



Welcome to the second biennial

Young Artist's Harp Competition

July 8–10, 2010

Rabun Gap, Georgia

Rearden Theater of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School

Presented by

Young Artist's Harp Seminar

Providing intensive harp training
to students around the world since 2002

www.harpseminar.com

Welcome

July 8, 2010

Dear harpists, parents, and friends of the harp:

Welcome to the second **Young Artist's Harp Competition**, presented by the Young Artist's Harp Seminar, in Rabun Gap, Georgia. The competition was founded in 2008, and is open to harpists of any nationality, ages 11–19 in two divisions (New Artist Division, maximum age 14; Emerging Artist's Division, maximum age 19.) Following an initial DVD round that drew entries from throughout the U.S., France, and China, our judges selected 12 harpists in each division to compete this week in person.

We envisioned this competition as a way to encourage young harpists to strive for a high level of artistic achievement by providing them with an open forum for performance, positive feedback, and nurturing competition. We are excited to provide this opportunity for today's young harpists, and it has been our number one goal to give each competitor an experience that will raise their level as an artist and enhance their ability as a harpist.

We would like to give our sincere congratulations to every competitor who followed through with their goal of entering the competition, and we wish the best of luck to all those competing in person here this week.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Rowe and Susan Bennett Brady
Co-directors and Artist Faculty
Young Artist's Harp Seminar and Competition

Contact us with your thoughts and feedback:
www.harpcompetition.com; e-mail info@harpcompetition.com
www.harpseminar.com; e-mail info@harpseminar.com

Support for YAHS

The Young Artist's Harp Seminar and Competition would like to thank our advertisers and supporters for their generous support, without which this year's competition would not have been possible. We would especially like to thank:

Fatrock Ink, for making possible the special prize for the best performance of a piece written after 1900.

Virginia Harp Center and **Atlanta Harp Center** for their continued support providing rental instruments to our students.

Our good friends at the **Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School** for their help with facilities, logistics, and dining.

Our friend and family **volunteers** for donating their time and services to help our competition run smoothly this week.

Support YAHS

Each year we receive applications from talented harpists throughout the world who need financial assistance to attend the Young Artist's Harp Seminar. Our scholarship fund awards partial scholarships to students in need. This summer many students received awards thanks to donations from our generous sponsors and audience members like you. Donation envelopes are available in the lobby if you wish to contribute today. Or visit www.harpseminar.com to donate online.

We are a non-profit organization in the state of Georgia; your donation may be eligible for tax benefits.

This program is supported in part by the **Georgia Council for the Arts** (GCA) through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA also receives support from its partner agency, the National Endowment for the Arts.



About YAHS

Founded in 2002 by Susan Bennett Brady and Kimberly Rowe, the **Young Artist's Harp Seminar** has quickly become one of the pre-eminent summer training programs for today's young harpists. The two-week program is open to pedal harpists age 12–26 who want to focus entirely on the harp without distraction. The program is designed to improve performance skills and practice habits and intensify preparation for solo performances, orchestral auditions, and competitions.

The Young Artist's Harp Seminar has nurtured the talents of hundreds of young musicians. YAHS alumni have pursued careers in harp at top music schools and conservatories throughout the country, including Juilliard, the Curtis Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Eastman School of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, Roosevelt College, Oberlin Conservatory, Temple University, Rice University, the University of Michigan, the University of Toronto, and the Peabody Institute, to name just a few. Other YAHS alumni have pursued careers outside of music but continue to keep the harp and music an important part of their life.

YAHS initiated the **Young Artist's Harp Competition** in 2008 as a way to reach out to more harpists, especially at the international level. In the past few years, the seminar and competition together have welcomed young players from Canada, China, Costa Rica, France, Spain, and Taiwan.

Please stop by the lobby and join our mailing list if you would like to receive e-mail updates about YAHS.

Notes to the Audience

In fairness to our competitors, who have traveled great distances and spent many months in preparation for their brief moment on stage, we must insist that all audience members observe the following rules:

- Silence all cell phones, pagers, and beepers before entering the auditorium.
- Remain silent while the competition is in progress.
- Do not applaud or acknowledge competitors in any way.
- Absolutely no cameras or video, except by staff.
- Enter and exit only between competitors.
- Do not interact with or disturb the judges.
- Children who cannot sit quietly should not observe the competition.
- No food or beverages are permitted in the auditorium.

