



# Clef Notes

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

THE BEACH CITIES SYMPHONY

## ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS



**Nathan Ben-Yehuda**  
Piano Soloist

Nathan Ben-Yehuda began piano studies with Deborah Aitken at the age of four. In 2002, he won first place at the SYMF Open Solo Competition, Elementary division, and first place in CAPMT Bartok and Contemporary Music Festival, which he won again in 2006. Nathan was the winner of the 2004 and 2005 Southern California Junior Bach Festival, receiving Regional Honors both years. In 2005 and 2006 he won first place in the SYMF Latin American Open Solo Competitions, and in 2007, he was state finalist at the annual CAPMT convention. This year Nathan passed the MTAC Certificate of Merit Advanced Level for the second time and was chosen for both the Branch



**Katharine Daly**  
Piano Soloist

Katharine Daly began piano lessons at the age of four with teacher Charlotte Deveny. For the past seven years she has studied with Edwin Deveny. Her first solo recital at age eleven was followed by recitals for the Young Artist Concert Series at the Gindi Auditorium (Los Angeles), Peninsula Music Fair Rising Stars Program, and the Palos Verdes Library Classical Music Series. She was the winner of the locally televised "PV Has Talent" Competition for Palos Verdes high school students, and she has performed for the "Act II" annual variety show at the Norris Center for the Performing Arts. At age nine, Katharine received



**Jason Griffin**  
Piano Soloist

Jason Griffin began piano lessons at age four and has studied piano with teacher Mihyang Keel since the age of eleven. He has won numerous awards, including the first prize at the 2008 SYMF in both the Chopin and Concerto categories, and received the bronze medal at the Southern California Bach Festival Complete Works Audition. Jason was also chosen to perform at the Peninsula Music Fair Rising Star Program and recently won the MTAC Branch VOCE Competition.

In addition to piano, Jason started playing the violin and oboe at age eight. He has studied violin with teacher Elmer Su since 2007. He won first prize at



**Kristie Su**  
Violin Soloist

Kristie Su began studying the violin at the age of three with her teacher/father, Elmer Su. Since she was eight years old she has won many competitions, including the Erika Chary International Music Competition (2004) and the SYMF (2004 to present). In 2005, she placed first in the MTAC Scholarship Awards, and took first place again in 2005 and 2008 in the ASTA Greater Los Angeles Finals. She recently won the Torrance Symphony Competition (junior division), the Bellflower Young Artists Concerto Competition, and the junior VOCE State Finals. Young Kristie placed second in the Peninsula Symphony's Concerto Competition (for ages 29 and under) in 2008, and the

*all bios continued inside...*

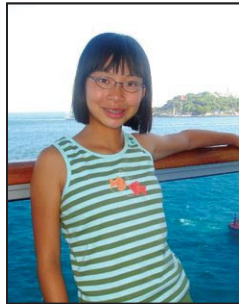
## YOUNG AUDIENCE STUDENT LECTURERS



**DONYA MANSOUBI**, a 16 year-old junior at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, is a piano student of Phoebe Chang. She will give a presentation on Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4.



**CHRISTINE WONG**, a 16 year-old junior at Mira Costa High School, is a piano student of Carol J. Levin and studies violin with Wendy Chow. She will be lecturing on Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor.



**DAHLIA PHAM**, a 13 year-old seventh grader at Rolling Hills Country Day School, began piano lessons at the age of 2 ½ years. She will give a lecture on Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No 2.

### TIME TO RENEW

This newsletter marks the beginning of our membership drive for the 2009-2010 concert season—our SIXTIETH SEASON! You can renew or become a new member of the Beach Cities Symphony Association by sending your tax-deductible contribution in the enclosed envelope. Our membership drive starts in May to assure that funding will be available for the following season. Thank you to those of you who have already contributed.

When you write your check for your contribution be sure to include an extra \$8.00 if you wish to purchase the parking pass.

