

Polonaise

The Semi-Annual Magazine of the Chopin Foundation of the United States
Spring 2016



Chopin



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Polonaise is published semi-annually by the Chopin Foundation of the USA
1440 79th Street Causeway, Suite 117, Miami, FL 33141

Editorial Office: 305-868-0624 • 305-865-5150 (Fax)

E-mail: info@chopin.org • **Website:** www.chopin.org

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Polonaise

SPRING 2016

VOLUME XXV / NUMBER 2

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Cover photo: Chopin's last piano, on which he composed during the last two years of his life. Photo courtesy of the Chopin Museum in Warsaw, Poland [M/87].

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Blanka A. Rosenstiel

Founder and President

Message from the Founder

"This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before."

Leonard Bernstein

The year 2015 was filled with many wonderful events, starting with our National Chopin Piano Competition. Our winners went on to Warsaw last October – and came back with prizes! We are very proud of Eric Lu and of Kate Liu as well as all of the others who were able to enrich their musical experiences by participating in such a prestigious event.

Now we look forward to the next Chopin Competition, which is only four years ahead! We will continue to encourage young American pianists to perfect their interpretations of Chopin's music and to work hard to get ready for the year 2020. Our Chopin Scholarship Program has helped many young pianists to continue their musical education, and we are eager to reach many more!

Our 2015 competition's performances were recorded and made available to all. Just visit our new Video Channel available on our website www.chopin.org and listen to all of those who played during the Miami Competition in February 2015.

We will continue to add new recordings of current and future performances so please visit often. What a great opportunity for us to relive these glorious concerts!

All of our programs will be continued for the upcoming 2016-17 and beyond. Many more young talented artists will come to South Florida to perform for us in the Southern Wine and Spirit's Chopin for All Free Concert Series, and master musicians will play at our Chopin Salon Concerts. In collaboration with other national and international organizations we can extend the reach of Chopin's music and introduce more artists to our audiences. We will simply follow the advice of the great Leonard Bernstein – we will make beautiful music accessible to all.

With the help of our generous supporters – current and future – we will do what we can to help fight the violence and unite people with the beauty of the music. Thank you, friends and members of the Chopin Foundation and all of you who assist us in carrying our mission forward.

Chopin Foundation Donors and Contributors

**We extend our
deepest thanks**

to those whose vision and support have helped us this year with our mission: to develop the next generation of great musicians! May we continue to add to this esteemed roster others who would join us in support of our mission.

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Rosenstiel Foundation

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Executive Director's Message



Jadwiga Viga Gewert
Executive Director

Since the last issue of the *Polonaise*, a lot has happened in the world of Chopin's music. October 2015 was very special.

First of all, two Americans won top prizes at the XVII International Chopin Competition in Warsaw. Eric Lu, our first prize winner in the National Competition, came in fourth, and Kate Liu, a recipient of our Chopin Scholarship for two years, won the Bronze Medal. A group of about forty American lovers of Chopin's music went

to Warsaw with me - and what a group it was! There was Dr. Gary Ingle from the Music Teachers National Association, Dr. Joel Harrison from the American Pianists Association, along with many donors and contributors to the Chopin Foundation and to the heritage of Frederic Chopin.

Together we had a great time, not only during our lengthy breakfasts at the Victoria Hotel, but later during the competition sessions at the Warsaw Philharmonic Hall, Chopin Museum, and just enjoying our stay in Warsaw. On these pages you will find more about this special time.

Then in November, a Season of Winners started here in South Florida, with performances by Eric Zuber and Jon Nakamatsu. In December we enjoyed two concerts by George Li. In January we had the pleasure to listen to Krzysztof Jablonski and Josh Wright, followed in February by Kate Liu. March brought Evren Ozel, a promising scholarship recipient, the outstanding Hana Chu, and a past Chopin Competition winner Kevin Kenner, who is now a faculty member at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. April features a Polish mezzo soprano, Agnieszka Rehlis, and two concerts by selected local piano students. In May, Eric Lu will conclude the season, a very special one, in which the winners, new and past have been presented. Please visit our website www.chopin.org and our Facebook page for more information on these and coming concerts. See you at our events!



