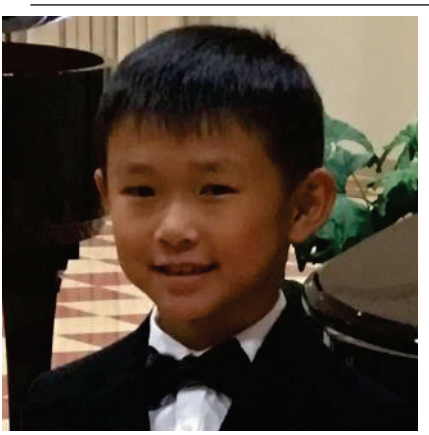
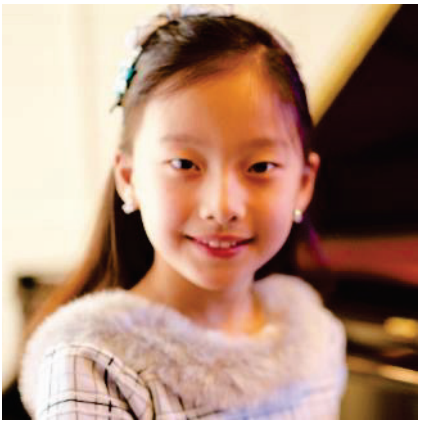
THE Artists

Serena Qu, has been learning piano since the age of four, under the tutelage of Fafan Xiao. She has performed in numerous nursing homes around Vancouver once a month from 2015 to 2018 and received a certificate for her service. She has also participated in the Canadian Provincial Children's hospital donation offer show. In 2016, Serena won the China-Canada Network Piano Competition four-year-old group first and won a trophy for her achievement. In 2017, she performed at the University of British Columbia in front of an audience of more than a thousand people; all the ticket revenue was donated to the Vancouver General Hospital and the UBC University Hospital Foundation.

Ryan Huang is seven years old and has been playing piano since he was four. Over the years, Ryan has won numerous first places, gold medals and scholarships in a wide variety of competitions, including the Peel music festival and the Burlington Music Festival. Ryan was invited to play at the Peel Music Festival -Stars of the Festival Concert in May 2017, where he was the youngest performer. He also performed at the Rotary Burlington Music Festival Grand Festival Concert in Nov 2017, where he was awarded runner up for most Promising Young Performer. Ryan recently played at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2018 and was awarded First Place in the International Music Competition.



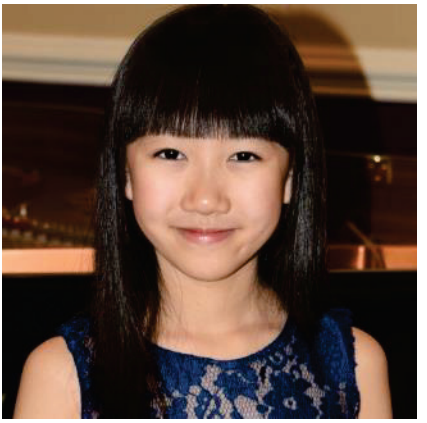
Jason Qian, nine years old and a third grader from Atlanta, Georgia, has been playing piano with his teacher Frances Yao, since the age of five. He loves playing piano and is happy to perform whenever he could. He won an Outstanding Performance award at the GA NDMTA Bach Competition in 2014 when he had been playing piano for only seven months. He received 4th place award in the NDMTA Bach competition in 2016 and 2nd place in NDMTA Sonatina Competition in 2017. Since the age of 6, he has received the 2nd place award in 2015, 2016 and 2017 American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competitions and had an excellent performance in Carnegie Hall for three consecutive years. In addition to playing piano, he enjoys swimming, ice skating, playing baseball and fencing. Jason is very excited to make his fourth performance at Carnegie Hall this year.



Emma Liu is currently nine years old and has been an avid piano student of Eunju Kim; she has passed the ABRSM grade 5 exam in piano with distinction. Emma has won the Steinway Society of South Jersey Young Pianist Competition for the last three years in a row. Through various competition wins including from American Protégé International Piano Competition, International Music Competition and the Chopin International Piano Competition Emma had the privilege to perform at the Curtis Institute for Music and the Academy of Music at Kimmel Center in Philadelphia as well as Weill Recital Hall and Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2017, Emma accepted an exclusive invitation to perform at the International Music Festival at Mirror Hall in Tarnow, Poland.

