



# California Youth Symphony

# QUARTERNOTES

Christopher McLaurin, Editor

FEB / 2022

## CYS Welcomes 2022!

**W**elcome to 2022 and the second half of CYSP's Season! We are very proud of everything our students accomplished in 2021. All our ensembles had amazing performances, and we are thrilled they had the opportunity to perform in front of a receptive audience, in addition to receiving additional cheers from our first-ever livestream events. Not only did our livestreams allow thousands of our audience members to safely watch our concerts from their homes, but also allowed us to reach our CYSP family worldwide, with viewers in South Korea, Taiwan, Germany, the UK, and Spain. If you haven't seen them yet, head to our YouTube Channel, "CYSPMedia."

March represents the midway point of the season for CYSP, and its full schedule displays the riches of the CYSP program. The 1:00 pm concert on March 6 at Cañada College Theater will display the breadth and depth of the CYSP program by showcasing our Wind Symphony, Intermediate Strings Ensemble, and the Associate Orchestra. Kayla Lee, concertmaster and winner of the CYSP Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition, performs Henri Wieniawski's sparkling and glittering virtuoso miniature, *Scherzo-Tarantelle*. The Senior Orchestra Spring Concert on March 13 is packed with music that's fun for the audience and a challenge for the orchestra. Young Artist Competition Winner Andromeda

Kepecs will perform the ultra-romantic and hauntingly beautiful Violin Concerto by Alexander Glazunov. Our closing work is the monumental Symphony no. 2, subtitled *The Age of Anxiety*, by Leonard Bernstein. A highly unusual work, *The Age of Anxiety*, calls for a piano soloist of the highest caliber. We are delighted to have former YAC winner and 2018 CYSP tour soloist Parker Van Ostrand join the orchestra for this performance.

I'm so impressed that Maestro Eylar decided to program Bernstein's *The Age of Anxiety*. For me it's a "Desert Island Piece" and one of the most rewarding pieces of music an orchestra can play. It's a piano concerto... but not really, and it's a symphony, but not like one you've ever heard. What it really is, though, is a challenge for even the world's greatest professional orchestras.

Having performed the work myself, I can tell you that the rhythms are unforgivable. To play the piece well, everyone must walk in lock step, despite Bernstein's insistence on making that task as difficult as possible. There are mixed meters, offbeats that sound like onbeats, and some of the most avant-garde jazz writing in the repertoire. For the percussionists, lining up precise rhythms with a pianist 30 feet away requires listening skills that are above and beyond. And for the conductor and pianist, there are



somany challenges to keep the whole orchestra together while it moves at a breakneck pace. Bernstein's first performance was with himself at the piano and his longtime friend, Serge Koussevitzky conducting with the Boston Symphony. I'm not sure which one of them had the harder job!

Bernstein wrote the piece in 1949 after falling in love with W.H. Auden's poem of the same name. *The Age of Anxiety*, true to its name, explores one's quest to find substance and identity in an exponentially changing world. Much like 1949, when the Soviet Union detonated its first nuclear weapon and the nuclear arms race began, we also find ourselves in a changed world of uncertainty and anxiety. How fitting that we have the opportunity to take an evening to reflect on this theme as we also try to find new meaning and happiness in an uncertain and anxious world.

I do truly hope you enjoy these shows. I've had such a great time meeting so many of you, please makesure to find me to introduce yourself!

# CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY SOLOIST SPOTLIGHT



## PARKER VAN OSTRAND

*Piano - Guest Artist*

**Parker Van Ostrand** began studying piano at the age of four. As a competition winner, he performed with the Merced Symphony, the Central Valley Youth Symphony, the California Youth Symphony, the Auburn Symphony, and the Frost Symphony Orchestra, and was invited to perform with the Symphony Parnassus in 2017 and the Camellia Symphony in 2019. In 2017, he won the MTAC Concerto State Finals Competition and in 2018, the Mondavi Center National Young Artists Competition. In the summer of 2018, he performed the Gershwin Concerto in F with the California Youth Symphony in Latvia, Estonia, and Finland, and in the summer of 2019 he won first place and the Best Concerto Prize in the Philadelphia

International Piano Competition. In February 2020, he participated in the 10th National Chopin Piano Competition, where he received 3rd place along with the Best Sonata Prize. He was also a 2021 National YoungArts Finalist in Classical Music and received first prize in the 2020 National Steinway Piano Competition, Second Prize in the 2021 Canada International Piano Competition, and recently selected as a 2021 Presidential Scholar in the Arts. He is a student at Stanford University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying with Garrick Ohlsson and Jon Nakamatsu. He previously studied with Linda Nakagawa, Natsuki Fukasawa, and Sarah Chan.

