
Oscar E Macchioni, University of Texas at El Paso

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International Keyboard Odyssey & Festival U.S.A.
“A Journey to the Performance of a Lifetime”
A Competition and Festival for Pianists

July 19 - 23, 2015
University Center for the Arts
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado
WELCOME

Once again it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2015 International Keyboard Odyssiad® & Festival, U.S.A. and SKI/Colorado (Summer Keyboard Institute). In only our fourth year of production, IKOF has expanded its scope once again to include Preliminary Rounds of the Odyssiaid Competition in Miami, Florida; Dallas, Texas; and Guangzhou, China, and has become more prestigious by offering new awards to our Gold Medalist Winners. In the Final Round, two Odyssiad competitors from Levels A and B will be selected to make a guest appearance performing Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals with the Fort Collins Symphony during their 2015-2016 season. The Gold Medalist from Level D will be invited to appear as a featured Guest Artist on the Steinway Piano Series at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida on their 2015-2016 Series. Cash Prizes of $1,000 (Gold Medal), $500 (Silver Medal), and $250 (Bronze Medal) will be presented to the top three winners in each age level and a “SPECIAL OLGA KERN AWARD” will be presented for the first time to the Gold Medal Winners in each age level. We sincerely thank Wes Kenney, Svetozar Ivanov, and Olga Kern for making these new awards possible, as we share in the joy and excitement of watching and listening to these talented young stars embark on their Odyssiaid – “A Journey to the Performance of a Lifetime.”

I wish to personally thank the many individuals who voluntarily gave their time and talents toward the successful production of the 2015 IKOF and SKI/Colorado. Thanks particularly go the IKOF Advisory Board for their tireless dedication to the vision and mission of IKOF. The success of our mission has been largely due to the support of the City of Fort Collins’ Fort Fund, The Fan Foundation, The Griffin Foundation, and the many donors, anonymous and otherwise listed in our program, that shared in our vision with unparalleled support. A special thanks also goes to our 2015 Host Families listed in the Program Booklet, and to the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at Colorado State University for providing the beautiful University Center for the Arts (UCA) for this year’s competition and festival. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your generosity and dedicate this year’s 2015 International Keyboard Odyssiad® & Festival, U.S.A. and SKI/Colorado to you. ENJOY!

Janet Landreth

MISSION STATEMENT

Headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A., the International Keyboard Odyssiad® and Festival (IKOF) is dedicated to promoting new generations of keyboard artists through an internationally linked competition and festival. The IKOF is hosted in different countries around the world through a network of participating member associates under license of the U.S. Headquarters. Unique in its vision, format, and global outreach, the IKOF is designed for young musicians, teachers, distinguished amateurs, patrons, sponsors, and audiences that love the piano and its repertoire.

The 2015 International Keyboard Odyssiad® & Festival, U.S.A. and SKI/Colorado are sponsored in-part by grants from:

The Griffin Foundation
Fan Foundation
FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JULY 19

MORNINg
8:30 a.m. Registration and Check-In, Odyssey® Semifinalists, Coffee & Breakfast Pastries
Location: Organ Recital Hall, 2nd floor
9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. SEMIFINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssey® Competition: Level A, Level B, Level C
Location: Organ Recital Hall, 2nd floor

LUNCH
1:00-4:00 p.m. SEMIFINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssey® Competition: Level D
Location: Organ Recital Hall, 2nd floor
3:00 p.m. Tuning of Steinway and Yamaha in Griffin Concert Hall, 1st floor
4:30 p.m. Rehearsal: Hsing-ay Hsu and Takako Tokuda
Location: Griffin Concert Hall (Steinway & Yamaha)
5:30 p.m. Check-in of SKI/Colorado Participants and Odyssey® Finalists
Location: Lobby, Griffin Concert Hall
Touch-up of Steinway in Griffin Concert Hall (Move Yamaha to Wings)
6:00 p.m. Dinner, Tuning/Guest Artist Warm-up

EVENING
7:30 p.m. FESTIVAL OPENING CONCERT: Valery Kuleshov, Van Cliburn Silver Medalist

MONDAY, JULY 20

MORNING
8:30 a.m. Registration and Check-In, Coffee & Breakfast Pastries
Location: Lobby, Griffin Concert Hall
9:00 a.m.-12 p.m. Concerto Session: “Conductors Collaborating on Concerti”
Guest Conductors: Grzegorz Nowak, Permanent Associate Conductor, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, London, England; Wes Kenney, Conductor, Fort Collins Symphony, Opera Fort Collins, and Denver Young Artist Orchestra; Devin Patrick Hughes, Conductor, Boulder Symphony and Arapahoe Philharmonic.
Student Soloists: (TBA)
Location: Griffin Concert Hall
12:00 p.m. Lunch: Hosted for Guest Artists, Donors/Sponsors, IKOF/SKI Pass Holders, and Volunteers.
Location: Instrumental Rehearsal Hall, 1st floor

AFTERNOON
1:30-2:30 p.m. Level A and C Warm-ups
3:00-5:30 p.m. FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssey® Competition: Levels A and C
5:30 p.m. Presentation of Certificates & Medals
6:00 p.m. Dinner, Tuning/Guest Artist Warm-up
7:30 p.m. FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERT: Joint Recital with Takako Tokuda & Hsing-ay Hsu
FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, JULY 21

