from left to right are Charles Seo, Donald Weilerstein, Emma Meinrenken, John Sant'Ambrogio, Karen Dreyfus, and Zlatomir Fung.



Youjin Lee Performs with Baltimore Chamber Orchestra

Youjin Lee, Stulberg 2013 Gold Medalist, will solo with the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra on November 2. BCO concertmaster, Madeline Adkins, is a Stulberg Gold Medalist from 1997. The seeds for this collaboration were sown during the 2013 Competition, when judge Victoria Chiang connected her husband, BCO Music Director Markand Thakar, with the Stulberg. The orchestra occupies an essential niche in the arts scene of Greater Baltimore, and the Stulberg is proud to be a partner for the 2014-15 concert season.

Youjin was among 40 violinists selected to compete in the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis this year. Other Stulberg alumni taking part in this prestigious event included Jung Min Choi, Christine Lim, Ji-Won Song, and Jinjoo Cho, who captured the ICVI gold medal.

The Stulberg always wants to recognize our many talented alumni during their music career journeys. Please keep us posted at stulbergcomp@yahoo.com of new developments!

2014 Silver and Bronze Medalists Return

Emma Meinrenken, 14, Violin *Silver Medalist*

Emma Meinrenken performs with the Western Michigan University Symphony at Chenery Auditorium on October 5 at 3 pm. Admission is free. Emma is student of Atis Bankas in the Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists of the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM). Since she started playing the violin at the age of 4, Emma has won top awards and prizes in many music festivals and competitions, including First Place Award in the Canadian Music Competition (CMC) for four years in a row. She debuted with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra at age 10.



Charles Seo, 18, Cello *Bronze Medalist*

Charles Seo performs with the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony February 15, 2015, 4 pm at Chenery Auditorium. Watch our website www.stulberg.org for details. Charles studies with Brinton Smith at the Houston High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. He has performed with Christopher O'Riley on NPR's From the Top.

Charles also won the Stulberg's Audience Appreciation Award during the Stulberg Competition in May. In June, he went on to finish as a medalist at the Klein Competition in San Francisco.



A STEP TO GREATNESS

40th Anniversary Season

Stulberg International String Competition

October 5, 2014: Silver Medalist Emma Meinrenken with
WMU Symphony Orchestra, *Chenery Auditorium, Kalamazoo, 3 pm*

November 2, 2014: Special Event – Youjin Lee with Baltimore
Chamber Orchestra, *Goucher College, Baltimore, Maryland, 3 pm*

November 7, 2014: Gold Medalist Zlatomir Fung with Grand Rapids
Symphony, *Royce Auditorium, Grand Rapids, 8 pm*

February 15, 2015: Bronze Medalist Charles Seo with Kalamazoo
Junior Symphony Orchestra, *Chenery Auditorium, Kalamazoo, 4 pm*

March 6, 2015: Master Class Students, *Art Hop, Epic Center, Kalamazoo*

May 16, 2015: Stulberg Competition, *Dalton Center Recital Hall,
Western Michigan University*

May 17, 2015: Stulberg Master Classes, *Dalton Center,
Western Michigan University*



www.stulberg.org

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INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

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