Schedule

All performance events take place in the Rearden Theater. Meals are served in the Student Center located on the lower level of the administration building, opposite the theater. (Meals are available only for those who have purchased them in advance; please turn in your meal ticket for each meal. The buffet line will remain open for a half hour after the starting times posted below.) The July 9th picnic takes place outside the Student Center; games begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Gazebo.

A detailed schedule with exact performance times for each competitor will be posted outside Rearden Theater after competitors have drawn numbers for performance order. Please note that the schedule below includes estimated times for your convenience. End times may vary depending on the pace of the competition.

Wednesday, July 7

6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 pm.	Emerging Artist competitor meeting and number drawing

Thursday, July 8

8:00 a.m	Breakfast
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Emerging Artist Competition
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
2:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m	Emerging Artist Competition
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.	New Artist competitor meeting and number drawing

Friday, July 9

8:00 a.m	Breakfast
9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.	New Artist Competition
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	New Artist Competition
7:00 p.m.	Games and mingling at the Gazebo
8:00 p.m.	Picnic dinner served (Advance purchase tickets required.)

Saturday, July 10

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
12:00 p.m.	Lunch*
1:00–2:30 p.m.	Young Artist's Harp Seminar registration
6:30 p.m.	Dinner*
7:30 p.m.	Winners Recital and Awards Presentation (all competitors will be acknowledged)

*note time changes

Repertoire and Prizes

The contestants performing this week were invited to come in person following a preliminary DVD round that was judged in May. Contestants were required to choose one piece from categories A and B and one "free choice" piece.

Emerging Artist Division (ages 11–19; maximum length, 20 mins.)

Category A:

- Prelude in C, by Prokofiev
- Theme and Variations, by Handel
- "Allegro" (first movement) from Sonata in C minor, by Pescetti
- The King's Hunt, by Bull (from *Music for Harp* arranged by Grandjany)
- Any sonata by Scarlatti (any edition)

Category B:

- La Source, by Hasselmans
- First Arabesque, by Debussy (any edition)
- Absidioles, by Andres
- Etude de Concert "Au Matin," by Tournier
- Any one selection from the *Modern Study of the Harp* by Salzedo

New Artist Division (ages 11–14; maximum length, 15 mins.)

Category A:

- Chaconne, by Durand
- Any Dussek Sonata (both movements)
- Any one movement from a Naderman Sonata
- Any one movement from Sonata in D Major by Parry
- Passacaille, by Handel (transcribed by Tiny Beon)

Category B:

- Any two dances from the *Suite of Eight Dances* by Salzedo
- Nocturne, by Glinka
- Watching the Wheat, by Thomas
- "La Desirade" from *Method for the Harp* by Lawrence/Salzedo
- Automne, by Grandjany

Prizes

Emerging Artist Division

First Prize: \$1,000

Second Prize: \$750

Third Prize: \$500

Fatrock Ink Prize: \$200 for best performance of a piece written after 1900

New Artist Division

First Prize: \$750

Second Prize: \$500

Third Prize: \$250

All winners have the option of choosing a **Young Artist's Harp Seminar** scholarship in lieu of prize money.

Judges



Lynne Abbey-Lee

Emerging Artist division

A regular contributor to *Harp Column*, Lynne Abbey-Lee has received acclaim for her recent arrangements of solo and ensemble pieces for harp. Now primarily devoted to chamber music and teaching, Abbey-Lee spent 21 years as Principal Harpist of the Colorado, Richmond, Shreveport, and Flint Symphonies. She has been on the faculty at universities in Colorado and Virginia, and has given master classes at the University of Michigan. Her teachers include Alice Chalifoux and Ruth Dean Clark. She performed at the World Harp Congress in Geneva with the seven-harp Salzedo Ensemble, and has also appeared at conferences of the American Harp Society and the National Flute Association.



Marcia Dickstein

Emerging Artist division

As Founder/Artistic Director and harpist with The Debussy Trio, Marcia Dickstein has been enticing new audiences to the harp in chamber music and solo with orchestra, and inspiring composers to write new works in classical and jazz genres. She has performed worldwide with The Debussy Trio and plays with Los Angeles Opera, Long Beach Symphony, and has over 300 film credits. Her many CDs include solo chamber music and solo with chorus. Adjunct Professor of Harp at Cal State University/Long Beach, Santa Barbara City College, and Cal Poly/San Luis Obispo, CA, Dickstein holds masterclasses throughout the USA and maintains a private studio in Los Angeles. Her transcriptions and scholarly editions of solo and chamber music for professional and student harpists are published by Fatrock Ink of Los Angeles.