MORNING
8:30 a.m. Registration and Check-In, Coffee & Breakfast Pastries
Location: Lobby, Griffin Concert Hall

9:00–10:00 a.m. SKI/Colorado Session: Hsing-ay Hsu
“Conscious Listening: Miracle of Breath”

10:00–12:00 p.m. SKI/Colorado Session: Master Class with Valery Kuleshov, Van Cliburn Silver Medalist

12:00 p.m. Lunch
SKI Session Rehearsal: Professors Kim and You

AFTERNOON
1:00–2:00 p.m. Level B Warm-ups

2:30 p.m. FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level B

5:00 p.m. Presentation of Certificates & Medals

6:00 p.m. Dinner, Tuning/Guest Artist Warm-up

EVENING
7:30 p.m. FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERT: Johnandrew Slominski

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

MORNING
8:30 a.m. Registration and Check-In, Coffee & Breakfast Pastries
Location: Lobby, Griffin Concert Hall

9:00–10:30 a.m. SKI/Colorado Session: Oscar Macchioni
“Everything Starts with a Goal: Practicing Techniques”

11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. SKI/Colorado Session: Master Class with Olga Kern, Van Cliburn Gold Medalist
(Participants TBA)

1:00–2:00 p.m. Lunch, Level D Warm-ups

AFTERNOON
2:00–3:00 p.m. SKI Session: Professors Jeong Hee Kim and Youngwook You (South Korea)
Recital: Music for Four Hands
Program: Poulenc, Sonata for Piano
Grieg, Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Opus 46
Rachmaninoff, 6 Morceaux, Opus 11

3:00–5:30 p.m. FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level D
FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, CONT'N

5:30 p.m.  Presentation of Certificates and Medals
6:00 p.m.  Dinner and Tuning

EVENING

7:30 p.m.  FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERT: Odyssiad® Winners' Concert (TBA)

THURSDAY, JULY 23

MORNING

8:30 a.m.  Registration & Check-In, Coffee & Pastries
            Location: Lobby, Griffin Concert Hall

9:00-10:30 a.m.  SKI/Colorado Session: Svetozar Ivanov
                “A Multimedia Recital” with excerpts from films by Eisenstein (‘Sentimentale’) and Kirsanoff (‘Brumes d’Automne’) with music by Berio, Rameau, Scriabin, Schoenberg, and Crumb.

10:00 a.m.-12 p.m.  SKI/Colorado Session: Johnandrew Slominski
                    “Classical Improvisation for Classical Musicians: Speaking in the 18th Century Style”

12:00 p.m.  Lunch
            Warm-up: SKI/Colorado Participants and Selected Semifinalists

AFTERNOON

1:30-2:30 p.m.  SKI/Colorado Session: Christopher Hatton
                “Blues to Blue Bossa: Improvisational Strategies and Chord Voicings”

3:00-5:00 p.m.  Recital: SKI/Colorado Participants and Selected Semifinalists (Program to be announced)

5:30 p.m.  Presentation of SKI/Colorado and Semifinalists' Certificates

6:00 p.m.  Dinner, Tuning/Guest Artist Warm-up

EVENING

7:30 p.m.  FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERT: Olga Kern, Van Cliburn Gold Medalist, and son, Vladik Kern, Juilliard Pre-College Division

9:00 p.m.  FESTIVAL CLOSING RECEPTION: IKOF Guest Artists and Presenters, Odyssiad® Competitors, Judges, Sponsors/Donors, Host Families, and IKOF staff and volunteers.
            Location: Home and Gardens of Gwen Hatchette
            700 East Elizabeth
            Hosted by: Gwen Hatchette, Bev Donnelley, and Diane Sherry
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Judges</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY, JULY 19</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Check-in of Semifinalists, Lobby, 2nd floor</td>
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<td>Faculty Lounge, 2nd Floor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00–12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>SEMIFINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level A, Level B, Level C</td>
<td>Organ Recital Hall, 2nd floor</td>
<td>Katya Kuleshova, Russia/USA, Svetozar Ivanov, Bulgaria/USA, Youngwook You, South Korea</td>
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<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>Faculty Lounge, 2nd Floor</td>
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<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>SEMIFINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level D</td>
<td>Organ Recital Hall, 2nd floor</td>
<td>Joel Bacon, USA, Willem Van Schalkwyk, Namibia/USA, Jeong Hee Kim, South Korea</td>
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<td>MONDAY, JULY 20</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Levels A and C</td>
<td>Griffin Concert Hall, 1st floor</td>
<td>Johnandrew Slominski, USA, Oscar Macchioni, Argentina/USA, Willem Van Schalkwyk, Namibia/USA, (Observer), Wes Kenney, Fort Collins Symphony</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00–5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level B</td>
<td>Griffin Concert Hall, 1st floor</td>
<td>Joel Bacon, USA, Hsing-ay Hsu, China/USA, Takako Tokuda, Japan/USA, (Observer), Wes Kenney, Fort Collins Symphony</td>
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<td>TUESDAY, JULY 21</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level D</td>
<td>Griffin Concert Hall, 1st floor</td>
<td>Valery Kuleshov, Russia/USA, Just in Krawitz, South Africa/ USA, Youngwook You, South Korea, (Observer): Svetozar Ivanov</td>
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<td>FINAL ROUND, International Keyboard Odyssiad® Competition: Level D</td>
<td>Griffin Concert Hall, 1st floor</td>
<td>Valery Kuleshov, Russia/USA, Just in Krawitz, South Africa/ USA, Youngwook You, South Korea, (Observer): Svetozar Ivanov</td>
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JUDGES AND GUEST ARTISTS