Hilda Andrews, George Berberian,
K. Jablonski, Ligia Wiegand, Marvin Leibowitz



Jon Nakamatsu with Becki Baez & Olga Melin



K. Jablonski with Margarita Garcia,
Eldris de la Torre & Urszula Z.



Lady Blanka with Jon Nakamatsu



Kevin Kenner with his students



Kevin Kenner with Margarita Shevchenko
& Richard Lubman

Highlights from 2015-16 Season



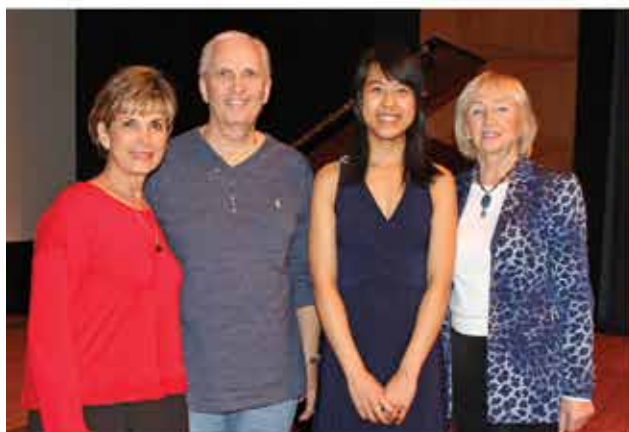
November 2015
Eric Zuber



December 2015
George Li



January 2016
Josh Wright



February 2016
Kate Liu with Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hersh (SWS) & Viga Gewert



March 2016
Evren Ozel with Gloria Kahn & Blanka Rosentiel



March 2016
Hana Chu with FAN Members

A Note to Polonaise Readers

The most recent addition to our catalogue Chopin's Revolutionary Legacy: A Pianistic Pianism by Jon Verbalis can now be accessed via the website at www.chopin.org -- "Publications."

Winners of the XVII International Chopin Competition



President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, Jury Chair, Katarzyna Popowa Zydron & Director of the National Institute of Fryderyk Chopin, Dr. Artur Szklener, with the finalists. First row, l-r: Seong-Jin Cho, Charles Richard-Hamelin, Kate Liu & Eric Lu. Second row, l-r: Ying (Tony) Young, Aljoša Jurinic, Aimi Kobayashi, Szymon Nehring, Georgijs Osokins

1st Prize — Mr. Seong-Jin Cho (South Korea)

30,000 € and gold medal, Funded by the President of the Republic of Poland

2nd Prize — Mr. Charles Richard-Hamelin (Canada)

25,000 € and a silver medal, Funded by the Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Poland

3rd Prize — Ms. Kate Liu (United States)

20,000 € and a bronze medal, Funded by the President of the Council of Ministers (Prime Minister)

4th Prize — Mr. Eric Lu (United States)

15,000 €, Funded by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage

5th Prize — Mr. Yike (Tony) Yang (Canada)

10 000 €, Funded by the Mayor of Warsaw

6th Prize — Mr. Dmitry Shishkin (Russia)

7,000 €, Funded by the Voivode of Mazovia

Equal distinctions of 4,000 € for the remaining finalists funded by the Mayor of Warsaw:

Mr. Aljoša Jurinic (Croatia), Mr. Szymon Nehring (Poland), Mr. Georgijs Osokins (Latvia), Ms. Aimi Kobayashi (Japan)

Winners' Impressions

Eric Lu

I wanted to participate in the Chopin Competition because it has always been a dream of mine since childhood, when I heard about this prestigious event. I went in with the mindset to simply play this beautiful, great music that I have studied for the past few years, and – if possible – also to play for the people there in Poland, Chopin's home country. Of course, this event is a one of a kind, and along with the National Chopin Competition, it is the first adult competition that I have participated in.