We look forward to seeing you at our concerts and to having you join us at our post-concert receptions as members of the Beach Cities Symphony Association.

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### *Nathan Ben-Yehuda*

Honors Recital and a state convention program.

After placing second in the 2008 MTAC South Bay Branch Scholarship Auditions, he was given early acceptance, with scholarship, to the 2008 Ithaca College Summer Piano Intensive. In December 2008, Nathan was invited to perform in New York with Juilliard students, alumni, and international guest artists at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and at the Rotunda at Steinway Hall. This summer he will be attending the Piano Program at Tanglewood Institute.

Nathan is a fifteen-year-old ninth grader at Malibu Independent School. As well as a talented pianist, he is also an accomplished ballet dancer, and sings in chorale groups. He plays acoustic and electric guitars and keyboard, and sings lead vocals in and composes for an alternative rock band, Cracked Crown. He also composes serious concert music. His favorite subjects are French, history, and biology. In his spare time he loves to ski and cycle.

### *Katharine Daly*

the MTAC (South Bay Branch) Junior Scholarship, and at age twelve she received the Certificate of Merit for Advanced Theory and Piano Performance, also an award from MTAC. In 2008 Katharine won the Edith Knox "Most Outstanding Pianist" Senior Scholarship. Other music honors include awards from the MTAC (Southern Division) State Solo Competition, Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, Southern California Regional Junior Bach Festival, MTAC VOCE Competition, and Southwestern Youth Music Festival.

Katharine is sixteen years old and a sophomore at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School. She is currently co-vice president of the Math Club and has qualified twice for the American Invitational Math Exam. She participates in FIRST Robotics and enjoys solving the Rubik's Cube.

### *Jason Griffin*

the 2008 SYMF in the solo violin section and second prize in the ensemble section. He has played the violin and oboe for the North Torrance Youth Musical Ensemble, and performed with NTYME at Carnegie Hall in 2008. Jason is an active member of the Palos Verdes Regional Orchestra and the North Torrance Youth Chamber Orchestra.

In addition to performing, Jason's love of composing has garnered a first prize in the composition category of the PTA Reflections in 2006 and 2008. His favorite music genre is movie compositions, and he aspires to become a film composer.

Jason is a thirteen-year-old honor roll eighth grader at Ridgecrest Intermediate School, where he is in the GATE Program. He enjoys watching movies and composing alternate scores for them. Besides music, Jason enjoys military history, shooting sports, flight simulators, and running.

### *Kristie Su*

Bronislaw Kaper Awards, hosted by the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Disney Concert Hall in 2009.

Kristie is a thirteen-year-old eighth grade honor student at Ridgecrest Intermediate School in Palos Verdes. She has made solo appearances with several orchestras, including the *continued on next page...*

## THE BEACH CITIES SYMPHONY BARRY BRISK, MUSIC DIRECTOR

### featuring

## ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS

*performing*

*Tzigane*—Maurice Ravel  
Kristie Su, Violin Soloist

Concerto No. 4, Op. 58—Ludwig van Beethoven  
Katharine Daly, Piano Soloist

Concerto No. 2, Op. 102—Dimitri Shostakovich  
Jason Griffin, Piano Soloist

Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16—Edvard Grieg  
Nathan Ben-Yehuda, Piano Soloist

*also featuring*

*La forza del destino*—Guiseppe Verdi  
*Night on Bald Mountain*—Modest Mussorgsky

**FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2009**

Marsee Auditorium, El Camino College • Crenshaw Blvd. at Redondo Beach Blvd.

FREE ADMISSION & FREE PARKING

concert time: 8:15 P.M. pre-concert lectures: 7:30 P.M.