Dr. Joel Bacon joined the Colorado State University faculty in 2005 as the Stewart and Sheron Golden Chair in Organ and Liturgical Studies. A native of New Jersey, he earned degrees in mathematics and organ performance from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, where he was a student of Joyce Jones, and an artist diploma in organ from the Konservatorium der Stadt Wien (Vienna, Austria), where he studied with Michael Gallit. With a dissertation on the use of organ in selected orchestral works, he earned his PhD in historical musicology through a joint degree program of Vienna's University of Music and Performing Arts and the University of Vienna. Dr. Bacon has been heard in recital throughout Europe and North America. He has taught at the Oundle International Festival (Cambridge, UK), at several "Pipe Organ Encounters" of the American Guild of Organists, and at other courses in the US and Canada. Recent projects have included performances with the Fort Collins Symphony and the Larimer Chorale. During the Liszt bicentennial in 2011, he lectured on and performed the complete organ works of Liszt in recitals throughout the Fort Collins community, as well as in prominent venues in Paris, Jerusalem, Munich, and Vienna.

Dr. Christopher Hatton received his D.M.A. in Piano Performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2012, his M.M. from Colorado State University, and his B.A. from the University of Kansas. He has studied classical piano with Dr. Richard Angelelli, Dr. Janet Landreth, and Doris Lehnert, and jazz with Pat Bianchi, Dan Gailey and Peter Sommer. He currently serves on the faculty of Colorado Christian University in Denver, Colo., where he teaches classical and jazz piano and improvisation courses, as well as assisting with jazz combos and the Mainstream Ensemble. He has also served as a jazz clinician at CMEA. He currently plays as jazz freelance around the Front Range of Colorado in venues such as Dazzle and the St. Julien. As a member of the rock band Carbon Choir, he performed with diverse acts such as Derek Trucks, Stars and the Redwalls, and has been a featured artist on MTV. Visit his website, christopherhatton.com for information on his improvisation textbook for the iPad, The Real Improvisation Book, as well as upcoming performances and recordings.

Devin Patrick Hughes is recognized as one of the leading champions for audience building, educational outreach, and new music premieres in America. Currently serving as music director and conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic, and the Boulder Symphony, he was the only American selected with eleven other conductors worldwide to compete in the Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy, and was a conducting fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen. He has held various conducting positions with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Contemporary Chamber Players, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, and Denver Young Artists Orchestra. Devoted to the cause of music existing for a greater societal purpose, Hughes has held benefit concerts for the Red Cross, Oxfam International, Cultures in Harmony, the Colorado Haiti Project, and has served as an AmeriCorps tutor, mentor, and coach for Nothing but Achievers, and the Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony. He has partnered to make music more universally assessable through organizations such as I Have a Dream, Circle of Care, and Pinnacle Charter School in Denver. Aside from Hughes frequent appearances in schools as a clinician and speaker, he has taught courses at the Denver Academy for Lifelong Learning and the Music Schools of the University of Denver, and Ithaca College in New York and New Mexico School for the Arts. Hughes has fostered multiple composer-in-residency programs premiering dozens of new works, bringing new music to the forefront of the classical scene. Under his baton, the Boulder Symphony has soared to new artistic heights and become a centralized hub for community-wide outreach and education initiatives, major collaborations, and premieres of exciting new music.

Pianist Svetozar Ivanov has made numerous appearances as recitalist and orchestra soloist in Europe and North America, including Carnegie, Merkin, and Steinway Halls in N.Y., Salle Gaveau and Association Philomuses in Paris, The Bethaniënkleooster in Amsterdam, Planotune Festival in Belgium, PianoEchoes Festival in Italy, DDR Radio in Berlin, Seiler Piano Festival in Crete, Walled City Festival in Northern Ireland, Royal Academy of Music in Denmark, Irish Academy of Music, "Salon des Arts" and "Sofia Music Weeks" in Bulgaria, Zurich Conservatory in Switzerland, Festival "Peter the Great" in the Netherlands, Chautauqua Festival in New York, Killington Festival in Vermont, Fox River Chamber Music Festival in Wisconsin, Sequoia Concerts in San Francisco, and The International Piano Series in Florida. Ivanov is recognized for his creative work in designing unusual concert formats combining music with other art forms (documentary footage, art films, animation, poetry, short stories, live dance improvisation, paintings, lighting design). He is professor of Piano at University of South Florida, serves as artist faculty at Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival (Vt.), and is the artistic director of the Steinway Piano Series in Fla. He has served as a Jury member at the Isidor Bajic Competition in Serbia, Seiler International Piano Competition in Crete, the Konzerteurn International Piano Competition in Greece, the International Youth Music Festival and Competition in Bulgaria, and the Chautauqua Music Festival Piano Competition in NY. Ivanov holds degrees from the Bulgarian National Conservatory and University of Michigan.
**JUDGES AND GUEST ARTISTS**