The National Chopin Competition in Miami was truly a blessing for me. Originally I wanted to participate to see how I would fare in a senior competition setting, and to maybe see if I could participate at the International Chopin Competition. Because there were so many talented pianists around me, some of them much older, I did not know what to expect. After winning the competition, it gave me assurance that I can participate in Warsaw. What I did not expect, or really imagine, was the tremendous support and opportunities the Chopin Foundation would provide after the competition. It was the first time I have really played concerts in my life, and I cannot stress how important these experiences were for preparing my psychological state on stage eventually in Warsaw. The feeling of being on stage is not one you can prepare for, but just have to "do it". Going to different places to play great music has been a dream of mine. I am very grateful to the Chopin Foundation for helping me start out on this path of performing all over the world.

In Warsaw, the atmosphere was very intense, and the International Chopin Competition was highly scrutinized; but for me, I didn't take it all in until after it was over. When I was there, I tried to just focus on practicing. My parents were there, although they stayed in a different hotel room, and didn't accompany me everywhere. Instead, they listened to almost every stage of the competition in the concert hall. I felt that this gave me the space to think and concentrate in solitude and it was most important. In addition, one of my best friends was also playing, and we were very supportive and pulled for each other throughout the whole competition. This helped keep the atmosphere more "normal."

Winners' Impressions

Seong-Jin Cho

Participating in the Chopin Competition is my childhood dream come true. It is happiness, joy, pleasure, in a word – a wonderful experience. The first time I felt I wanted to become a pianist was when I was 10 years old; before that, I treated the piano as a hobby. The deciding factor was my love for music; that was the only source of this decision.

What is most important to me in Chopin's music is refinement, drama, poetry and nostalgia. Now I play only Chopin. That might seem boring, but thanks to this, I get to know this music and understand it better and better, and discover more and more nuances in it. The Competition certainly does help in this.

I never practice more than five hours a day – after that I get tired and there is no point in continuing to work. I focus most on the musical side and the phrasing, although obviously practicing technique does take a lot of time. Sometimes I play a recital just for myself and simply perform the whole program.

When I was a child and began learning to play the piano, I had no idea that it is possible to earn a living being a professional musician. My approach changed when I was 16 years old – at that point I decided it was worthwhile to travel this path. Not for fame or money – just because it is a very worthwhile, beautiful work. Thus, my greatest dream is to concertize until I die, to appear on stage even when I am an old man. I want to create good music that will be appreciated by the audience. That is the only important thing to me.

Charles Richard-Hamelin

I don't know if I would say I am an artist. You always have to raise the bar for yourself, so as to never get cocky or start paying in a boring manner. You always have to move forward, though it is not easy. It is wonderful, however, to know that there is never one right answer that you have to keep looking for them for your entire life.

It was last year that I started taking part in international competitions and I only got into two of them. But those two changed my outlook a lot, because I won two prizes. I felt encouraged to take part in more of them, which is why I am here. I turn 26 in October, so it was my only chance – after that, I will be too old. This is one of the few monographic competitions. Frankly, if it was anyone else but Chopin, I would quickly have enough of playing only one composer – but never of Chopin!

One never practices so much as before competitions. Preparations are a very important element of a pianist's technical resources. Even if you don't win any prizes, the competition makes you play better.

I love both of Chopin's concerti. But I have to admit – I only know the F minor. Though I will definitely have to learn the E minor Concerto eventually because I will be associated with Chopin for a long time, as he is my favorite composer. His wonderful music can be played in many new, intriguing, wonderful, beautiful ways. One day, I feel like hearing Chopin in Zimemran's rendition; another day, in the interpretation of Bozhanov, whom I adore. Also on my infinitely long list are Lipatti, Rubinstein..., they all play so differently, but always from the heart. Chopin brings out the best in a person; I think that by listening to how someone plays Chopin, I can tell what kind of person they are.

Kate Liu

I have a feeling of comfort in playing Chopin's music because there is a lot of freedom in it. Obviously, you have to play what the composer wrote, and properly interpret his instructions, but in each performance of Chopin there is also room for your own feelings, for playing from the bottom of your heart.

