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NINE GREAT STUDENT MUSICIANS COMPETE IN VSO'S YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION FEBRUARY 8

21st annual contest winners to perform with Maestro Brotons and VSO

(Vancouver, WA) The finalists have been chosen. Now what remains is the always-exciting Vancouver Symphony Orchestra 21st Annual Young Artists Competition at 1 pm on Sunday, February 8th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vancouver.

Continuing the exciting competition format instituted in 2014, nine of the area's finest young musicians will perform head-to-head in a concert that is free and open to the public with no advance ticketing required.

The annual competition features students performing their selections in a concert setting before a live audience. The top three contestants will then perform with The VSO at Skyview Concert Hall under the baton of internationally-renowned Maestro Salvador Brotons in concerts at Skyview Concert Hall on April 18 & 19. In addition, students will receive a portion of \$5,000 in cash in prize money.

FINALISTS

Emily Brother, piano; West Linn (OR) High School

Matthieu Galizia, piano; home school

Jeremiah Guo, piano; Camas (WA) High School

Nathan Kim, piano; Newberg (OR) High School

Cammie Lee, violin; Catlin Gable (OR) High School

Richard Lu, cello; Skyview (WA) High School

Yun Teng, violin; Camas (WA) High School

Pieter Top, piano; Wilsonville (OR) High School

Annie Zhang, cello; Westgate (OR) Christian School

Area musicians (18 and under) submitted audition recordings to the VSO in late 2014 and were judged by a panel of professional musicians. Master of Ceremonies for the competition will be Edmund Stone, air personality and host of the nationally syndicated show, *The Score* on All Classical Radio. The February 8 competition will be judged by a different blue ribbon panel of area professional musicians.

The competition is sponsored by the Anna C. MacAskill Schwab and Dwight Schwab, Sr. Charitable Foundation. Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 309 W. 39th Street in Vancouver, WA.

About The VSO

World-renowned Maestro Salvador Brotons is now in his 24th season leading the professional orchestra of over 70 core members. For 36 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 the Equity Partners, LLC; All Classical Portland; The Columbian and 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.

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