**Wes Kenney** is now in his twelfth year as professor of music and director of orchestras at Colorado State University, and as music director of the Fort Collins Symphony. He conducts the CSU Symphony and Chamber Orchestra, the CSU Opera productions and teaches graduate conducting. He was named music director of the Denver Young Artists Orchestra and took that orchestra on a European tour in 2014. He is also music director of Opera Fort Collins. The Colorado American String Teachers Association named Mr. Kenney Outstanding Teacher in 2009. He was also awarded the Grand Prize in the Summer 2007 Varna (Bulgaria) International Conducting Competition, leading to conducting appearances the following year. Mr. Kenney has appeared in the past three seasons with the Virginia Symphony, the Symphony of Southeast Texas, the Vallejo (Calif.) Symphony and the New Mexico All-State Orchestra. Prior to that, Maestro Kenney guest conducted the Edinburgh Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, Buffalo Philharmonic, New Mexico Symphony, Williamsburg Symphony (VA), and the Acadiana Symphony (LA). In six seasons as the Virginia Symphony's Associate Conductor, Mr. Kenney appeared more than 350 times and was responsible for much of the programming. He is a founder of the CSU Summer Master's in Conducting Program, designed to allow music educators the opportunity to earn a graduate degree while remaining in their current position.

**Jeong Hee Kim** is a Korean pianist and educator. She studied piano at the Conservatoire National de Musique de Meudon in France, where she received highest honors in piano performance. She also received highest honors in music education and chamber music performance from the Ecole Normal de Musique de Paris, and performed recitals at the Salle de Meudon, the Salle Cortot, and the Salle Gaveau. Her concerto collaborations include appearances with the Leningrad Symphony Orchestra, the Hungarian Chamber Symphony Orchestra, the KBS (Korean Broadcasting System) Symphony Orchestra, the Busan Philharmonic Orchestra, the Changwon Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jeju Philharmonic Orchestra, and many other orchestras in Korea. She has also played at numerous events such as the Busan International Music Festival, and has been invited to play in China, Japan, and the Philippines. She has served as professor of piano at Changshin University in Korea, as well as visiting professor at the Staatliche Hochschule fuer Musik in Trossingen, Germany. Professor Kim is a coauthor of Piano Public Lessons, and has been invited to judge at numerous piano competitions. She is a founder of the Gyeongnam Piano Duo Association in Korea and now serves as its president.

**South African pianist, Justin Krawitz,** joined the University of Northern Colorado in 2014 as assistant professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy. Previously, Dr. Krawitz served on the faculties of the University of Cape Town, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Luther College (Iowa), and Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp (Mich.). Following his performance of Karel Husa's *First Piano Sonata*, the Pulitzer prize-winning composer wrote, "the level of his artistry and commitment is extraordinary." Krawitz has performed with orchestras in his native South Africa and in the US, and has recorded for Czech Radio. Dr. Krawitz is an active clinician and lecturer in the U.S. and abroad, including the 32nd International EPTA Conference, the 2010 ISMTA Conference, and the 2nd World Piano Conference. His research interests include fingering substitution on the piano and Czech piano music of the 20th century. He has been published in the EPTA Piano Journal and the ISSTIP Journal Tension in Performance, and he is an editor of the periodical *Martin Revue*. Krawitz is an external collaborator of the Bohuslav Martin Institute in Prague and a board member of the International Martin Circle. Dr. Krawitz was a Paul Collins Fellow at UW-Madison from 2006-2009, a Donald Gordon Creative Arts Fellow at the University of Cape Town in 2011, and a URC Postdoctoral Fellow at UCT's South African College of Music from 2012-2014.

**Dr. Janet Landreth,** professor of piano and keyboard area coordinator at Colorado State University, Dr. Landreth is Founder and Director of the International Keyboard Odyssiad® and Festival, Inc., U.S.A., and combines an active career as an artist-teacher, performer, and administrator with international research and travel. She has lived in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil where she studied the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos at the Museu Villa Lobos and in London, England where she studied Alexander Technique. The recipient of numerous performance awards, she has performed recitals and presented her research in France, Spain, Brazil, Bolivia, Italy, and the U.S. She performed five all-Liszt recitals in 2011 to celebrate the 200th birthday of the composer, Franz Liszt, and has appeared as a guest in the International Delia Music Festival in Mallorca, Spain, the III International Latin American Piano Music Conference in Cochabamba, Bolivia, and the 1st International Villa-Lobos Conference in Paris, France. After her research paper, "Settings of Folk Tunes and Children's Songs in the Solo Piano Music Of Villa-Lobos" was selected for presentation at the 1st International Villa-Lobos Conference, she was invited to return to Paris to serve on a doctoral thesis committee in musicology at the University of Paris – Sorbonne. Landreth is also known as a gifted artist-teacher whose students have won numerous competitions and awards, including ten who have performed as soloists with the Denver (Colorado) Symphony.
**JUDGES AND GUEST ARTISTS**