In a pianist's work, the most difficult thing is loneliness. We spend hours alone with ourselves practicing, thinking, analyzing, which in and of itself is wonderful, but it does exclude interaction with another musician. Being an artist requires complete commitment; you have to love music, want to listen to it all the time, enjoy it, and be able to relax with it. A true musician needs music like air.

I will remember my participation in the Warsaw Competition, the hall and great audience, for the rest of my life. When I got into the finals, I was looking forward, above all, to performing with an excellent orchestra directed by a superb conductor. I could play the way I wanted, and they just followed me – and that, after just one rehearsal! This is very important to me.

Before going on stage, I cannot relax, I am devoured by stress. I practice until the last moment, focusing above all on technical issues. My fingers have to take on a peculiar independence, hit the keys almost automatically. In the Concerto in E minor, I like the second movement the most; when I play it, I feel like I am in a dream world. Sometimes I am too nervous to get into that state, but when I pull it off, I experience really beautiful moments.

I have never thought about what I would do if I couldn't play the piano. I can't imagine life without art.



2016-17 Concert Season

Chopin for All Free Concert Series

Presented by Southern Wine and Spirits of America

All concerts in this series are performed twice:

On Saturdays at 3 pm, Broward County Main Library
100 S. Andrews Ave, Fort Lauderdale

On Sundays at 3 pm, Granada Presbyterian Church
950 University Drive, Coral Gables

Nov 12, 13, 2016

TBA – A winner of the MTNA/other competition

Dec 3, 4, 2016

Rachel Kudo, piano and Brandon Ridenour, trumpet

Jan 21, 22, 2017

Drew Petersen, a laureate of the
2015 Leeds Int'l Piano Competition

Feb 18, 19, 2017

Krzysztof Ksiazek, young outstanding Polish pianist

March 11, 12, 2017

Anna Miernik, young awards winning pianist from Poland

April 22, 23, 2017

Young Pianists Concerts– selected local piano students
in an All-Chopin program

May 20, 21, 2017

Eric Lu, piano and Ariel Horowitz, violin

Salon Concerts

La Gorce Country Club
5685 Alton Rd, Miami Beach

Presenting three master pianists from Poland, jurors/
laureates of the Int'l Chopin Competition

Nov 20, 2016

Janusz Olejniczak, Poland

Jan 15, 2017

Katarzyna Popowa-Zydron, Poland

March 26, 2017

Marek Drewnowski, Poland



Chopin at Key Biscayne

Presented in partnership with the
Village of Key Biscayne, Key Biscayne Community Center

February 26, 2017

Young outstanding American pianist – name TBA

All dates and the artists are subject to change. For more information please visit: www.chopin.org; or call: 305.868.0624

Sponsor Highlight

Isabel and Marvin Leibowitz

Marvin and Isa thank Chopin's music for bringing them together. When Marvin was returning from the 1985 International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, he met the lovely Isabel on a plane. Thirty years later, they still play a very active role in the Chopin Foundation and continue supporting its mission of helping young talented musicians, in which they strongly believe.

Marvin Leibowitz has a passion for classical music and has been a devotee and supporter of the performing and visual arts all his life. Because of his special love of Chopin's music, he joined the Chopin



Foundation in the early 1980s, and has served as its Director and then Vice-President.

Isa Leibowitz was born in Bogotá, Colombia, and was a corporate sales advertising executive for Caracol TV and Radio, the leader in its field at that time. She immigrated to the United States in 1980. Always a lover of the performing arts, after meeting Marvin she has also served at the Board of Directors of the Chopin Foundation. Both Marvin and Isa continue to stay active and support other organizations, such as Florida Grand Opera, South Florida Art Center, The Dranoff International Two-Piano Foundation, and many others.



