

STULBERGTimes

Stulberg Semifinalists Ready to Shine in Kalamazoo Competition

The 12 semifinalists for the 2018 Stulberg International String Competition were culled from a record-breaking 200 applications this year. The talented 12 will be in Kalamazoo on May 18 for the 43rd annual competition, which recognizes accomplished string players under the age of 20.

The judges for the 2018 competition will be Aaron Dworkin, founder of the Sphinx Organization and arts leadership and entrepreneurship professor at the University of Michigan; Anthony Ross, principal cellist of the Minnesota Orchestra; and violinist Scott St. John,

concert master of the ROCO Chamber Orchestra in Houston and a partner in the Rebelheart Collective at the London, Ontario, Aeolian Hall.

There is a **SCHEDULE CHANGE**. Because of the Dalton Center's calendar, this year the competition will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. **FRIDAY**, May 18, rather than the traditional Saturday. This year's master classes will be held **SATURDAY**, May 19, beginning at 12:30 p.m., rather than the usual Sunday.

Please join us for what promises to be an exciting competition.



William McGregor, 2017 Gold Medalist

The 2018 Stulberg Semifinalists

Maya Anjali Buchanan (17)

Violin, Rapid City, SD

Teacher: Almita Vamos,
Music Institute of Chicago Academy

Andrew Byun (19)

Cello, Evanston, IL

Teacher: Hans Jensen,
Northwestern University

Eric Chen (16)

Violin, Princeton, NJ

Teachers: Cho-Liang Lin and Naoko Tanaka,
Juilliard Pre-College

Mei Hotta (15)

Cello, Torrance, CA

Teacher: Sarah Koo, Colburn Community
School of Performing Arts

Josh Kail (18)

Viola, New York, NY

Teachers: Heidi Castleman and
Hsin-Yun Huang, The Juilliard School

Nathan Le (18)

Cello, Northridge, CA

Teacher: Laurence Lesser,
New England Conservatory

La Li (15)

Cello, Flushing, NY

Teachers: Richard, Aaron and Sieun Lin,
The Juilliard School

Charlotte Marckx (15)

Violin, Bellevue, WA

Teacher: Simon James,
Coleman Studio

Kei Otake (19)

Cello, Short Hills, NJ

Teacher: Joel Krosnick,
The Juilliard School

Hannah Song (17)

Violin, Irvine, CA

Teacher: Simon James,
Coleman Studio

Sophia Su (16)

Viola, Bethpage, NY

Teacher: Masao Kawasaki,
The Juilliard School

William Suh (18)

Cello, Los Angeles, CA

Teacher: Paul Katz,
New England Conservatory

Stulberg Competition FRIDAY, May 18

Western Michigan University
All Events at
Dalton Center Recital Hall

Semifinalist Performances

On the half hour

9 am to 4 pm

Free and open to the public

Finalist Performances

7:30 pm

Admission:

\$20 Adults, \$5 Students

Tickets: www.stulberg.org
or at the door

Master Classes
SATURDAY, May 19
12:30 pm

Judges and Clinicians

Aaron Dworkin
Anthony Ross
Scott St. John

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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.

Stulberg Helps Showcase Kalamazoo Musicians with BRAVO!

For 43 years, the Stulberg International String Competition has showcased the best talent among international string players. Now, as the coordinator of the BRAVO! competition, Stulberg is helping the Kalamazoo community celebrate the talents of the best high school classical musicians in the Kalamazoo area.

Judges Bring Expertise to Competition



A 2005 MacArthur Fellow, **Aaron P. Dworkin** is the founder of The Sphinx Organization, whose mission is transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts. Dworkin was President Obama's first appointment to the National Council on the Arts and Governor Rick Snyder's appointment to the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs. He served as dean of the University of Michigan's School of Music, Theatre & Dance. He is a tenured full professor of arts leadership and entrepreneurship at UM. A lifelong musician, Dworkin is a visual and spoken-word performing artist. Learn more at aaronworkin.com.



The dynamic leader of the Minnesota Orchestra cello section since 1991, prize-winning cellist, **Anthony Ross**, has appeared as a soloist many times with the Minnesota Orchestra, performing all the standard cello concertos under Osmo Vanska, Edo de Waart and Eiji Oue. Equally passionate about new music, he and his wife, Beth Rapier, have championed David Ott's *Concerto for Two Cellos* since 1993. Prior to assuming the principal role in Minnesota, Ross performed for four years as principal cello of the Rochester Philharmonic under David Zinman. A Kalamazoo native, Ross won the Stulberg gold medal in 1979. Learn more at minnesotaorchestra.org.



Scott St. John was a member of the St. Lawrence String Quartet and faculty member at Stanford University for seven years, from 2006 to 2013. From 1999 to 2006, St. John was associate professor of violin at University of Toronto. He is concertmaster of the ROCO Chamber Orchestra in Houston, Texas. He coaches chamber music at Western University (Canada) and participates in the prestigious Marlboro Music Festival (Vermont). He is a partner in the new Rebelheart Collective at London's Aeolian Hall, an innovative chamber orchestra and youth mentorship program. Learn more at scottstjohn.com.