**Grzegorz Nowak** is the principal associate conductor of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. He tours to Switzerland, Turkey, and Armenia, as well as giving numerous concerts throughout the UK. His recordings have been highly acclaimed, winning many awards, including the Fryderyk Award, DC of the Year Wards, and the Bronze Bell Award. Nowak's career propelled to international level after he won the prestigious Ernest Ansermet Conducting Competition in Geneva, winning the first prize and all special prizes, including the Grand Prix Patek Philippe, Rolex Prize, Swiss Prize and American Patronage Prize, and received in Basel the Europäische Förderpreis für Musik for the European Musician of the Year by a Committee chaired by Pierre Boulez. As a recipient of the Serge Koussevitzky Fellowship at Tanglewood, he honed his skills with Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa, Erich Leinsdorf, Maurice Abravanel, and Igor Markevitch, before assisting Kurt Masur with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Since then, he has conducted the world’s finest orchestras and served as music director for the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Polish National Opera in Warsaw, SWR Radio Orchestra in Germany, Sinfonia Helvetica and Festival Musique & Amitié Festival in Switzerland, and is currently the “Director Titular” of the Orquesta Sinfónica de España and Orquesta Santa Cecilia in Madrid. He is also Artist-in-Residence at the Florida International University in Miami, was honored with the Distinguished Teacher Award during is tenure as Professor at the BGSU University in Ohio, and the University of Alberta honored him with the title of Honorary Professor. Nowak has performed alongside many of the most widely respected soloists of our time, including Martha Argerich, Yefim Bronfman, Nigel Kennedy, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Mstislav Rostropovich, Gil Shaham, Andre Watts, Krystian Zimmerman, and has worked with such singers as Janet Baker, Kathleen Battle, Marilyn Horne, Gwyneth Jones, Sherrill Milnes, and Anja Silja.

**Oscar Macchioni**, a native of Argentina, is a Steinway Artist and an accomplished solo and collaborative pianist, professor, lecturer, author and adjudicator. He has been praised for his expressive phrasing and the amiable program presentations. Oscar has performed extensively in Argentina, Italy, England, Poland, Serbia, Turkey, Mexico, Thailand, and the U.S. Recently, his performance in the Myra Hess Memorial Concerts at the Chicago Cultural Center has been broadcast on radio and television. His lecture recitals and presentations at international conferences have received numerous accolades including the Second International Vernacular Conference in Puebla, Mexico (Outstanding Musical Presentation), and The European Piano Teachers Association (Diploma of Excellence). His book, *The Tango in American Piano Music* was published in 2010 by the College Music Society. He has published articles on a variety of piano literature and pedagogy topics in the American Teacher Magazine and Piano Pedagogy Forum. Dr. Macchioni is in demand as an adjudicator at state, national and international piano competitions, including MTNA, the Bangkok International Chopin Competition, the European Piano Teachers Association, and Piano Examinations Committee of Taiwan. Macchioni received the Music Teachers National Association STAR Award, and is a recipient of several grants, including the Texas Commission on the Arts through the El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department to perform concerts at underserved communities. His degrees are from the Universidad Nacional de Tucumán (Argentina), the Krakow Academy of Music (Poland), Louisiana State University, and the University of Arizona. He is an Associate Professor of Piano and Assistant Chair at the University of Texas at El Paso.

**Youngwook You** majored in Piano Performance at Yonsei University in Korea, and attended the Rostock Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Germany, where he earned advanced certificates. You has performed recitals in Germany and Korea, and his concerto collaborations include appearances with the Bulgarian National Philharmonic Orchestra, the Busan Sinfonietta, and the Jinju Philharmonic Orchestra. He has played chamber music with the Kyounghnam Chamber Society, I Pianist, the Gyeongnam Piano Duo Association, Take Out Ensemble, and the Bs Opus Ensemble. You has taught at Kyungsung University, Inje University, Busan National University of Education, Silla University, and has judged at numerous piano competitions. Currently he serves as Vice-President of the Gyeongnam Piano Duo Association and is Professor in the Department of Music at the International University of Korea (IUK). He has founded an IUK piano competition and serves as its artistic director.
Willem Van Schalkwyk has been applauded by the Salt Lake City Tribune for "maturity beyond his years" and "dizzying technical facility." The Namibian pianist debuted with the Namibia National Symphony Orchestra at age 14, and at 16, won his first international piano competition in France. Dr. Van Schalkwyk has appeared in concert throughout the U.S., Europe, and Southern Africa. A regular recitalist, recent highlights include performing at the Greyton Music Festival in South Africa, and a solo recital at the National Theatre of Namibia’s 25-year anniversary. As a collaborator, he has performed with many notable instrumentalists and singers. Dr. Van Schalkwyk holds a Bachelor’s degree in Piano Performance from Brigham Young University, and he graduated from the University of North Texas with his Doctorate in Piano Performance in 2009. At UNT, his instructors were Joseph Banowetz, Elvia Puccinelli, and Adam Wodnicki. While pursuing his graduate degrees, he was the First Prize winner of the Scionti Piano Competition and was awarded the Audience Prize at the Louisiana International Piano Competition. As a vocal coach and pianist, Dr. Van Schalkwyk has served on the music staff of the Santa Fe Opera, the Arizona Opera, the American Institute of Musical Studies’ summer program for singers in Austria, the Utah Opera, and the Opera in the Ozarks. Prior to joining the faculty of the University of Northern Colorado he was an instructor, coach, and collaborative artist at Southern Utah University.
ODYSSEIAD® SEMIFINALISTS