Rosanna Foss, a nine-year-old from Manhattan Beach, was honored to perform piano in Carnegie Hall for the first time when she was only six. Rosie is multi-talented old soul who started her musical and acting careers at the age of two. She currently studies music with Gayane Sahakyan. By using the money from her paychecks for working on "Criminal Minds" and P&G Global Campaign, Rosie bought huge rolls of fabrics and made 100 dresses, 60 robes and 60 onesies for homeless children at URM, Alexandria's house and LACH for Christmas 2014-2016. Rosanna was awarded by the 2015 Assemblyman David Hadley with California Legislature Assembly Certificate of Recognition and Certificates by the 2015 Mayor of MB W. Powell and 2016 Mayor of MB M. Burton. Rosie is honored to perform in Carnegie Hall for the six time today. In her free time, she loves riding horses, fencing, ice skating, swimming, knitting and giving concerts to the Senior Citizens.

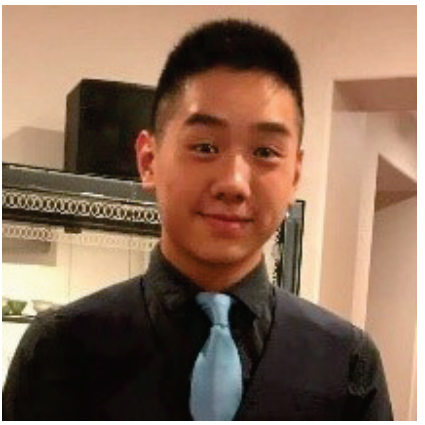
Natasha Mar, twelve years old, began playing the piano at age three. She is a 7th grader at the Bishop's School in La Jolla, California. Each year, Natasha has received "Superior" ratings from the National Federation of Music Clubs. Natasha also performs in piano recitals twice a year. Her piano teacher is Leighanne Walker in San Diego, California. At age seven, Natasha began taking cello lessons, and six months later joined the San Diego Youth Symphony's Overture Strings Orchestra as first chair. She recently won four first place honors during the California Association of Professional Music Teachers (CAPMT) annual Young Artists' Competition. Natasha will also be performing in a Cello Duo at the winner's recital for the American Protégé International Piano & Strings Competition 2018 on June 10th. Natasha is a cello student of Luyan Guo in Poway, California.



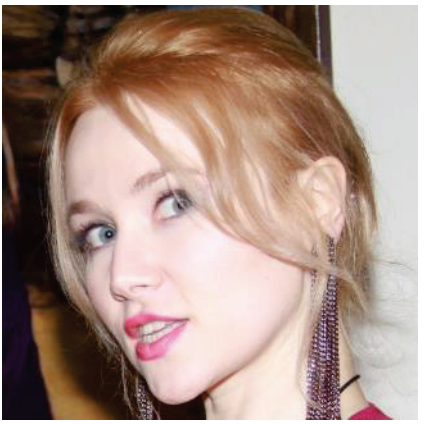
Meagan Lee, ten, has won many top prizes and awards of international competitions, including Gold Medal and Audience Favorite Award of the seventh Seattle International Piano Competition, First Absolute Prize and Exceptional Young Musician Special Prize of Grand Prize Virtuoso, First Place and Judges' Distinction Award of American Protégé International Music Talent Competition, First Place and Best Performance Award of American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition, First Prize of PTC Honors Program, First Place of International Competition, and First Place of New York Music Competition. Meagan has performed at Isaac Stern Auditorium and Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, US State Department, Wiener Saal Mozarteum, Benaroya Hall, Steinway Hall, Benzaquen Hall and Lang Hall. Meagan studied with Dr. Tian Song from age 6 to 9.

Daniel Alter, ten, is happy to be performing again at Carnegie Hall, having last year been awarded a "Judge's Distinction Award" by American Protégé. He has won numerous "Age Achievement" and "Best of Class" awards at festivals and competitions since starting piano at age 3, including the 2016 CCC "Best Young Artist" Trophy, first place Gold Medal for under age 11 at the 2016 Ontario Provincial Finals in the category of Piano Concertos, and first prize for under age 10 at the 2017 e-Muse International Piano Competition. He is currently in grade 5 at the Claude Watson School for the Arts in Toronto, where this year, along with his brother Jonathan, he helped found the Musical Theatre Group. A tennis enthusiast as well as avid dancer and artist, he studies piano in the studio of Dr. Michael Berkovsky at the Taylor Performance Academy of Canada's Royal Conservatory of Music.