Students were selected through auditions. This year's 2018 BRAVO! showcase on March 1 featured the talents of:

Emily Bosak, violin
Grace Notes II, cello quintet
Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra
Woodwind Quintet
Michael Keeler, saxophone
Mei Lanting, piano
Lydia Schubkegel, cello
Sava Velkoff, viola

BRAVO! partner organizations, in addition to Stulberg, are the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, Black Arts & Cultural Center, Crescendo Academy of Music, Fontana, Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Public Media Network and WMUK 102.1 FM.

To watch a recording of the concert, visit <https://livestream.com/GilmoreFestival/Bravo2018>

'NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley' to Record Documentary at Stulberg

This year, "NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley" will cover the Stulberg International String Competition. Christopher O'Riley will interview the musicians who have made it to the finals, while the show's producers capture the performances and behind-the-scenes moments for a special documentary-style episode.

The program, which usually airs live, features spirited performances and entertaining interviews with five featured soloists and/or ensembles. Responding to O'Riley, young performers share their passion for classical music, and speak about their non-musical lives, from career goals and family traditions to hidden talents, school, and community life.

O'Riley will conduct the question-and-answer session with the Stulberg performers, which takes place on the night of the finals.

"NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley" airs on more than 220 radio stations and has nearly a million listeners.

The show airs in Kalamazoo on Western Michigan University's WMUK 102.1-FM at noon on Saturdays. Listeners will also be able to hear the episode by podcast at fromthetop.org/podcast during the fall of 2018.

Founded in Boston in 1995 by Gerald Slavet and Jennifer Hurley-Wales, "NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley" originated as a variety-style radio show. More than 20 years later, the program has grown into a multi-media and arts education powerhouse, transforming the lives of hundreds of young musicians each year, inspiring millions of fans, and pioneering new ways to unite communities around the promise of great young talent.



The radio program is just one arm of the From the Top nonprofit organization, which celebrates the stories, talents, and character of young classically-trained musicians. Through live events, NPR and video broadcasts, scholarships, and arts education programs, From the Top empowers these extraordinary young people to engage and inspire music lovers of all ages. Learn more at fromthetop.org.



Stulberg 2007 Medalist Benjamin Beilman to Perform at 2018 Gilmore Festival

2007 Stulberg Gold Medalist Benjamin Beilman will be returning to Kalamazoo in May, but it won't be for the Stulberg. He will be performing at 8 p.m. May 7 at Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall as part of the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival. Beilman will perform on a program with Orion Weiss, a 2000 Gilmore Young Artist.

They will perform Beethoven's *Sonata No. 1 for violin and piano, Op. 12, No. 1*, and *Sonata No. 10 for violin and piano, Op. 96*; Bartok's *Sonata for violin and piano, No. 2*; and Rzewski's *Demons*.

Beilman has been recognized as one of the fastest rising stars of his generation, winning praise both for his passionate performances and deep rich tone which the Washington Post called "mightily impressive," and The New York Times described as "muscular with a glint of violence." After he won First Prize at the Montreal Competition, the *Strad* described his Sibelius Violin Concerto as "pure poetry."

For more information on their concert and all the Gilmore events, visit thegilmore.org.

Meet Christopher O'Riley

Acclaimed for his engaging and deeply committed performances, pianist Christopher O'Riley is known to millions as the host of "NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley." O'Riley is in his 15th year on air. O'Riley has performed as a soloist with major American orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Chicago Symphony. He is the recipient of the Avery Fisher Career Grant. O'Riley strives to introduce new audiences to classical music by performing piano arrangements of music by Radiohead, Pink Floyd, and Nirvana alongside traditional classical repertoire. Learn more at christopheroriley.com.



Photo credit, Peter Halstead

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, July 19

Gull Lake Country Club

Please save July 19 to join us for another elegant and music-filled gala. The annual Stulberg fundraiser features a lovely setting on Gull Lake, delicious food, and beautiful music. This year's event will feature two Stulberg competition winners: violinist **Yaegy Park**, the 2015 Stulberg Gold Medalist, and violinist **Ariel Horowitz**, the 2013 Silver Medalist. Please reserve a night on your summer social calendar to celebrate with us. Invite your friends to share in the music and camaraderie of this wonderful evening. More details will be posted on the competition website at stulberg.org.



Yaegy Park



Ariel Horowitz

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 and Cultural Affairs, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Burdick-Thorne Foundation, the Dorothy U. Dalton Foundation, the Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation, the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, and the Pinehurst Fund of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. Competition sponsors include Level Data Inc., Long Road Investment Counsel, The Northern Trust Company, William Blair, Honigman, The Ray Financial Group-Stifel, The Wiser Financial Group, Bronson Healthcare, Chemical Bank, and Discover Kalamazoo. Support also comes from the matching gift programs of IBM, Merck and Pfizer. Thank you for your support.

STULBERG
INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

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