Congratulations to our 2015 Odyssiad® Semifinalists who were judged in preliminary rounds of the Odyssiad competition in Miami, Florida; Dallas, Texas; and Guangzhou, China, and by video upload to our website: IKOK-SKI.com

Name: Sophia Si
City/Country: Houston, Texas, U.S.A.
Age: 10
Sophia Si will be a 5th grader in Houston. She began piano lessons at age 4 and currently studies with John Weems. She is winner of the 2015/2016 Houston Young Artists Competition, 2015 Blinn College Young Pianist Competition, 2015 Kahan Competition for Child Piano Prodigies, 2015 American Protegé International Piano and Strings Competition, 2014 Forum Young Artist Competition, and 2013 Houston Music Teachers Association Piano Contest. In the Blinn competition where contestants came from across Texas, Sophia won 1st place in the 5th to 6th grade category and overall 2nd place against 7-12 graders. She attended master classes and performances at the Aspen Music Festival in summer 2014. Sophia is an enthusiastic math puzzle solver and a nationally ranked chess player (top seven female player in her age group in spring 2014). She is also an exuberant traveler who enjoys skiing, hiking, and swimming.

Name: Katherine Wang
City/Country: Wyoming, Colorado, U.S.A.
Age: 10
Katherine Wang was born in Maryland and moved to Laramie, Wyoming when she was three. She started taking piano lesson with Ms. Alla Latchininsky at age five. At age 8, Katherine won the first-place prize at the 2013 Colorado State MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) Piano Competition. At age 9, she won the Bronze Medal of Level A of 2014 International Keyboard Odyssiad® and Festival. In 2014 she also won the first-place prize of the Elementary Category of the Western Regional Piano Conference held in Denver, Colo. She was also the first place winner of 2014 AFAF’s Romantic Music International Competition “Golden Era of Romantic Music”, and performed at the winner’s concert held at Carnegie Hall. Katherine enjoys a variety of activities, including drawing, dancing, singing, knitting and sewing. She also loves to play Lego with her little brother. Her favorite composer is Franz Liszt.

Name: Richard Ranfei Wang
City/Country: Burnaby, Canada
Age: 13
Richard Wang began studying piano at the age of seven. He had a passionate connection with classical music and in just over three years, was able to complete his RCM grade 10 piano with first class honors. In 2012, Richard won the Yamaha Grand Prize at the Piano Star Competition in Vancouver. He also competed in the prestigious Canadian Music Competition National Final and won 2nd place in the piano age 10 category. He played with the New Westminster Symphony Orchestra at the Roy Barnett Recital Hall at UBC in Vancouver 2012, and he won the third prize in the age 11-14 group at the AADGT International Young Gifted Musicians Festival “Passion of Music 2014” in New York. He was also a 3rd Place Winner of the American Protege International Piano & Strings Competition 2014 and performed at The Winners’ Recital at Carnegie Hall. Richard held his first solo recital in 2013, and another sold-out recital in 2014 at Pyatt Hall in Vancouver. He was selected to be a finalist in the 2014 Canadian Chopin Competition Junior Division (16 years and under) in Toronto.

Name: Grace Cai
City/Country: Allen, Texas, U.S.A.
Age: 15
Grace Cai started piano when she was 6 years old. After moving to Dallas in 2009, she has been participating in the Dallas Solo Competition and Dallas Symphonic Festival almost every year. She won 1st place in 2010 and two Honorable Mentions in the Dallas Solo Competition and multiple 6th place ribbons in the Dallas Symphonic Festival. Grace participated in the TMTA (Texas Music Teachers Association) State Duet Competition in 2011 and won 1st place with her partner, and she won Honorable Mention at the Youth Duo Competition in Fort Worth, Texas in 2015. She was also recently a finalist in the 2015 TMTA State Competition. Grace is continually practicing and preparing for her next competition, recital, or performance, and she hopes to improve her skills greatly by attending the International Piano Odyssiad and Festival.
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Name: Aditya Deshpande
City/Country: Houston, Texas, U.S.A.
Age: 15
Aditya Deshpande studies piano with Mr. John Weems and is a 9th grade Honor Roll student at the Village School, Houston. Aditya is a Houston Young Artist for piano and piano duet selected for a two-year term 2015-2016 by HYAC. Earlier this year he won first place overall across all divisions at the Blinn College piano competition. He was a finalist at the International Piano Competition 2014, Ettlingen, Germany and before that won first places at both the TMTA and Texas State University competitions. He was also second place winner in the Baylor College competition. In 2013 Aditya won third place at Con Brio in India, and in 2012 he was a semi-finalist at the International Piano Competition conducted by IIYM at Lawrence, Kansas. In 2011 he won first place at the MusiQUEST national level piano competition in India and was one of three young artists invited to give a ticketed performance at the National Center for Performing Arts, Mumbai, India. Soccer is Aditya’s favorite sport, and he loves reading sheet music and music history. His dream is to play for Zubin Mehta one day.