Marvin Leibowitz with Ning An and Lady Blanka



Isa & Marvin Leibowitz with Josh Wright

Visit to Warsaw

The Chopin Foundation arranged for a group of about 40 American music lovers to visit Warsaw to attend the XVII International Chopin Competition. Included in our group were people from Miami, Seattle, North Carolina, Philadelphia, Chicago, Indianapolis, and more. What we all had in common, is a love of Chopin's music. We found ourselves at the Warsaw Philharmonic Hall surrounded by music aficionados from all over the world, from Australia to many European countries, to North and South America. The atmosphere in Warsaw during the International Chopin Competition is always special, and not only at the Competition Hall and Chopin Museum, but also on the streets. Along Warsaw's main thoroughfare, Nowy Swiat (New World), benches playing music by Chopin were installed in 2010 and still amuse visitors.

On October 17, 2015, at the Holy Cross Church, where Chopin's heart is buried, we attended a great ceremonial concert commemorating the anniversary of the composer's death. The Mozart Requiem was performed, as always on that date, for a crowd that overflowed into the street. It was a very touching and memorable evening.



Valuable Pleyel Piano owned by the Chopin Foundation found its permanent home at the Chopin Museum in Warsaw

Since 2009, the Chopin Foundation of the United States has owned a Pleyel piano, model E #13555, built in 1846 in Paris. Frederic Chopin's signature is inscribed on the piano, thought to have been at the request of the purchaser, Mme de Reymont, a student of Chopin. The composer himself selected the piano and received a commission from Pleyel. This much-traveled piano is unique in musical history. Shipped from Paris to the Reymont home in Romania, it was not much used, almost neglected, and by the mid-twentieth century it was sent to Milan, Italy, to be sold. Bought by Stephen B. Tanner, the American Consul in Milan at the time and brought to the U.S., the piano was purchased in May 2009 by Professor William W. Langebartel (emeritus, Temple University, 1980).

Immediately following the purchase, Prof. Langebartel donated it to the Chopin Foundation of the U.S. on behalf of himself and his late wife, Imelde Della Valle, who died in 2008. Prof. Langebartel stayed in Onno, Italy, until his death in 2012.

In 2009, the Chopin Foundation sent the Pleyel piano to the Fryderyk Chopin Institute in Warsaw for showing at a special exhibit in its new Chopin Museum as a loan. "There is no better place for the piano touched by great Frederic than his hometown, Warsaw," said Mrs. Blanka Rosenstiel, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland and Founder of the Chopin Foundation. "I am happy that, thanks to the generosity of Prof. Langebartel, we are able to contribute to the Chopin heritage."

Six years later, on October 18, 2015, a special ceremony took place at the Ostrogski Palace, home of the Chopin Museum. The Pleyel piano model no. 13555 was officially donated to the National Institute and will stay permanently in its current location at the Paris Salon on the second floor.

The National Institute of Fryderyk Chopin was represented by Dr. Artur Szklener, Director, Dr. Wojciech Marchwica, Deputy Director, and Mr. Maciej Janicki, the Chopin Museum's Curator. Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. John C. Law, represented the Embassy of the U.S. to Poland. Among other attendees was Ewa Rubinstein (daughter of Arthur), Prof. Andrzej Jasinski, members of the "American group" who attended the International Chopin Competition, and other invited guests.