Judges

Robbin Gordon-Cartier is harp instructor at the Cicely Tyson School of the Performing Arts in East Orange, N.J. in addition to maintaining a private teaching studio. Robbin's performance credits include appearances at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, the Pablo Casals Music Festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the National Symphony Orchestra of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. She performs with the New Philharmonic Orchestra of New Jersey, and currently serves as Second Vice President of the American Harp Society. Robbin graduated from Montclair State University Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education.



**Robbin
Gordon-Cartier**
Preliminary DVD round

Delaine Fedson is harp instructor on the faculties of the University of Texas at Austin and Southwestern University. Delaine is a Suzuki Association of the Americas registered Harp Teacher Trainer, and recently founded the University of Texas Harp Project, a pedagogy and preparatory program for young students and new teachers. Delaine has taught nationally and internationally at workshops, festivals and conferences throughout the U.S., Canada and Italy and has maintained a thriving private studio in Austin, Texas, since 1986. Delaine also performs frequently with the Dallas Opera, and the Austin, San Antonio, Waco and Ft. Worth Symphonies, and enjoys a variety of national and international performing collaborations with voice, woodwind quintet, flute, clarinet, and viola colleagues. She holds a B.M. degree from the University of Northern Iowa, a M.M. degree from The University of Texas at Austin and spent many summers studying with Alice Chalifoux at the Salzedo School in Camden, Maine.



Delaine Fedson
New Artist division

Judges



**Elisabeth
Remy Johnson**

Emerging Artist division

Elisabeth Remy Johnson was appointed principal harpist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 1995 and has performed concertos by Debussy, Handel, Mozart and Ginastera with them. Winner of first-place awards in competitions of the American Harp Society and the American String Teachers Association, she is also an NFAA/ARTS awardee. In addition to her numerous orchestra recordings with the ASO, she recorded Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* with Robert Shaw for Telarc. Remy Johnson's solo CD *Whirlwind*, recorded on the ACA Digital Recording label, was released in fall 2000. *Encantamiento*, a recording with ASO principal flutist Christina Smith, was released in fall 2008. Elisabeth Remy Johnson studied with Ann Hobson Pilot in Boston and with Alice Chalifoux at the Salzedo Summer Harp Colony in Camden, Maine. She graduated from Harvard University Phi Beta Kappa with a double major in Music and French.



Gillian Benet Sella

New Artist division

Gillian Benet Sella, Principal Harpist of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra was formerly Principal Harpist of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Highlights of her career include performances with James Galway of the Concerto for Flute and Harp by Lowell Liebermann, a flute and harp recital in Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York for the Mostly Mozart Festival, and the Ginastera Harp Concerto at the Kennedy Center, Washington D.C. In 1999 she performed at the World Harp Congress in Prague with the Radio Prague Symphony Orchestra and in 2000 and 2006 she played at the American Harp Society National Conference. She has also performed as a soloist with the Israel Philharmonic, the Quebec Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and at the Festival Estival de Paris. Gillian Benet Sella is on the faculty of the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati.

*Due to a scheduling conflict, we regret that it was necessary for **Ina Zdorovetchi** to withdraw from the judging panel.*

Judges

Concert artist and orchestral musician Julie Ann Smith has established herself as one of the most stimulating young harpists today, gaining international recognition for her charismatic performing style and diverse repertoire. Principal Harpist of the San Diego Symphony, Ms. Smith was the Silver medallist in the 2004 USA International Harp Competition and Bronze medallist in 2001. She made her National Symphony Orchestra debut in 2003 and has been honored in numerous competitions throughout the country. Her other honors include grand prizes in the Corpus Christi International Young Artist Competition and the Midland/Odesa National Young Artist Competition, both open to all instrumentalists. Julie Ann Smith will also serve as YAHS 2010 Guest Artist.