## ANDROMEDA KEPECS

*Violin - Young Artist Competition Winner*

Violinist **Andromeda Kepecs**, 18, is a senior at Menlo School. She began her violin studies at age three with Joel Pattinson, and currently studies with David Chernyavsky of the San Francisco Symphony. Her orchestral studies began in 2008 with the Golden State Youth Orchestra. She joined the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra in 2017, and has been concertmaster since 2019. Andromeda is a five-time winner of the Golden State YO Concerto Competition, prizewinner of Fremont Symphony Young Artist Competition, winner of the California

Youth Symphony Young Artist Competition, and recipient of a fellowship to the Aspen Music Festival and School. She was a prizewinner of the Galante Chamber Music Competition with the Atlas Quartet of Young Chamber Musicians, and currently plays first violin for Quartet Cabaletta. She has attended Meadowmount, Online Solo Strings Intensive, and Music at Tateuchi. Most recently, she studied at the Perlman Music Program with Itzhak Perlman, Li Lin, and Catherine Cho. She will be attending Columbia University this fall.

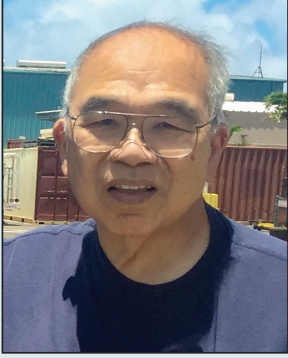


## KAYLA LEE

*Violin - Associate Orchestra Concert Competition Winner*

Violinist **Kayla Lee**, is an eighth grader at Stratford Raynor Middle School. She began playing violin in the 1st grade and is now studying with Ms. Zhao Wei. In the 2020 US Open Music Competition (USOMC), Kayla won first place in Instrumental Solo Junior division and also received the Outstanding Gold Award during the winners concert. She has participated in the Junior Bach Festival and was selected to perform during the festival concert. Kayla attended the Young Musicians' Chamber Music Academy in Crowden Music Center, and Summer Music Institute at Tateuchi Hall. She

was invited and performed in a masterclass by professor Danielle Belen from the University of Michigan. She has additionally participated in the Korean-American Music Supporters' Association (KAMSA) 2021 concert as principal violinist. Kayla won first place in the Junior division of the 2022 KAMSA competition, and also participated in the 2022 CASMEC All-state Junior High School String Orchestra as principal violinist. Kayla joined CYS in 2020, and is currently concertmaster of the Associate Orchestra. She enjoys baking, drawing, and ballet in her free time.



## In loving memory of Bit Leung “Bit” Seto

March 20, 1942 - December 9, 2021

CYS is saddened by the passing of Bit Seto, who passed away from a heart attack at his home in Pleasanton on December 9, 2021. He was 79 years old. He will always be remembered for his gentle, kind, and caring spirit.

After growing up in Hong Kong, Bit came to the United States to study engineering and received a Bachelor's and Master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. While he was a student, he met his wife Ruby at Chinese for Christ Church. The two married in 1968 and settled in Cupertino for most of their lives where they raised their two sons. Bit worked as an engineering manager on sensors used in manufacturing for various companies in Silicon Valley while Ruby worked as CYS's longtime Office Manager. He was a loving father and had a lifelong passion for gardening, woodworking and classical music.

For many years he volunteered at the California Youth Symphony: he accompanied the orchestra on six international tours between 1986 and 2000, chaperoned the ensemble's annual summer camp, and served on the organization's board for almost two decades. In 2018, Bit and Ruby moved to Stoneridge Creek in Pleasanton to enjoy life as retirees.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the California Youth Symphony. Contributions to CYS would honor Bit's commitment to educating young people through music. Please reference "in honor of Bit Seto" in the memo of the check or the message of the PayPal donation.

Bit touched many lives through his generosity and kindness. He will be greatly missed by the entire CYS family.

# CYS Musicians Receive County and State Honors

CYS congratulates our many musicians chosen to participate in the 2022 County and California All-State Honor Bands and Orchestras. We also wish to acknowledge the indispensable role that school music programs, school music teachers, and private music teachers play in the development of young musicians.