Name: Nathaniel Parker
City/Country: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, U.S.A.
Age: 14
Nathaniel was born in Edmond, Oklahoma and started piano at the age of 4 and violin at the age of 3. At 9 years old, he won the Keith Violin Competition in Oklahoma Music Olympics. From 2011-2014, he won the OMTA Solo Piano Competition and placed first, three years in a row. From 2010-2014, he won the Hubbard Males Piano Competition in Weatherford, Oklahoma and placed first in the Elementary II division, later winning the Junior division. He has been featured on Oklahoma Fox 25 News and the KSBI Oklahoma Live Television Show. At the age of 8, Nathaniel started composing for piano. He won the state MTNA Composition Competition at age 10 and each year since. He placed first in the Breckenridge Piano Competition at age 13 and first at the SWOSU University in Weatherford, Okla. He also won the state MTNA Piano Solo Competition at 13, and took third place at the Waco/Baylor Solo Piano Competition in Waco, Texas. He won the Gilliam Piano Competition at the Oklahoma Music Olympics at age 12, and also gave a Solo Recital Debut at the Radke Center at the University of Central Oklahoma. Nathaniel currently studies with Greg Fisher for piano, and Peter Nguyen for violin.

Name: Joanna Ryland
City/Richardson, Texas, U.S.A.
Age: 16
Joanna Ryland is a homeschooled high school sophomore. After being introduced to piano by her mom, she has taken lessons from Dr. Grace Long for eight years. She placed 1st in the Dallas Solo Competition twice; 6th in Dallas Symphonic; was a state finalist in the TMTA Student Affiliate 9th grade solo competition in 2014; and placed 1st in the June Leonar Chamber Music duet competition. Joanna frequently participates in Richardson Music Teachers Association’s festivals. This year she has participated in MTNA/TMTA state competition, won Honorable Mention in the Baylor/Waco Competition, and placed 1st in the Dallas Symphonic Competition. This summer, Joanna has been invited to attend the Texas State International Piano Festival in San Marcos, Texas. When Joanna is not playing piano, she also enjoys reading, cooking, and spending time with family.

Name: Nathaniel Zhang
City/Country: Sugarland, Texas, U.S.A.
Age: 14
Nathaniel Zhang is a freshman at Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas. Born in Houston, he has been playing piano since the age of six, and is currently studying with Mr. John Weems. He has won numerous awards in a variety of competitions: 1st place of the Division I in 2015 Austin Piano Festival/Competition, 1st place of the 9th grade in 2015 Texas State University Young Artists Piano Competition, 1st place of the 9th and 10th grade in 2015 Baylor University Young Artists Piano Competition, winner of the Solo Piano Competition in 2014/2015 Houston Young Artists Competition, 2nd place of 2015 Blinn College Young Artists Piano Competition, 1st place in 2014/2015 High School All-Region Piano Competition, finalist at TMTA piano competition in 2013 and 2014, semi-finalist at MTNA piano competition in 2013 and finalist in 2014, and 1st place in 2013 Clear Lake Young Artists Piano Concerto Competition. Nathaniel is also the scholarship recipient of Music Doing Good from 2013-2015. Nathaniel is also first violin in his high school orchestra, was ranked among the top violinists by the Texas Music Educational Association, and was in the All-Region Symphony Orchestra from 2012-2014.
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**Emiri Nourishirazi**  
Name: Emiri Nourishirazi  
City/Country: Miami, Florida, U.S.A.  
Age: 21  
Emiri Nourishirazi started her piano lessons at the age of 7 with Olina Chu and Cheryl Chen. She continued her piano lessons with Florida Atlantic University faculty member Dr. Irena Kofman from the ages of 14–18. For the past three years she has been working towards her Bachelor's Degree at the University of Miami Frost School of Music under acclaimed pianist Santiago Rodriguez. Emiri has had the honor of receiving guidance from many different artists throughout her lifetime including Philippe Entremont, Tian Ying, Nelson Delle-Vigne Fabbrì, Fabio Bidini and others. She has had the privilege of performing as a soloist with the Ars Flores Symphony Orchestra, and the Coral Gables Chamber Symphony. She was the winner of the Byrd State Duet Competition in 2010, and has won several competitions throughout the state of Florida. Emiri is a piano teacher for several young students and holds a strong passion for teaching classical piano to the younger generation.

**Grace Park**  
Name: Grace Park  
City/Country: Aurora, Colorado, U.S.A.  
Age: 22  
Grace Park will be a senior at the University of Colorado in Boulder. She was a prizewinner in the Kawai competition, Colorado Piano Festival, and a Bronze Medalist in the 2014 International Keyboard Odysseia Competition. She was a state winner for the MTNA Young Artist Division Piano Competition in 2012. She currently studies piano with Professor Doris Lehnert in Boulder, Colorado.