Julie Ann Smith

New Artist division

Ann Yeung is Associate Professor of Harp and Chair of the String Division at the University of Illinois School of Music at Urbana-Champaign. Currently Editor of the *World Harp Congress Review*, recent activities include a CD, *Voyage: American Works for Flute and Harp*, master classes in Mexico City, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Taipei; world premieres at the National Flute Convention in New York City and the Tenth World Harp Congress in Amsterdam; performances at the 20th Soka International Harp Festival in Japan, First Asian Harp Festival in Hong Kong, 2nd International Harp Festival in Mexico City, and International Computer Music Conference in Montréal; and presentations at the American Harp Society's National Summer Institute and the American String Teachers Association National Conference. Ann is a contributing author to the ASTA book *A Harp in the Schools: Guide for School Ensemble Directors and Harpists*. She has also served as Second Vice-President of the American Harp Society and is co-chair of the 2012 American Harp Society 50th anniversary Commission Project committee.



Ann Yeung

Preliminary DVD round

Emerging Artist Finalists



**Amy Lorraine
Buescher**
Elgin, Texas
age 16

Six Noels—Tournier

*Theme and Variations—
Handel*

Absidiales—Andres

Amy Buescher began her music career at age 5 with piano studies. At 9 she took up the harp, which she much preferred. At age 15, Amy placed in the Intermediate I division of the American Harp Society National Competition. Amy studies under Delaine Fedson, Instructor of Harp at The University of Texas in Austin. Amy has had lessons and master classes with many teachers including Madame Elizabeth Fontan-Binoche, Emily Mitchell, Elizabeth Richter, and Ray Pool. Amy is currently developing Classical Kids, an outreach program for low-income schools in the Austin area to teach students to play the harp. She is also a member of the Young Texas Harp Ensemble, a non-profit organization committed to music education in Central Texas. Apart from music, Amy enjoys cooking fancy French food; reading really good books by Dickens, Austin, Shakespeare, and Dumas; writing short stories and poetry; and of course, hanging out with friends and family while listening to U2 and Metaphor.



Veronique Drozd
Toronto, Canada
age 19

*Sonata in C Minor,
1st movement—Pescetti*

First Arabesque—Debussy

Sonata—Hindemith

Having recently been awarded the David and Marcia Beach Summer Study Award (2010) from the University of Toronto, **Véronique Drozd** is quickly gaining a reputation as a talented young harpist in Toronto. Véronique is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance at the University of Toronto, studying with Judy Loman. Performing regularly with the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony, she also performs with various the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra and the Hart House Orchestra, and plays for weddings, and various social functions. Véronique started the harp at the age of 9, with Julie Umbrico, daughter of Judy Loman. She later studied with Maureen McKay at the Royal Conservatory of Music. In her free time, Véronique enjoys volunteering for and watching the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, learning newly-composed pieces, teaching harp, jamming with friends, biking, reading fiction books, doing yoga, and being an avid environmentalist.

Emerging Artist Finalists

Natalie Hoffmann began her harp study at age 6 with Jude Mollenhauer in Columbus, Ohio. She immediately displayed exceptional talent and was soon asked to perform for prestigious events city-wide, including performances for the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and The Ohio Supreme Court. In 2003, she also began studying with Judy Loman in Toronto Canada. Natalie received third place in the 2007 AHS National Competition and won the Arnold Bax prize in the 2008 Young Artist's Harp Competition. Numerous times Natalie has been a featured solo and concerto performer. Currently, she is a select member of the Pickerington High School North Chorale, is a member of the Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church Jubilation Choir, and is completing her ninth year of piano study.



Natalie Hoffman
Pickerington, Ohio
age 17

*Sonata in C Minor,
1st movement—Pescetti*

*First Arabesque—
Debussy*

*Variations on a Theme in
Ancient Style—Salzedo*

Vivian Hsu is 16 years old and started the harp when she was 8. She began the harp with Sonya Yu, and currently studies with Linda Wood Rollo. Finishing third in the Intermediate II Division of the American Harp Society (AHS) National Competition in 2009, Vivian also won second prize in the New Artist Division of the Young Artist's Harp Competition in 2008. Also, in 2008, she performed in the World Harp Congress's Focus on Youth program in Amsterdam. She has won second place in the Intermediate I Division of the 2007 American Harp Society (AHS) National Competition, fifth place in the Junior Division of the 2005 AHS National Competition, and first prize in Inez Stafford Harp Competition by the AHS Bay Area Chapter in 2007, 2005 and 2004. Vivian was a semifinalist in the Junior Division of the sixth Lily Laskine International Harp Competition. Other than playing the harp, Vivian enjoys track and cross country. She currently plays harp in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra.