\* Musicians who also participated in the California All-State Honor Band or Orchestra

## 2022 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OR SANTA CLARA COUNTY HONOR BAND

Avery Chen\*  
Max Dai\*  
Theodore de Swiet\*  
Apple Gao\*  
Harry Guan\*  
Sean He\*  
Eliane Juang  
Mohit Kulkarni\*  
Mauriyaditya Lankipalle\*

Sidharth Mandava  
Zhaowei Qu\*  
Ethan Serina\*  
Nolan Smith\*  
Kyla Son\*  
Anirudh Srikanth  
Rohan Venkatesan\*  
Claire Wang\*  
Thomas Yu\*

Marcus Au  
Thomas Chang  
Christina Cheng  
Karolyn Cheng  
Yuli Choi  
Dylan Chow  
Diogo Feldman  
Rahul Ghosh  
Kanon Homma  
Evelyn Hsu  
Kristine Huang  
Jenna Kang  
Dana Kim  
Jennifer Jeongmin Kim  
Jimin Koo

## CALIFORNIA ALL-STATE HONOR BAND OR ORCHESTRA

Claire Kwon  
Aryaditya Lankipalle  
Hannah Lee  
Jia Lee  
Katherine Lee  
Kayla Lee  
Royce Lee  
Yixuan (Joyce) Li  
Jaehyun Lim  
Katherine Lin  
Madison Lin  
Erica Liu  
Charlotte Lucas  
Ethan Park  
Olivia Park

Veronica Qiu  
Clara Schultz  
Angelina Sun  
Rebekah Sung  
Milena Synek  
Chenghui Wang  
Evelyn Wang  
Claire Yang  
Megan Yang  
Paul Yoon  
Eve Zeng  
April Zhang  
Amy Zheng



# Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic Tour

Capping our 70th Anniversary season will be CYS's highly anticipated return to international touring. Our 2022 tour will take the orchestra to Eastern Europe for four performances in the historically and culturally fascinating countries of Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic.

Starting in the Czech Republic, CYS will make its return to Prague for the first time since 2014. In addition to our performance at the famous Dvořák Hall of the Rudolfinum, home of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, CYS musicians will tour the city's Castle and Malá Strana neighborhood, the beautiful Saint Nicholas Square, and enjoy a river cruise River Cruise along the beautiful Vltava River.

CYS will make its Polish debut with concerts in Wroclaw and Krakow. The orchestra will perform at the Karol Lipiński Academy of Music in Wroclaw - an important university and cultural center of the Lower Silesia region. The group will visit significant cultural sites that range from ancient architecture up through the 20th century.

CYS concludes its two-week adventure in Hungary, performing in one of Budapest's magical venues, along with sightseeing, plenty of free time, and a farewell folklore dinner.

Join us at our Tour Preview Concert *Bon Voyage* on Sunday, June 19 at 2:30PM at and wish Maestro Eylar and the orchestra *Bon Voyage* as they prepare to embark on their Central European odyssey, marking 23 international tours in 26 countries on 5 continents across the world.



## WANT TO JOIN US IN EASTERN EUROPE?

CYS's Companion Tour is open to friends, families, and supporters who want to travel alongside the student tour and experience these four beautiful and historic European cities. Running late June to early July, the professionally-organized Companion Tour follows similar travel itinerary but features expanded sightseeing opportunities, ungraded accommodations, and admission to each of CYS's four performances. **Companion Tour registration is due March 15, 2022, and space is limited, so don't miss out on this opportunity! Contact [Info@cys.org](mailto:Info@cys.org).**

## 2022 PROGRAM

### FESTIVAL CONCERT

WIND SYMPHONY  
STRING ENSEMBLES  
ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA  
March 6, 2022 | 1:00PM

Cañada College Theater  
Wieniawski: Scherzo-Tarantella (*Kayla Lee, violin*)

### SPRING CONCERT

SENIOR ORCHESTRA  
March 13, 2022 | 2:30PM  
San Mateo Performing Arts Center

Gershwin: *Cuban Overture*  
Glazunov: *Violin Concerto* (*Andromeda Kepecs, violin*)  
Brahms (Schoenberg): *Piano Quartet in G minor, 4th Mvt.*  
Bernstein: *Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety*  
(*Parker Van Ostrand, piano*)

### SEASON FINALE

SENIOR ORCHESTRA  
May 22, 2022 | 2:30PM  
San Mateo Performing Arts Center

Bates: *Resurrexit* (West Coast Premier)  
Strauss: *Suite from Der Rosenkavalier*  
Khachaturian: *Violin Concerto, 1st Mvt.*  
(*Esther Luan, violin*)  
Shostakovich: *Violin Concerto no. 1, 1st Mvt.*  
(*April Zhang, violin*)  
Borne: *Carmen Fantasy for Flute & Orchestra*  
(*Diana McGrory, flute*)

ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA  
WIND SYMPHONY  
June 5, 2022 | Time: TBD  
Location: TBD

Golovko: *The Russian Marimba Concerto, 1st Mvt.*  
(*Qiaolun (Apple) Gao, marimba*)  
Chaminade: *Flute Concertino, Op. 107*  
(*Evelyn Wang, flute*)

### SPRING CONCERT

STRING ENSEMBLES  
WIND ENSEMBLES  
June 5, 2022 | Time: TBD  
Location: TBD

### BON VOYAGE CONCERT

SENIOR ORCHESTRA  
June 19, 2022 | 2:30PM  
Location: TBD

Enjoy a preview of CYS's tour program on its visit to Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic.