Chopin Foundation Council of San Francisco

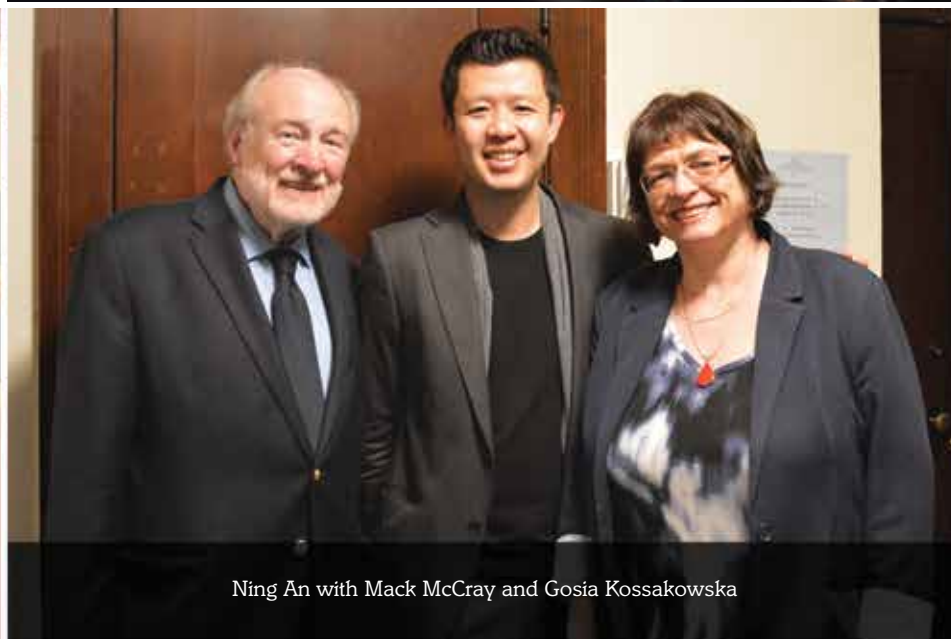


Mack McCray, President

The 2015-2016 season has proved as successful and busy as the last several seasons. We were very happy to welcome a new board member, Nagisa Ariza, and our annual Chopin Competition for Young Pianists last June was again filled with so many competitors that we needed to use two sets of judges in over-lapping sessions. Last year's winners, as always, performed in a winners' awards concert, and again at our December holiday concert at the Queen Anne Hotel.

On February 21 we brought back the wonderful pianist Ning An to perform our annual Chopin Birthday Concert. Ning first played our Birthday Concert fifteen years ago, and is currently enjoying a strong international career. His stunning program included the four Chopin Ballades and Liszt's B-minor Sonata.

This year's competition will be held on Saturday, June 4 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The Winners' Concert will be held at the same venue on the evening of June 5.



Ning An with Mack McCray and Gosia Kossakowska

Chopin Foundation Council of the Northwest



Allan Park, President

We had record attendance for our 2016 Northwest Chopin Festival with 167 pianists performing their beloved Chopin pieces for three adjudicators in three different auditoriums. The Competition took place on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Bellevue Presbyterian Church with the Gold & Silver Medalists' Concert on Sunday, January 31, at the beautiful Brechemin Auditorium, UW School of Music. We are delighted with our very successful partnership with major local symphony orchestras. Our 2016 concerto

winner, Edward Zhang will perform the 1st movement of the E minor Concerto on Saturday, April 16, 2016, 7:30 p.m. with Maestro Clinton Smith, Conductor and Orchestra Seattle.

2016 Gold and Silver Medalists are:

Division A Gold: Andrew Gu, Constantina Tsang, David Gattien

Division A Silver: Catherine Xie, Suyoun Kim, Isabelle Yuan, Lucas Tang, Arthur Gong, Harrison Li

Division B Gold: Daniel Jung, Mia Chen, Eashan Vanish

Division B Silver: Young Park, Nicole Yang, Dora Ziyan Chen, Izabella Tu

Division C Gold: Sandy Huang, Steve Silverberg, Edward Zhang

Division C Silver: Jesse Morris, Ellen Li, Quennie Nguyen, Terri Ji, Nile Camai, Alex Zhang

Division D Gold: Jonathan Staley, Elise Winkler, Kevin Yip

Division D Silver: Millicent McFall, Andrew Ma, Solomon Kim, Emily Pan, Deanna Han

Division E Gold: Michelle Zheng, Alex Camai, William Huang

Division E Silver: Max Randall, Tate Cohan, Vanessa Ma, Peter Preston, Alexander Lu

Division F Gold: Soomi Sung

Division F Silver: Jaesung Kim

Division G CONCERTO WINNER (Gold): Edward Zhang

Division G Silver (alternate): Stephen Binondo

Our 2016 adjudicators, Dr. Rachelle McCabe, Milica Jelaca Jovanovic and Jeffrey Biegel wrote wonderful adjudication remarks for what amounted to over 24 hours of combined playing time by the 167 pianists. Our festival director, Judy Baker managed a masterpiece of a schedule for our hard-working volunteers, our esteemed board members: Dr. Steven Lagerberg, Yunbo Cassady, Alison Bell, Cathy Carpenter, Dr. Mary Chandler, Mei Lu, Dr. Hanna Cyba, Dr. Adam Aleksander, Kurt Kolb, Dr. Yelena Balabanova, and all 167 participating pianists.