Vivian Hsu
Saratoga, Calif.
age 16

Prelude in C—Prokofiev

*Etude de Concert
"Au Matin"—ournier*

Legende—Renie

Emerging Artist Finalists



**Gian Torrano
Jacobs**
New Egypt, N.J.
age 15

Sonata in A Major—Scarlatti

“Mirage”—Salzedo

*A Minstrel’s Adieu to his
Native Land—Thomas*

Gian Torrano Jacobs was about 10 years old when he began playing the folk harp with the Bedside Harp program, directed by harpist Edie Elkan. About a year later, he began to study with Barbara Biggers on the lever harp. In 2008, Gian traded in his lever harp for a pedal harp. That same year, he joined the Temple Prep Harp Ensemble, directed by Kimberly Rowe. Additionally, he played with the Temple Prep String Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Luis Biava. In 2009, Gian joined the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, conducted by John Enz. This will be Gian’s second year of the Young Artists Harp Seminar. Later in the summer, he will be traveling to the Saratoga Harp Colony.



Samuel Karlinski
Atkinson, N.H.
age 17

*Sonata in C Minor,
1st movement—Pescetti*

Absidiales—Andres

Legende—Renie

Samuel Karlinski is a senior at Milton Academy, in Milton, Mass. He has been playing the harp for nearly nine years. He studied with Stephanie Curcio at her private studio in Exeter, N.H., from 2002–2007 and with Ina Zdorvetchi, at the New England Conservatory, from 2008 to the present. Sam is a scholarship recipient at the conservatory, where he has consistently garnered the highest honors at every evaluation. Sam won second prize in his first competition at the AHS National Competition in 2009, in the Intermediate II division. He has also taken masterclasses and private lessons with renowned harpists such as Sarah Bullen and Gwyneth Wentink. Sam is the first bassoonist in his school’s chamber orchestra, and plays the piano and flute. Additionally, Sam is editor of his school’s science magazine and heads the peer tutoring program as well as the stage crew.

Emerging Artist Finalists

Yuet Ching Lo began playing the harp at the age of 7. Now she studies with Dan Yu. She has taken master class with Kumiko Inoue and Isabelle Perrin. Yuet Ching enjoys the performing arts, particularly playing harp and composing music. She also enjoys sharing and promoting harp music to public. Yuet Ching was a finalist in the first Tamank Prathom-Thailand International Harp Youth Competition in 2009. This was her first experience in an international harp competition. As a composer, she has won several awards in her school Hymns Competition in past years. Yuet Ching thanks the Heavenly Father for giving her a gift in music. She wishes to be a harpist, composer, and a professional music educator in future.



Yuet Ching Lo
Hong Kong, China
age 16

*Theme and Variations—
Handel*

Absidioles—Andres

*Impromptu Caprice—
Pierne*

Madeline Claire Olson began studying harp at age 8. She debuted with the Mendocino Music Festival Orchestra in 2005. She has just completed her sixth season with the Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestra and has also been featured by the Central Valley Youth Symphony. She has been accepted into the Young People's Symphony Orchestra in Berkeley, Calif., for the 2010/2011 season, and has been the harpist for the Modesto Junior College Community Concert Band, the MJC Symphony Orchestra, and the CSUS Wind Ensemble. Madeline has been featured at the Modesto Concert Association Command Performance Concert for two consecutive years. Madeline was one of the Young Musicians for Haiti who recently raised over \$5,000.00 for Red Cross by producing a concert. Madeline currently studies harp with Linda Wood Rollo and Laura Porter. She also studies piano with Nina Black. This is her second appearance as a finalist at the Young Artist's Harp Competition. Tutored at home, Madeline loves reading, studying Japanese, and travel.



