



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 25, 2016

Contact: Igor Shakhman  
(360) 735-7278

## **EIGHT EXTRAORDINARY NORTHWEST MUSICIANS TO COMPETE IN 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL VANCOUVER SYMPHONY YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION JANUARY 31**

### *Vancouver's Trinity Lutheran Church to again host popular event*

(Vancouver, WA) The time is here to announce the finalists for the 22nd Annual Vancouver Symphony Young Artists Competition, to be held on Sunday, January 31 at 1pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vancouver, WA. Returning as Master of Ceremonies for the event is All Classical's Edmund Stone.

The competition is one of the highlights of The VSO season every year, with young musicians from a 135 mile radius vying for \$5,000 in scholarship money, as well as the opportunity to perform their winning piece with The VSO at our April 9 & 10 concerts.

The competition begins at 1 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church at 309 W. 39th Street, Vancouver. Admission is free and open to the public.

The eight finalists are:

Monica Chang	piano	Age 14	Camas, WA	Grade 9	Camas HS
	Current Instructor: Renato Fabbro				
Nicholas Dill	violin	Age 14	Brush Prairie, WA	Grade 9	Home school
	Current Instructor: Carol Sindell				
Joanne Lee	cello	Age 16	Portland, OR	Grade 11	Lincoln HS
	Current instructor: Hyun-Jin Kim				
Paul Lee	cello	Age 16	Portland, OR	Grade 10	Westview HS
	Current instructor: Hyun-Jin Kim				
Richard Lu	cello	Age 17	Camas, WA	Grade 12	Skyview HS
	Current instructor: Marilyn de Oliveir				
Christopher Yoon	piano	Age 15	Portland, OR	Grade 10	Westview HS
	Current instructor: Renato Fabbro				
Lauren Yoon	piano	Age 16	Portland, OR	Grade 11	Lakeridge HS
	Current instructor: Monica Ohuchi Bunch				
Anthony Zheng	piano	Age 18	Portland, OR	Grade 12	Westview HS
	Current instructor: Renato Fabbro				

Competitors are guaranteed scholarship money of \$1,000 (gold medal), \$500 (silver medal) or \$250 (bronze medal). The eight finalists were chosen from dozens of CD entries submitted on CD and then judged by a blue ribbon panel of professional musicians. At the January 31 competition, each musician will perform one classical composition with piano accompaniment.

To be eligible to compete in the three categories of piano, strings, and brass/woodwinds/percussion, students must have been 18 years of age or under as of January 1, 2016 and reside within a 135-mile radius of Vancouver. This area now includes cities as far north as Seattle, as far south as Eugene and as far east as Yakima, and be actively studying with a private music instructor.

In addition to scholarship money, first place will perform their winning selections with Maestro Brotons and The VSO at our April 9 & 10, 2016 concerts at Skyview Concert Hall.

### **Edmund Stone**

Edmund grew up on an English farm and listened constantly to BBC Radio where he developed an early fascination for entertainment. In his late teens he joined a youth theater and toured in *Romeo & Juliet*, before moving to Scotland, where his love for radio, film and writing merged together when he became a film correspondent for BBC Radio and Thompson Publications. He needed a larger canvas to work with and moved to Hollywood in 1980, covering the Academy Awards, interviewing Alfred Hitchcock and Mel Blanc, and eventually narrating more than 1,000 educational audio stories. He is still doing the work he loves 35 years later. He hosts All Classical Portland on weekends and sometimes even narrates with orchestras. In 2006 he created The Score, a national (and international) syndicated film music program, heard on All Classical every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

### **About The VSO**

World-renowned Maestro Salvador Brotons is in his 25th season leading the professional orchestra of over 70 core members. For 37 seasons The VSO has been a cornerstone of Southwest Washington's arts community, providing world-renowned classical music, promoting young musicians, and opening doors to classical music for young audiences through events such as the annual In-School concerts, Young Artists Competition and various family-styled special events and performances. Many of our musicians are teachers in our school districts and beyond. The VSO provides our region with a multi-concert classical season every year and performs at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver. Season support for The VSO is provided by All Classical Portland, The Columbian and The Community Foundation of SW Washington. Additional support for the orchestra is provided by Oregon Public Broadcasting. Tickets for the VSO Chamber Series and all VSO symphony concerts are on sale now at (360) 735-7278 or [www.vancouverSymphony.org](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org).

**THE VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**PO Box 525 Vancouver, WA 98666-0525**  
**Phone (360) 735-7278 Fax: (360) 906-0355**  
[www.vancouverSymphony.org](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org)