



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 4, 2010

Contact: Lisa Howell (360) 735-7278

[lhowell@vancouversymphony.org](mailto:lhowell@vancouversymphony.org)

Photos attached: Alex Zhu-2011 YAC.jpg, YAC 2011 winners.jpg, John Church-2011 YAC finalist.jpg

### **THE VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** **CONGRATULATES PERFORMERS OF** **17TH ANNUAL YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION** **Totaling \$5250 in cash awards**

**(Vancouver, WA)** The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra concluded its seventeenth annual Young Artists Competition Sunday, February 27th at Trinity Lutheran Church, Vancouver, WA. In each of three instrument categories, first, second and third place winners were selected, with each receiving monetary awards. First place recipients will perform with The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Salvador Brotons, April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Skyview Concert Hall, Vancouver, WA.

#### **Piano**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Alexander Zhu \$1000  
Teacher – Kelli Stephens  
Rachmaninoff Concerto No.2, op. 18, 1<sup>st</sup> Mvt.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ruta Kuzmickas \$500  
Teacher – Jean-David Coen  
Ravel, Piano concerto in G major, 1<sup>st</sup> Mvt.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sherry Liang \$250  
Teacher – Barbara Parker  
Saint-Saens Piano concerto No.5, Mvt. 3

#### **Woodwinds/Brass/Percussion**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Kenneth Fukumoto, Alto sax \$1000  
Teacher – Phil Baldino  
Concerto for Alto Sax, Glazunov
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - John Church, Trombone \$500  
Teacher – Henry Henniger  
Concertino for Trombone, David
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Nick Rector, Trumpet \$250  
Teacher – Paul Nickolas  
Arutunian Concerto for Trumpet

#### **Strings**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - David Kim, Cello, \$1000  
Teacher – Hyun-Jin Kim  
Saint-Saens, Cello Concerto No.1 in A minor
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lauren Siess, Viola \$500  
Teacher – Ann Medellin  
Walton Viola Concerto, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mvt

3<sup>rd</sup> - Kristin Qian, Violin \$250  
Teacher – Carol Sindell  
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor, 1<sup>st</sup> Mvt.

The nine finalists were chosen from thirty-seven entries submitted between October 2010 and January, 2011. Finalists were then judged on interpretation, technique, dynamics and overall musicality. Young Artists performed live in front of an enthusiastic audience of over 200 and a panel of five judges, music professionals from the Vancouver/Portland area. Judges included:

Sharon Hinckley  
Tatiana Kolchanova  
Don Appert  
Igor Shakhman  
Jim Obanian

David Smith, VSO board member, emceed the event and was preceded by Larry Easter, member of the Friends and long-time supporter of the Young Artists Competition.

Tickets for the April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> concert are now available online at [www.VancouverSymphony.org](http://www.VancouverSymphony.org). The April concert will also include A. Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*, narrated by All-Classical FM's Edmund Stone, and Beethoven's Symphony No.8, Op.93 in F major.

The 2011 Young Artists Competition was sponsored by Friends of The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. "Generosity of spirit is the commonality that men and women share in the Friends organization," said Linda Odenborg, Chair of the dedicate group. "We believe in giving back through Education Outreach programs and fundraising events."

Additional supporters of the Young Artists Competition included Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Liu. Proceeds from *Virtuoso Music for Two Pianos*, performed by Michael Liu, Fred Lu and Kate Hobbie January 9<sup>th</sup> at Sherman Clay & Moe's Piano, Portland, Oregon also assisted in supporting the February 27<sup>th</sup> competition.

**The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** is a 70-member professional orchestra presenting international guest artists and varied programs, October through May. The concert season includes live classical performances led by Maestro Salvador Brotons as well as special events such as the successful February 12th performance of Aaron Meyer & The Vancouver Big Band, or the upcoming In-School concerts. Visit [www.VancouverSymphony.org](http://www.VancouverSymphony.org) for tickets and information.

**THE VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
P.O. Box 525, Vancouver, WA 98666-0525  
[www.VancouverSymphony.org](http://www.VancouverSymphony.org)  
[lhowell@VancouverSymphony.org](mailto:lhowell@VancouverSymphony.org)  
PH: (360) 735-7278



Above: John Church, finalist  
Right: Alexander Zhu, winner of the Piano category  
Below: All 2011 Young Artists Competition finalists