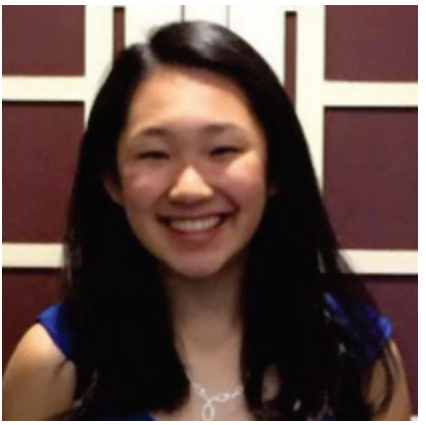
Jonathan Alter, twelve, studies piano at the Taylor Performance Academy of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, in the studio of Dr. Michael Berkovsky. Since beginning piano lessons at age three he's performed with his brother Daniel at the Toronto Auto Show, for fundraising Galas, and as guest soloists with the Shevchenko and Common Thread choirs, and has been the recipient of numerous First Place and "Best of Class" awards at local and international festivals, including the 2016 CCC "Best of Grades" Trophy and First Prize at the 2017 e-Muse Competition. He also plays jazz piano and clarinet at Toronto's Claude Watson School for the Arts and hopes to eventually become a conductor. Outside of music he loves sports, as well as canoeing and camping. This is his second performance at Carnegie Hall, his first coming after being awarded the "Judge's Distinction Award" by American Protégé in 2017.



Kevin Nea is a Senior at Diamond Bar High school in Diamond Bar. Even with immense pressure of College Apps and school grades, he still strives on to play the piano. Kevin has been playing piano since he was in fourth grade. After years of recycling through teachers, he finally found the perfect teacher, Aleksei Takenouchi. Through practicing with Aleksei, Kevin was able to earn the Advanced Level 10 Certificate of Merit test. He was also able to master the piece Twin Suns by George Crumb to ultimately win first place for the 2016 Southwestern Youth Music Festival. This year Kevin also won the American Protege Romantic competition held at Carnegie Hall. Even with the immense amount of pressure from school and piano, he still makes time to do what he loves such as watching movies with friends, going hiking, and playing sports.



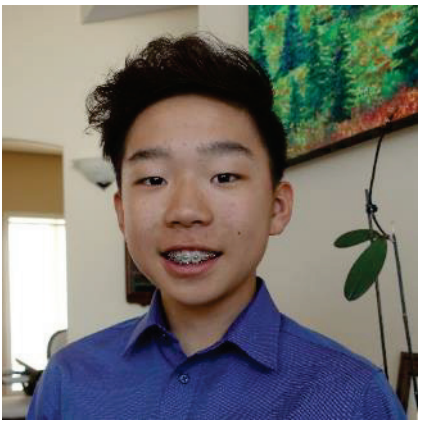
Maiya Kenick is a model, screenplay writer, actress and producer. Not long ago, she wrote a screenplay which became a SAG-AFTRA signatory project. As Maiya was writing a scene with a piano being played, she realized that she wanted to be the one playing it. So, building her practice on piano basics she studied as a child, she learnt Liszt's Consolation No. 3. She has another screenplay which will be co-produced by a Grammy nominated composer and producer. She has won gold medals at US Nationals Wushu Tournament in broadsword and bare hands division. Maiya loves to dance and has composed pop music songs. In fact, Maiya is excited that one of her songs that she recently wrote was immediately licensed for streaming across the world. In her spare time, Maiya is editing her 600+ page teen fantasy novel.



Elizabeth Li is a sophomore at Huron High School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She has been studying piano under Hsiu-Hui Peng Chen for ten years. Elizabeth has won 1st place in the Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild Foundation's Scholarship Competition twice, placed as a state alternate to being a finalist in the Michigan Music Teachers Association Achievement Test, received scholarships from the Ann Arbor Public Schools Summer Music Program Scholarship Competition, and won the Ann Arbor Taiwanese Music Festival Competition several times. In 2017, Elizabeth was a 2nd place winner in the American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition. In addition, Elizabeth plays flute for Huron High School's Symphony Band and Symphony Orchestra and for the Detroit Symphony Civic Youth Orchestra. She has been a frequent member of Michigan's Middle and High School All-State Honors Band.

