



NICHOLAS SCHWARTZ, double bass 2009 gold medal winner

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 Perform-

ance 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 U. Dalton Foundation, the Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation, the Butiu and Fetzer Funds of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, and matching gift programs of Eaton, Merck, and IBM.

SUPPORT US

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.

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Keep an eye out for our Summer/Fall Newsletter—June 2010

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Stulberg International String Competition is to promote excellence in string instrument performance by gifted young artists under the age of 20.

THE STULBERG GOES TO CHICAGO

On December 2, 15 Stulberg board members, staff, and family members traveled from Kalamazoo to Chicago to see our 2009 winner perform in the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series. Nicholas Schwartz performed works by Amy Beach, Franz Schubert, and Giovanni Bottesini with pianist Ayako Yoda. Approximately 400 people attended the performance at the Chicago Cultural Center. Nicholas was the first bassist to play in the Hess Series, and received a standing ovation at the end of the concert. Pictures from the trip can be found on the Competition’s [Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/stulbergcomp).



2009 finalists Keir GoGwilt, Tony Rymer, Ran Chang, Boris Abramov, Nicholas Schwartz, and Alena Merimee

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Here’s to a successful 2009 season!

Cheers to 2009! The Stulberg is still feeling the excitement of the 2009 Competition. For the first time in our history a double bassist won the Burdick-Thorne Gold Medal. Nineteen-year-old Boston University student **Nicholas Santangelo Schwartz** won by unanimous decision of the judges, performing Bottesini’s *Concerto No. 2 in B minor*.

Schwartz is no stranger to accolades. Adding the Stulberg Competition to his credits has opened more opportunities for this talented young musician. Richard Young, a 2009 Competition judge, was so impressed that he recommended Schwartz to play in the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series. He performed a flawless concert to over 400 people in the Hess Series on December 2.

Other 2009 finalists have enjoyed additional professional success as a result of the Competition. In October, finalist **Keir GoGwilt** gave a stellar performance with the Western Michigan University Symphony Orchestra. Cellist **Tony Rymer**, 2009 Pinehurst Bronze Medal winner, won the top prize in Detroit’s Sphinx Competition for young Black and Latino artists, performing the final movement of Elgar’s Cello Concerto. Rymer studies with Paul Katz at the New England Conservatory.

As in past years, last year’s judges were an extraordinary 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 enter 2010, preparations are well under way for the 35th Stulberg Competition. Check our website for more information about our exciting events—www.stulberg.org. Also check out our Facebook page for events, photos, and news.

Stulberg . . .
and all that
jazz

January 17, the Union Cabaret and Grill hosted this exciting event featuring 2009 Competition winner Nicholas Schwartz. Also featured were bassist Tom Knific, pianist Tad Weed, and drummer Tim Froncek.

The program included classics such as the Beatles' "Blackbird" and Billy Strayhorn's "Take the A Train." It also featured new pieces by Tom Knific, including "Two for T," which Knific played with Schwartz, and the world premiere of "Our Town, Motown." The concert ended with four bassists playing together, an ensemble made up of Schwartz, Knific, and WMU students Sam Weber and Jordan Richards.

Upcoming Events 2009-2010 Season

2009 Bronze Medalist Tony Rymer Outreach Performance	1pm, February 19, Maple Street Magnet School
Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra with 2009 Bronze Medalist Tony Rymer, cello	4pm, February 21, Chenery Auditorium
Juilliard String Quartet in partnership with Fontana Chamber Arts	8pm, February 26, Dalton Center, WMU
2010 Competition Semifinals 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm Finals 8pm	February 27, Dalton Center, WMU Judged by the Juilliard String Quartet
2010 Master Classes with the Juilliard String Quartet	12:30-3pm, February 28, Dalton Center, WMU
Master Class Outreach Program Additional performances by master class participants	Dates and venues TBA—please check our website

THE JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET
2010 competition judges

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



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

"The Juilliard Quartet remains the standard by which all other quartets must be judged."

The New York Times

Check out our judges online at www.juilliardstringquartet.org

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 Supérieur 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 Quintet with Charles Neidich at the Juilliard School, and the European premier of the work at the Konzert-haus 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.



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 Jascha 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, Beaux 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, Verizon Hall, Severance Hall, and the Kennedy Center, among others.

A dedicated pedagogue, Mr. Chan has given master classes and chamber

where
are they
now?

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.

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, Andre Previn, Neeme Järvi and Michael Tilson Thomas. Solo engagements have included at least thirty orchestras in the United States and around the world, most recently with the Santa Barbara, Detroit, Colorado and New World Symphonies; the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the St. Petersburg Philhar-

monic, Orchestre Symphonique de Quebec and the Calgary Philharmonic.

Warner has collaborated with the Vermeer and Fine Arts Quartets and esteemed violinist Gidon Kremer. She has performed double concertos with Mstislav Rostropovich, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and Rachel Barton Pine. 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.

Warner 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.



WENDY
WARNER