Young Audience Pre-concert Lecture on Mezzanine

Co-sponsored by MTAC South Bay Branch, and  
Mu Phi Epsilon PVP Alumni

Information: (310) 379-9725 or (310) 539-4649 • [www.beachcitiessymphony.org](http://www.beachcitiessymphony.org)

Bellflower Symphony Orchestra, the Palos Verdes Regional Orchestra, and the Torrance Symphony. She played at the Peninsula Music Fair Rising Star Program held at Palos Verdes High School in 2006

and 2008. She sat first chair in the Palos Verdes Unified School District Intermediate School Honor Orchestra in 2006 and 2007 and is an active member in the Palos Verdes Regional Orchestra. In her spare time, Kristie

enjoys reading, debating, pencil sketching, and web designing.

The May 22 concert marks Kristie Su's second appearance as soloist with the Beach Cities Symphony.

### Special Beach Cities Symphony Association Member Benefit:

*Buy Your Season Parking Permit in Advance*

El Camino College will eliminate free concert parking starting with the fall concert, 2009. At that time, drivers must purchase a parking permit and display it on the dashboard of the vehicle. Permits cost \$2 per event and can be purchased from machines located in the open lots and the new parking garage.

But as a **special benefit** for new and renewing members of the BCSA, a **season parking permit** can be purchased with your membership contribution. The

season permit is \$8 and is dated for all four concerts. No need to walk to the machine and back to your car. Just leave your permit in your glove compartment between concerts and display it on your dashboard on concert nights.

Permits will be mailed to members who have indicated on the membership envelope that they wish to purchase the parking permit and have added the \$8 to their membership contribution check.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## BEACH CITIES SYMPHONY 60th CONCERT SEASON

**Friday, November 6, 2009** (tentative date)  
Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 9

**Friday, January 29, 2010** (tentative date)  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Overture to *The Magic Flute*  
Sergei Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2  
Esther Keel, Piano Soloist  
Barry Brisk: *Kaleidoscope*, World Première

**Friday, March 26, 2010** (tentative date)  
Isaac Albeniz: *Catalonia*  
Mariachi Students – Middleton St. Elementary School  
Joquin Rodrigo: *Fantasia para un Gentil Hombre*  
Rhonda Dayton, Flute Soloist  
Emmanuel Chabrier: *España*

**Friday, May 28, 2010** (tentative date)  
Peter Heidrich: Variations on "Happy Birthday"  
Artists of the Future Winners  
Camille Saint-Saëns: Bacchanale from *Samson and Delila*

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### COMMENTS, ANYONE?

Do you have any comments or suggestions you would like to share with members of the Beach Cities Symphony Board of Directors? We're listening. Please feel free to email your comments to [bcsa.clefnotes@gmail.com](mailto:bcsa.clefnotes@gmail.com) or write to: Beach Cities Symphony, Attn: Clef Notes Editor, P.O. Box 248, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-0248

### MARCH 2009 PRIZE WINNERS

In the members' raffle at our March concert, the CDs donated by **Borders Books and Music** in Torrance were won by **Claire Aukerman** of Hermosa Beach and **Marie Carr** of Palos Verdes Estates. The floral arrangement by **Lily's Flowers and Gifts** in Torrance was won by **Tsu "Jack" Chang**. In the general raffle, **Jean Ellison Shanon** of Redondo Beach won the \$50 Gift Certificate to **Chef Hanne's** in El Segundo, and **Charles R. Brown** of Seattle won the \$100 Gift Certificate to **Salt Creek Grille**, also in El Segundo.

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### SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

There is still time for middle school students (grades 6, 7, and 8) to apply for one of the two \$500 scholarships to be awarded by the Beach Cities Symphony. The deadline for application is Friday, May 29, 2009. Applications may be found online at the BCSA website: [www.BeachCitiesSymphony.org](http://www.BeachCitiesSymphony.org), or by calling (310) 379-9725. The winners will be announced at the first concert of the 2009-2010 BCSA season in the fall of 2009. Music teachers are asked to encourage promising students to apply.

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### NEW MEMBERS

*Please welcome the following to the BCSA fold:*

Margi Bice	Thom Kilpatrick
David & Nora Loomis	Mary Jo Maher
Margaret M. O'Regan	