Sooah Hannah Jeon, born in 2007, showed great talent in musical practices and theory since the early age of seven. In 2014, she won First place at the Korean National Music Journal Contest, Second at the International Estonian National Academy of Music Audition, and First both at the Korean Music Education News competition and at the National Sunjung Concur in 2015. She also performed at Lincoln Center, where she was recognized as 1st place and the best musician at the International Music Competition. She has also won First place in the International Grande Music competition to perform at Merkin Concert Hall, Lincoln Center in 2016. In 2017, she was officially the world's youngest flute player to pass the ABRSM performance diploma exam with distinction. Selected as the winner of the American Protégé Music Talent competition, she performed in 2017 at Carnegie Hall for the first time.

Cristina Elena Baron was born in November 2006 in New York City. She began studying violin with Dr. Emily Ondracek-Peterson and Dr. Erik Christian Peterson shortly before her third birthday and began piano lessons when she was seven. Cristina received Third Place in the 2017 American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition and has twice been selected by audition to perform at the Vilar Performing Arts Center in Beaver Creek, Colorado. She has performed at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Steinway Hall, and the Mozarthaus Vienna. Cristina is a student at The Spence School in New York City and studies ballet at American Ballet Theatre (in the Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis School). She also enjoys competitive swimming, art, travel and spending time with family and friends.



Daniel Kang, thirteen, lives in Calgary, Canada and has a strong passion for the violin. He was inspired by his older sister to play the violin, and at the age of seven, Daniel started to take lessons. Currently, he is studying with William van der Sloot at Mount Royal University Conservatory of Music. Over the past few years, Daniel has competed many times at the Calgary Performing Arts Festival. He has joined the Conservatory Symphonia orchestra as assistant principal. Daniel has received first place scholarships from the Mount Royal Branch Scholarship two years in a row, and has won first place at ARMTA (Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association). Daniel has been interviewed by both the Calgary Herald and the Calgary Sun newspaper and was featured on Shaw TV.

Michelle Stern, a fourteen-year-old native of Douglaston, New York, began violin studies at three years old with her mother, Anna Heifetz; she currently studies violin with Professor Ann Setzer at the Juilliard School Pre-College Division. Michelle was awarded first prize in the Young Artists Category of the Gershwin International Music Competition 2017 and first prize at the New York Music Competition and American Protégé Piano and Strings Competition. She was awarded first prize and the "Judges Distinction Award" at the American Protégé Concerto Competition, and "Best Performance Award" at the American Protégé Talent Competition. At seven years old Michelle was awarded first prize in the "Jewish Kids Got Talent" Competition, raising over five thousand dollars in prizes donated to charities and Hurricane Sandy Relief Funds. Michelle is a two-time recipient of the Irwin Altman Award of "Excellence in Education" from District 26, Queens, and has received an honorary Citation from the City Council of New York.

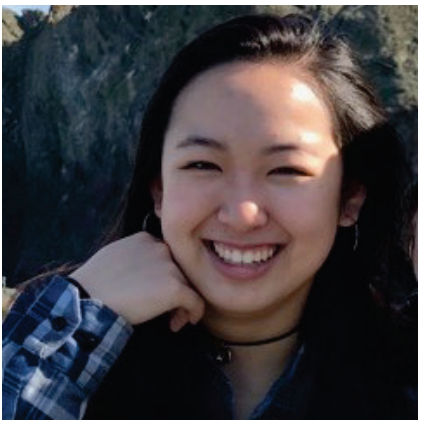
Eliza Ruffle, twelve, is a TV model for Adidas, Taobao, 84 Bleach, Meidi, and Jiangzhong kids' vitamins. She had passed her DipABRSM and LRSM with distinction and high pass. She has won the Hong Kong International Piano Competition, the Young Pianist of the North in UK, the Valletta Piano Competition in Malta, the Mozart Piano Competition and the Young Musician Competition in Italy, the Vienna Grand Prize Virtuoso plus Best Khachaturian Performance award, and the Chopin Youth Piano Competition in Poland. Last year, Eliza received four first prizes at two music festivals in London after relocation from China. This year, she has already won two first prizes for piano duet and composition in London. Eliza has received many invitations to play in Washington DC and New York in USA, Malta, Italy, Austria, German, China, and UK. Currently, she studies at Royal Academy of Music and Sevenoaks School in the UK.

Alexandra Thalberg is an Honor Roll student in the International Baccalaureate Magnet Program at Richard Montgomery High School, Maryland. She has been studying piano with Vivian Kwok for five years. Alexandra is the recipient of highly prestigious awards and prizes at national and international competitions, including the American Protégé Music Talent Competitions in 2014 and 2017. She has performed at Carnegie Hall (New York City), Royal Albert Hall (London, UK), Strathmore Mansion (Bethesda, MD), Kaufman Music Center (New York City), and other venues. Recently Alexandra's debut piano solo CD *Fall, Rise, & Rock!* was released, dedicated to the patients at Children's Hospitals and distributed nationwide. She performs devotedly for the young patients in hospitals, seniors, and veterans.