Madeline Olson
Ripon, Calif.
age 15

*Etude de Concert—
Godefroid*

Absidioles—Andre

*Theme and Variations—
Handel*

Emerging Artist Finalists



Charles Overton
Glen Allen, Va.
age 16

Sonata in C Minor,
1st movement—Pescetti

Etude de Concert “Au
Matin”—Tournier

Malaguena—
Lecuona/Grandjany

Charles Overton is currently enrolled in the Interlochen Arts Academy, studying with Joan Raeburn Holland. He is in tenth grade and has just completed his first year with honors. Charles has studied the harp for almost six years; his previous teachers include Lynnelle Ediger-Kordzaia and Jeanne Chalfoux. In 2008–09, Charles was Principal Harpist for the Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra; he also performed with the Catholic University Orchestra, Virginia Commonwealth University Orchestra, and Richmond Symphony in 2008-2009. This year Charles participated in the Interlochen Arts Academy Orchestra and Band; he also had numerous master class opportunities with Sarah Bullen, Patricia Masri-Fletcher, Judy Loman, and Sinoed Williams. Charles attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Harp Seminar Summer 2008 and the Salvi Harp Institute in 2009. Charles enjoys swimming, playing soccer, and snow boarding in the winter. He hopes to use God’s gift of music to major in harp performance at a music conservatory.



**Emilyn Hayley
Rathgeber**
Melbourne, Fla.
age 18

First Arabesque—
Debussy

Sonata in C Minor,
1st movement—Pescetti

La Source—
Hasselmans

Emmy Rathgeber began studying harp at age 12 with Mary Alice Riley, and at age 15 she began studying with Jan Jennings. Emmy is a member of the Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society, through which she has participated in numerous master classes and workshops. In November of 2009, Emmy competed in the Bach Festival Society of Winter Park Annual Young Artist Competition, where she won first prize in the string division. In the spring of 2010, Emmy graduated with honors from Brevard Community College with her Associates in Arts Degree. She graduated as a Citizen Scholar, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and with a 4.00 GPA. In the fall, Emmy will attend Florida State University and major in Harp Performance, studying with Mary Brigid Roman. In her free time, Emmy enjoys volunteering for The Last Chance Sanctuary, fostering homeless cats and kittens.

Emerging Artist Finalists

Rebekah Walen is the sixth of eight children in the Wallen family and has been homeschooled all her life. She has studied harp for seven years and piano for six. Rebekah has received merits and distinctions in six levels of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music exams in both harp and piano. During high school, Rebekah participated in two orchestras: Vanderbilt University's pre-college Blair School of Music and Middle Tennessee State University's Symphony Orchestra. She also played in the Angelus Harp Ensemble and was a member of Tennessee's All-State High School Orchestra for the last three years. Rebekah was a semifinalist in the Nashville Symphony Concerto Competition in 2009 and was awarded the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League Scholarship for 2010. When not practicing her music, she enjoys training and riding her three horses. Rebekah will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to study harp performance.



Rebekah Wallen
Sandy Springs, Ga.
age 18

The King's Hunt—Bull
Fantasie on a Theme of Haydn—Grandjany
"Whirlwind"—Salzedo

Note: Contestants may perform repertoire in any order.

New Artist Finalists



Abigail Bachelor
Hilliard, Ohio
age 12

Frere Jaques—
M. Grandjany

Sonatina No. 2—*Dussek*

"Gavotte" and "Rumba"—
Salzedo

Abigail Bachelor began her music study at age 3. Piano lessons came first, followed by the harp at age 7. She continues to study piano at the Conservatory of Piano in Worthington, and harp with Ohio State University's professor Jeanne Norton. Abi is a member and plays with the Columbus Symphony Junior Strings Orchestra, The Ohio State University's HarpOhio, and the Central Ohio Harp Organization. She has competed and earned First Place honors in the Columbus Symphony Young Musicians Competitions, the National Federation of Music Clubs (Gold Cup Winner), the Columbus Music Teachers' Association Competitions, and Columbus Women in Music String Competition. She placed fourth in the Junior Division of the AHS National Harp Competition in 2009. Abi performs for various events, city and state-wide. She is continuing additional harp studies with Yolanda Kondonassis at the Cleveland Institute of Music.



Ruth Boyajian
Lumberton, N.J.
age 13

Sonata in D major,
1st movement—*Parry*

La Desirade—*Salzedo*

Impromptu Caprice—
Pierne

Ruth Boyajian has studied harp for five years with Kimberly Rowe. Awards with the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music include honors grades in all harp and theory exams through Grade 5 and piano exams through Grade 6. Ruth took first place in the Philadelphia AHS competition Junior Division, in 2008 and was invited to the finals of the Young Artist's Harp Competition two years ago as the youngest competitor. Most recently, she was invited to play in the final round of the Philadelphia Orchestra's Greenfield concerto competition. Performance venues include soloing with the South Jersey Youth Orchestra, and at both the Curtis Institute and Academy of the Vocal Arts with the Lyra Society, as well as multiple master classes, private events, and benefit ministries. She is currently performing with the Temple Music Preparatory harp ensemble and will attend the Young Artist's Harp Seminar for the second year.