**Albina Khaliapova**  
Name: Albina Khaliapova  
City/Country: Tampa, Florida, U.S.A.  
Age: 26  
Russian born pianist Albina Khaliapova received her first piano performance degree from the UFA State Academy of Arts. She has performed solo and chamber music in various international festivals, including Art of 21st Century in the Ukraine, Arts Without Limits in Lithuania, and Citta de Barletta in Italy. Albina is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Piano Performance at the University of South Florida as a teaching assistant under Professor Svetozar Ivanov.

**Kaeul Autumn Kim**  
Name: Kaeul Autumn Kim  
City/Country: Rochester, New York, U.S.A.  
Age: 27  
Kaeul Autumn Kim was born in South Korea. A solo pianist and collaborative artist, Autumn finished her Bachelor's degree at Seoul National University and Master's degree at the Eastman School of Music. She participated in the Chautauqua Music Festival in 2009 and 2010, and performed a solo recital there after winning the 15th Chautauqua Piano Competition. She joined the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, Vermont in 2012 as a soloist and assistant accompanist, and was also featured in solo and collaborative recitals. Recently, as a collaborative pianist, she won Third Prize at the 34th Jessie Kneisel Lieder Competition in Eastman School of Music. Autumn is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and literature at Eastman under Professor Rebecca Penneys, as a recipient of the Audrey Wollenberg Saphar Scholarship and Max Landow Scholarship. She had two Graduate Award Assistantships, serving as a studio accompanist since 2010 and as Professor Penneys' teaching assistant since 2012.
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Name: Mo-Ah Kim  
City/Country: Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A.  
Age: 31

Mo-Ah Kim studied with eminent pedagogue Harvey Wedeen for ten years as a scholarship student at Temple University. She is currently in the D.M.A. program of College-Conservatory of Music at University of Cincinnati under the guidance of Eugene and Elisabeth Pridonoff. She studied chamber music with Lambert Orkis and coached with Jeffrey Solow. Also well-versed in early keyboards, she has worked with Joyce Lindoff and Vivian Montgomery on the harpsichord and fortepiano. She has played in masterclasses by Marc Durand, Menahem Pressler, Neltta True, Lydia Artymw, to name a few. Ms. Kim is a recipient of many awards including the Pi Kappa Lambda Competition, 2012 Mae & Irving Jurow International Harpsichord Competition, Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and several concerto competitions.

Name: Wesley Leffingwell  
City/Country: Centennial, Colorado, U.S.A.  
Age: 24

Wesley Leffingwell studied at the University of Denver with Steven Mayer and the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Niklas Sivelov. He is pursuing his Master's degree at CU Boulder with Andrew Cooperstock. As well as studying classical music, he plays jazz and is the composer, arranger, and pianist for the independent Denver-based project, Move Dance Company. Wesley is an active educator.

Name: Yuting Li  
City/Country: Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A.  
Age: 27

Pianist Yuting Li is currently pursuing her DMA program in Piano Performance and cognate in Piano Pedagogy at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign since 2011. Li was selected as one of the few outstanding recipients of Ross Fellowships from 2011 to 2012 given by UIUC. She also has been studying actively on harpsichord with Charlotte Mattax Moersch since 2012. She holds a M.M. in Piano Performance at College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati and received B.A. in Piano Performance at Shanghai Conservatory of Music with Dean's Awards for Studying Excellence. Her principal teachers have included Ian Hobson, Reid Alexander, Eugene Pridonoff, and Jiang Chen. Li has been performing on piano over the past ten years at various venues, including Smith Memorial Hall, Illinois, Robert J. Werner Recital Hall, Ohio, Wisdom House, Connecticut, and Eastern Art Center, China.

Name: Mario Monteros  
City/Country: El Paso, Texas, U.S.A.  
Age: 32

Born in San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina, Mario started his music studies in the city of Mar del Plata at age thirteen. He obtained his degree in Piano Performance from the Luis Gianneo Music Conservatory of Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, in 2008. From 2003-2009, he took private lessons with renowned pedagogue Antonio De Raco in Buenos Aires. In 2009, Mario earned a scholarship to participate in a master class by famous performer Karin Lechner, at the Gilardo Gilardi Conservatory of Music of La Plata. As a performing artist, Mario has played in many venues both in Argentina and abroad, including participating in a summer academy of piano and chamber music directed by the pianist and orchestra director Paul Trein in Rheinland Pfalz, Germany in 2010 (Sommerakademie für Klavier und Kammermusik in der Saar – Mosel – Stadt Konz bei Trier), where he obtained excellent reviews. That same year he was awarded by the International Foundation, “The Sound and The Time,” with a concert in Misiones, Argentina. In 2012 he was selected for an international competition “Teachers del Norte - Pianist del Sur” in order to obtain a scholarship toward a Master's in Piano Performance at either the Juilliard School of Music or the Eastman School of Music working with the pianists Douglas Humpherys and Julian Martin. Currently he is a graduate student and teaching assistant in the Piano Area at the Music Department of the University of Texas at El Paso under the supervision of Dr. Oscar Macchioni.