Tejas Shivaraman from Detroit, USA is a freshman at Cranbrook High School, where he holds the Slotkin Music Scholarship for High School Studies. Tejas started his music training on the Piano, Indian Classical violin and Indian Classical vocal at the age of five and currently studies with Prof. Catherine Rollin on the piano and Madurai Sundar for the vocals. He has won many competitions and has performed at various international halls in Mumbai (NCPA), Salzburg (Mozarteum), Vienna (Musikverein), London (Royal Albert Hall), Rome (Parco Della Música) New York (3 times at Carnegie Hall-Weill Recital Hall).

David Kwan is a sophomore at Monta Vista High School in Cupertino, California. David is a winner of many piano competitions, including First Prize at the Golden Classical Music Awards International Competition, the Crescendo International Competition, the International Vienna Grand Prize Virtuoso Music Competition, the American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music, and the American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented International Young Musicians Festival. He has given performances at the Musikverein (home of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra) in Vienna, Carnegie Hall in New York, and the Le Petit Trianon Theatre in California. David's other passion is mathematics. He is currently in a college calculus class, playing with Taylor series. David is a student of concert pianist Michelle Lee, whose musical education traces itself back to Franz Liszt, the greatest pianist of all time.

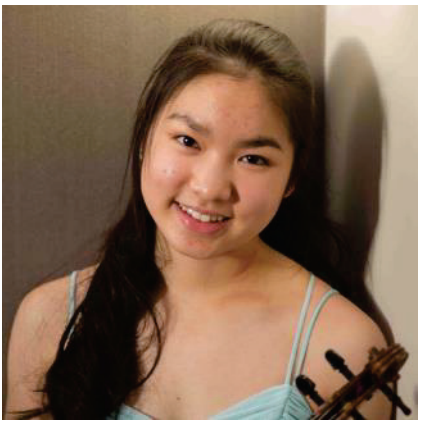
Ryan Gannon is a 15-year-old from California. He is a tenth grader at The Nueva School in San Mateo and has studied piano with Sujeeva Hapugalle since he was four years old. Ryan has won first place in numerous international competitions and performed at Carnegie Hall five times since 2013. He has been selected twice for the Young Artist Piano Program of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. Ryan has raised over $25,000 by performing at charitable concerts. He gave his first full piano concert at the age of eight to raise money to buy a piano for his local elementary school. He has participated in community fundraising concerts every year since to help send local children to the San Francisco Symphony and other musical venues. He founded the Musical Outreach Club at his high school to nurture the school's musical talent and to share it with the community.



Iris Wu is from the bay area in California. She has been studying piano for four years, and her current teacher is Sujeeva Hapugalle. Iris has been an active participant in all six years of Musical Bridges, a fundraiser that has raised tens of thousands of dollars for Kohl for Kids. Iris's first debut in Carnegie Hall was in Weill Recital Hall, after winning first place in the American Fine Arts Festival International Competition. She has also won second place in American Protégé 2018 Piano and Strings competition, was accepted to the Interlochen Center for the Arts' Summer Program, won first place in the Golden Era of Romantic Music International Competition, was a winner in MTAC San Mateo Scholars for Music and Leadership, was a selected artist for San Francisco Conservatory's Summer Chamber Music Festival, and completed the MTAC Panel Examination for Performance as a State Honors Finalist.

Sakurako Eriksen, 16, was born in Madison, Wisconsin. She is the winner of the 2018 Kristo Orthodontics Young Artist Competition and performed Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Chippewa Valley Symphony Orchestra. She started learning piano at the age of four in New Orleans. At the age of eight, she moved to Rochester, New York, where she studied with Douglas Humpherys at the Eastman School of Music. When she was thirteen, she moved to Los Angeles and studied with Bernadene Blaha at the USC Thornton School of Music. Currently, she lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, studies with Anna Maimine at SUNY Buffalo and coaches with Joseph Hauer. Sakurako won in the 2014 Los Angeles International Liszt Competition and also was awarded the Best Performance of an Etude Award. Additionally, she won in the 2015 Glendale Piano Competition and in the 2015 South California Junior Bach Competition Complete Works Division.