New Artist Finalists

Héloïse Carlean-Jones was born in Paris, France, of Irish-South African parents in 1996. She started the piano when she was 6, the harp when she was 10, and the cello when she was 11. She studies music at the Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Conservatoire in Central Paris, where her harp teacher is Audrey Perrin. She earned the equivalent of a Distinction (Félicitations à l'unanimité du Jury) for her last harp exam. In 2009, she participated in the 2nd Moscow International Harp Competition in Russia. Héloïse has played in public in her local community, accompanying a choir at the Abbesses Christmas market in Montmartre, given recitals at the St Louis Hospital, and she has also played at services in the Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris. In addition to music, Héloïse enjoys skiing, sailing, reading, hanging out with friends and she also sings in a rock band.



**Héloïse
Carlean-Jones**
Paris, France
age 14

*Sonatina No. 6—
Naderman*

Nocturne—Glinka

Sweet Blues—Andres

Jessica Ding began her harp studies at the age of 10 with Gretchen Van Hoesen, principal harpist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. She won first place in the Junior Division of the 18th American Harp Society National Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2009. Jessica has performed harp solos in recitals at Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University, at the Tiffany Series and participated in several Music Education Evaluations in Pittsburgh. She lives in State College, Pennsylvania and goes to Park Forest Middle School, where her favorite subjects are math and English. Jessica also has been learning the piano since she was four and a half years old. She loves traveling to new places and spending time with her family. In her spare time, she loves to play tennis and read fiction books.



Jessica Ding
State College, Pa.
age 12

*Petite Valse—
A. Hasselmans*

*Sonatina No. 2—
Naderman*

Nocturne—Glinka

New Artist Finalists



Anya Garipoli
Monmouth Beach,
N.J.
age 12

Pasacaille—Handel
Watching the Wheat—
Thomas
Pistache—Andres

Anya Grace Garipoli is a seventh grader at the Monmouth Beach School in Monmouth Beach, NJ. She has studied harp under Barbara Biggers of East Windsor, N.J. for the past five and a half years. Anya entered two successive competitions of the Philadelphia AHS chapter, winning first place in 2008 in the junior lever division and second place in 2010 in the junior pedal division. Anya was invited to perform in New York City at the 38th Anniversary Fundraiser of the Pro Arte League of the Kosciuszko Foundation in 2008. She has performed in numerous local civic and religious venues such as the Mayor's Tea for the City of Sea Bright, N.J., and the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown, N.J. Anya participated for many years in Girl Scouts and in her community recreational soccer. She is a member of her school's cheerleading and cross country teams, as well as a member of the Junior National Honor Society. She also serves as a school Ambassador. Anya's yellow Labrador, Rosie, and her cat, Coco, love to listen to her practice.



Wesley Hsu
Saratoga, Calif.
age 14

Sonata in D major,
1st movement—Parry
“Tango” and “Rumba”—
Salzedo

Amid Flowers Beside the
River Under a Spring
Moon—Trad./Von Wurtzler

Wesley Hsu began learning the harp when he was 8, and studies with Linda Wood Rollo. Wesley won third prize in the Junior Division of the 6th Lily Laskine International Harp Competition in 2008. He was a prize winner in the Junior Division of the AHS National Competition in 2007, received second place and first place in Inez Stafford Harp Competition by the AHS Bay Area Chapter in 2007 and 2005. Wesley performed in the Focus on Youth Program at the Tenth World Harp Congress in Amsterdam in 2008. He is now a member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. Wesley enjoys playing sports and video games.

New Artist Finalists

Amanda Melton has been playing the harp for six years, and currently studies under Susan Bennett Brady. Amanda enjoys frequent travel to California with her three younger brothers to see her extended family. While in the San Francisco Bay Area, she also takes lessons with Linda Wood Rollo. In 2008, Amanda was a finalist in the Young Artist Harp Competition. She currently performs with the Atlanta Harp Ensemble. In addition to the harp, Amanda studies the piano and violin. She has twice been a piano finalist in the Georgia Music Teachers state auditions. Amanda performs all three instruments in church. A homeschooled student, she enjoys tennis lessons, sewing, and quilting classes. She won first prize with a handmade quilt at the Atlanta Sewing Exposition in 2010. Amanda also maintains her own private piano studio.