Gold medals and customized backpacks were generously donated by Ali Bell and Kurt Kolb, while our Chopin NW Council founder, Dr. Steven Lagerberg hosted our Gold and Silver Medalists' concert with insight, narration and history of the pieces being performed. Having Dr. Lagerberg emcee this event was the top ticket in town. Not only did the audience listen to Chopin's beautiful music, but they learned about the composer, his life and the history behind his compositions. Our vice president, Yunbo Cassady prepared a gourmet dinner, fit for royalty, for the entire Chopin board and the 2016 adjudicators at her house. It took a village to make our event successful and many commented on how professional and comfortable our festival was for all who attended. The entire Gold and Silver Medalists' concert is available via YouTube, courtesy of Opus4 Studios who professionally recorded the concert. Simply visit ChopinNW.org for details.

Chopin Foundation Council of Virginia



Robert Joskowiak, President

The year 2016 marks the 12th season of Chopin in Barboursville but the first as the Chopin Council of Virginia. We have been fortunate to experience ongoing support from the Chopin Foundation of the US in Miami and personal encouragement from Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, mentor and great friend during more than a decade of our activity.

Our series known as Chopin in Barboursville has attracted many internationally renowned artists such as Ingolf Wunder from Austria and Eduard Kunz from Russia. We hosted

the winners of the National Chopin Piano Competition: Ning An, Mei-Ting Sun and Claire Huangci, and Polish musicians such as Jacek Kortus, Julia Kociuban, Magdalena Stern Baczewska, Piotr Rozanski, Artur Dutkiewicz (jazz), and Maestro Mariusz Patyra (violin).

None of this would be possible if not for the generous support of Luca Paschina (Barboursville Vineyards), Ms. Karla Baer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fithian, Lee

Wouters, Drs. Jacek and Barbara Paszkowiak, Mr. and Mrs. John Sponski, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Juntilla, Cynthia Joskowiak (Premier Virginia Properties), Yamaha Artist Service, Paul Dryer (attorney) and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland.

Since Fryderyk Chopin himself preferred smaller, salon like venues, we host our events at Zonin Hall at Barboursville Vineyards. Fine wine, champagne and hors d'oeuvres are served prior to each concert and during intermission, at these black tie events.

Our goal is to expand our reach to attract also a younger audience by partnering with Blue Ridge School for boys (St. George, VA) for the April 21 concert by the 2015 National Competition winner, Eric Lu.

We also offer student discounts at our Premier Event, also featuring Eric Lu, on May 8th at Barboursville Vineyards where Chopin and great wine will be celebrated.

We are honored to be a member of Chopin Foundation of the U.S. Family!

Come and join us in Virginia!



Magdalena Baczewska with the Joskowiak Family



Lady Blanka & Claire Huangci with the concert patrons



Ingolf Wunder

Scholarship Program for Young Pianists

Requirements, Repertoire and How to Apply - Online Applications Only!

The purpose of the Chopin Foundation Scholarship Program is to support and encourage young, talented American pianists through up to four years of preparation for the National Chopin Piano Competition of the United States, which is held in Miami, Florida, every five years.

Up to ten (10) renewable scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded each year on a competitive basis to outstanding young American pianists who demonstrate a special affinity for the interpretation of Frédéric Chopin's music. In addition, the Scholarship Committee may grant half-awards in the amount of \$500 to qualified applicants. A half-award may be granted to an applicant only once during the four-year program.

Eligibility

The Scholarship Program is open to all qualified American pianists (US citizens or legal residents) not younger than 14 and not older than 17 years of age on May 15 of their first year of application.