# CYS@70 Fundraising Campaign

**THANK YOU CYS FAMILY!** *The Board of Directors and I would like to thank all of you for all your support of our CYS@70 Matching Campaign. Your generosity blew away our goal and took us a long way toward offsetting the additional costs that the effects of COVID has had on our last two seasons. We had well over a hundred donors and companies give \$200 or more. For those of you who took the extra time to ask your company to match your gift, thank you! Your gift was tripled!*

*The future of music making begins here with the opportunities and dreams we realize. The tax-deductible contributions you make help the California Youth Symphony continue its legacy of developing talented youth and presenting great music for us and our children in the communities we serve.*

## WAYS TO GIVE

### • DONATE TO OUR ANNUAL FUND OR SET UP A MONTHLY DONATION

A cash gift to CYS helps where it is needed most. A donation can be given to celebrate a milestone, anniversary, or to honor the memory of a dear friend or relative as a tribute. Monthly contributions are a convenient and easy way to provide a reliable source of support for CYS. Each month, we will automatically charge your card for your desired donation amount. You may opt out of monthly gifts at any time.

### • DONATE TO THE SHIDLER OBOE AWARD

The Shidler Oboe Award is named in memory of the remarkable woman Deborah (Deb) Shidler who served the performing arts and the California Youth Symphony as professional oboist and coaching staff.

The Shidler Award for outstanding oboists was established by her loving husband David Burkhart this season to recognize significant dedication by an outstanding oboist. Award is given to students committed to their education and makes exceptional contributions in the community through Mrs. Shidler's legacy to become better selves and active leaders.

To donate to the Shidler Oboe Scholarship Fund include "Shidler Oboe Fund" in the memo of the check or the message of the PayPal donation.

### • CONTACT YOUR EMPLOYER ABOUT A MATCHING GIFT

Many employers have programs that can match your gift, often doubling or tripling your impact on CYS. Check with your employer to see whether it offers a matching gift program. You may be required to submit a form to your employer with your donation amount and the date you made your gift.

### • GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES

We gratefully accept gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds or other securities. If they have increased in value, a donation could help you achieve both your financial and charitable goals. If you give securities directly to the California Youth Symphony, you may bypass capital gains taxes that would be due on a sale and reduce your income taxes.

### • PLAN A GIFT

The California Youth Symphony honors individuals who have generously provided for its future through bequests, trusts, and other life income. The simplest and most common planned gift is a bequest to CYS in your will. You can also designate CYS as the beneficiary of your retirement plan or of a life insurance policy. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested in planning a gift!



CYS accepts cash gifts by check or credit card. Donations can be made via one of the following:

**Online:** Visit [cys.org/donate](https://cys.org/donate)

**Email:** Shayne Regalado at [Shayne@cys.org](mailto:Shayne@cys.org)

**Phone:** (650) 325-6666

**Mail:** California Youth Symphony  
441 California Avenue, #5  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

*Through your tax-deductible contributions, you ensure that young people will continue to have the opportunity to share in the joy of music, as they have since 1952. Thank you for investing in the future of music and the next generation of leaders!*

## LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

441 CALIFORNIA AVENUE #5  
PALO ALTO, CA 94306

PH. 650 325 6666

VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

[WWW.CYS.ORG](http://WWW.CYS.ORG)



## California Youth Symphony



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## Audition Information

The California Youth Symphony is dedicated to the artistic development of a new generation of musicians and to building audiences to support them. Members of the California Youth Symphony receive invaluable training and have wonderful opportunities to enhance their musical growth, experiment and study new works, develop leadership skills, and perform great repertoire at a high level of excellence. CYS offers seven programs: two levels of string ensemble, two levels of wind ensemble, our Wind Symphony, our Associate Orchestra and our Senior Orchestra. We welcome you to audition with us! For full information and to register, please visit our website – [www.cys.org/auditions](http://www.cys.org/auditions).

## Young Artist Competition

Each spring the California Youth Symphony holds its Young Artist Competition to select soloists for the following season. This year's competition will be held at **Stanford University, Campbell Recital Hall**, on **March 27, 2022**. The competition is open to pianists and instrumental soloists under age 19. A panel of three judges will choose two young artists to perform with the CYS Orchestra during the November or March concert series of the 2022-23 Season. The application deadline is **March 15**. **Consult our website – [www.cys.org/yac](http://www.cys.org/yac) - for more information.**