Amanda Melton
Kennesaw, Ga.
age 14

Etude de Concert
"Au Matin"—Tournier
La Desirade—Salzedo
Pasacaille—Handel

Clara Wang began her harp study at age 10 with Franziska Huhn. In the summer of 2009, after only an year and a half of study, Clara tied for third place in the 2009 Young Promise International Music Competition. She has also had private lessons with Judy Loman at the Pacific Harp Institute and participated in a masterclass with Ann Hobson-Pilot at the New England Conservatory. She has been invited to perform in the Stars of Tomorrow concert in the upcoming Boston Harp Festival in September, 2010. Prior to studying harp, Clara played the piano for six years. Clara is currently attending The Winsor School in Boston. She enjoys playing competitive chess and is a nationally ranked chess player with the United States Chess Federation. Her other interests are reading, fishing, and cooking.



Clara Wang
Sharon, Mass.
age 13

La Source—A. Hasselmans
Sonata in D major,
1st movement—Parry
"Tango" and "Rumba"—
Salzedo

New Artist Finalists



Katy Wong
Ridgewood, N.J.
age 13

Chaconne—Durand

Nocturne—Glinka

*Theme and Variations—
Tournier*

Katy Wong began playing the harp at age 11, being inspired to learn after hearing a harp at a concert. Coming from a deep musical background, Katy currently studies piano, having started the instrument in kindergarten and amassing eight years of experience. Mastering her favorite pieces such as *Fantasia Impromptu* and *Gnomensreigen*, she continues furthering her piano expertise today, winning awards from numerous organizations such as the N.J. Federation of Music Clubs (2006) and the Professional Music Teachers' Guild of N.J. (2010). In addition to the piano, Katy has also studied the cello and the Chinese zither. Balancing her time with music, she also pursues a competitive figure skating career at the Ice House. She spends her free time swimming and giving back to her community through music. Having studied harp with Elaine Christy as of recently, this is her first harp competition.



Sunny Wu
San Jose, Calif.
age 13

*Sonatina No. 7—
Naderman*

*Watching the Wheat—
Thomas*

La Source—Hasselmans

Sunny Wu is American-born Chinese, and her parents come from Taiwan. She has been playing the harp for four years. She began learning at age 9 with Sonya Yu, and currently studies with Linda Wood Rollo as of December 2006. She competed in Level 1 in the 2007 Inez Stanford Competition, and received the Gold Award. She also participated in the 2009 American Harp Society National Competition. Besides playing the harp, she has also played the piano for eight years, and enjoys reading, writing, and drawing. She has taken part in her elementary and middle school's Math Olympiads Club and represented her school in a Math Counts competition in 2010. She received an award for one of the highest individual scores in her school in 2008 and a second place award in her school in 2010 in Math Olympiads. Her favorite sports are table tennis and swimming, and she enjoys spending time with her two younger brothers.

New Artist Finalists

Elizabeth Yeoh-Wang, who lives in New York City, has studied harp with Karen Lindquist for three-and-a-half years. For the past two years, Elizabeth played with the Carnegie Hill Orchestra of the Inter-school Orchestras of New York and attended the Elisabeth Morrow Summer String Festival. She participates in MetroHarp's annual evaluations, and also studies piano with Robelyn Schrade-James. Elizabeth attends The Chapin School, where she just finished sixth grade. Her favorite subjects are English and math. This past year, she was a member of her school's chorus, math team, and model congress team. She also was on her school's soccer, basketball, and softball teams. Outside of school, Elizabeth likes to play and listen to music, read, play with Lego, cook, and spend time with her sister Sarah, who also plays the harp and piano, and the rest of her family.



**Elizabeth Ling
Yeoh-Wang**
New York, N.Y.
age 12

*Le Bon Petit Roi
d'Yvetot—Grandjany*

*Sonatina No. 1—
Naderman*

Automne—Grandjany

*Note: Two contestants withdrew from the final round; **Mallory Leigh Davison**, in the Emerging Artist division; and **Sophia Sunha Lee**, in the New Artist division.*



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