Renewal and Repertoire

The scholarships are renewable for up to four years as long as the recipient continues to study piano, maintains satisfactory academic progress, and each year submits an application including a video recording of an unedited performance of the Chopin works required for that year for evaluation. The Scholarship Committee may accept an application of the returning applicant even if one year was skipped within the four-year period. Any applicant who was not awarded a scholarship may reapply the following year, submitting a new recording of the music of his/her choice from the repertoire required for the year in which he/she was not accepted. Reapplication is allowed only once while in the Scholarship Program.

Year 1: 2 Etudes, 2 Nocturnes, **and** your choice of: a Ballade **or** Barcarole in F-sharp Major Op. 60 **or** Fantasia in F Minor Op. 49

Year 2: 6 consecutive Preludes from Op. 28 played in order, 2 Waltzes, **and** 2 Mazurkas

Year 3: 1 Sonata and 1 of the following Polonaises: Andante Spianato and Grand Polonaise in E-flat Major Op. 22 **or** Polonaise in F-sharp Minor Op. 44 **or** Polonaise-Fantaisie in A-flat Major Op. 61

Year 4: 1 of Chopin's two Concertos – all movements - with orchestra or a 2nd piano

Procedure

As of 2015, all Scholarship applications must be submitted online. Please visit the Chopin Foundation website, www.chopin.org for a link to the online Scholarship application.

PLEASE READ ALL ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

The following are required and must be uploaded with the application:

- 1 Statement of career goals.
- 2 Two recommendations from piano teachers or professional piano performers. The recommendation letters may be uploaded and submitted with your application; or they can be mailed directly to the Chopin Foundation – postmarked on or before May 15; or emailed to info@chopin.org directly from the recommender, with a date on or before May 15.
- 3 A video recording of Chopin's works as required for Years 1 – 4 (listed previously), must be recorded in one session - but must be saved and uploaded as separate files. For example, Year 1 applicants would upload three files: one with the 2 Etudes, one with the 2 Nocturnes and one with the chosen piece. The recording must be of professional quality, but cannot be edited. Please label the uploaded files with the name of the piece(s) and the edition used and upload the list of pieces and editions as a separate document where indicated.
- 4 Proof of current school enrollment/statement of being home-schooled.
- 5 Non-refundable \$25.00 application fee.
- 6 Optional: Upload additional page(s) to list significant repertoire studied. Place an asterisk (*) by works performed in public. Include copies of programs/reviews, if possible.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please use the online application link www.GetAcceptd.com. Applications, along with all attachments listed above, must be received by May 15th. Scholarships will be announced by July 15th. Please contact the Chopin Foundation with any questions.

The Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.
Phone: (305) 868-0624 • Web: www.chopin.org • Email: info@chopin.org

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The Chopin Foundation's programs are sponsored in part by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of Commissioners; the City of Coral Gables; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council of Arts and Culture; numerous generous individuals; and the following:



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Contributions

Please be generous and join us in our mission

The Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc., is a national non-profit organization headquartered in Miami, FL, and dedicated, since 1977, to the support of young American rising-star classical musicians through scholarships, performance opportunities and international exchange programs. The Foundation also offers these talented young pianists a chance to compete in the National Chopin Piano Competition of the USA, held in Miami every five years. The Chopin Foundation is committed to making classical music accessible to ALL by presenting a FREE Concert Series in two locations in South Florida. Our mission is carried out on the West Coast by councils in San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles. The Chopin Foundation is a member of the National Music Council and the International Federation of Chopin Societies.

With your support, young talented American artists will receive the encouragement they need and the recognition they deserve. Thanks to your generosity, the music of Frédéric Chopin will be kept alive, enriching our lives and preparing new generations of classical music lovers.

What Your Contribution Helps Fund

- National Chopin Piano Competition of the USA
- Chopin for All FREE Concert Series in South Florida
- Four-year Scholarship Program for Young American Pianists, ages 14-17
- Winners Exchange Program with European counterparts
- Semi-annual Polonaise magazine, sent to all major music schools and music teachers across the USA; Chopin Societies around the world; our Scholarship Recipients, Young Pianists and Competition Applicants; and our Members.

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