Julia Fu, 16, is a junior at Hillcrest High School under the tutelage of professor Gary Amano. At age six, Julia was invited to tour around China in cities that include Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, and many other cities. At seven, Julia Performed in the Libby Gardner Hall in the University of Utah. In 2013 and 2014, she achieved 1st place in an International Solo and Duo Piano Competition, consecutively. Also, in 2014, she won 1st place in the Debose National Piano Competition. In 2015, she performed in several cities in Thailand. In December of 2016, Julia won 1st place in the United States International Duo Piano Competition. In March 2017, Julia able to participate in the Winners' recital of the Utah Symphony Youth Guild Competition. Also in the summer of 2017, Julia performed in a multi-city tour in Italy.



Tiffany Yeung, fifteen, is a full scholarship student of Dr. Conrad Chow in the Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Having studied the violin since the age of four, she has appeared as a soloist in renowned halls, including Steinway Hall, Roy Thomson Hall, Koerner Hall and the Chan Centre. Most recently, Tiffany was the winner of the 2017 Remember Enescu International Violin Competition (Sinaia, Romania) and the 2017 Vancouver International Music Competition. For three consecutive years, she won 1st prize at the Canadian Music Competition, as well as the grand prize in 2011 & 2012. She has performed solo with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra, and Oakville Chamber Orchestra, among others. Tiffany has performed in masterclasses with distinguished artists and has attended the NAC Young Artists Program and Summit Music Festival, where she studied with Aaron Rosand and was a winner of the 2017 Mary Smart Concerto Competition.

Caroline Maude Durham, sixteen, studies violin with Eugene Watanabe and is a full scholarship student at the Gifted Music School. This past January, she was selected as a finalist in the Blount-Slawson Young Artists Competition in Montgomery, Alabama and also as a finalist in the National Young Artists' Competition in Spokane, Washington. Caroline also received first place in the 2018 Utah Music Teachers Association concerto competition and first place in the Utah Federation of Music Clubs' Stillman-Kelley competition. Caroline has participated in several performing groups, including Sotto Voce, Ringtone Quartet and Rocky Mountain Strings. She has performed in master classes with Jerry Elias, Linda Fiore, Baiba Skride, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Wei He, Andres Cardenas, and Laurie Smukler. She loves to experiment with music and has been known to play the violin while rollerblading and hula-hooping, or trying her hand at the musical saw.

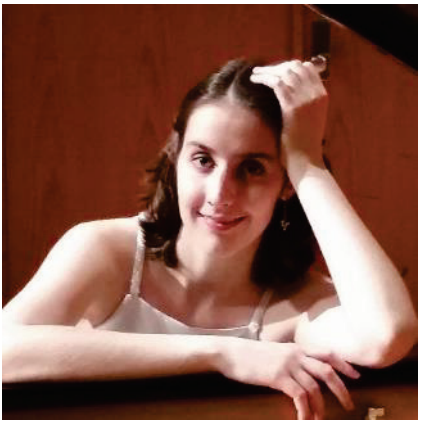
Jack Corbin, fourteen, is from Laurel Hollow, New York. He began modeling at three years old and has appeared in many national ad campaigns, commercial print work, editorials and runway. He started acting at age seven. He is a member of SAG-AFTRA, having appeared on several TV programs, films and numerous commercials. Jack started studying the guitar at age 6 and soon after added voice lessons. Since then, Jack and his rock bands have performed two-hour sets of Classic Rock, Motown, 90s, and other styles. Jack has played the roles of Jesus (Godspell), Eddie Flagrante (Zombie Prom), Zack (School of Rock) and Jojo (Seussical). He performed most recently at Carnegie Hall in March, in Studio PCI's "The Tony Show". Jack is so grateful to his teachers, Badiene Magaziner (theater, standards, classical) and Kurt Robinson (rock, pop), who have guided and inspired him, and to his accompanist David Madore, who always keeps the music fun.

Abigail Yadegar, sixteen, is a sophomore from Los Angeles, California. She studies vocal pedagogy and repertoire under Dr. Joel Ewing, and is a member of the Concert and Chamber choirs at Colburn Music School under Dr. Mikhail Shtangrud. Abigail is also a Cantorial Soloist in Training at Wilshire Boulevard Temple. She was a part of Hazamir: the International Jewish High School Choir, which performed at Stern Auditorium in 2016 and the Metropolitan Opera House in 2017. She is also devoted to musical theater: Abigail has portrayed the roles of Tzeitel (Fiddler on the Roof,) Nala (The Lion King,) and Fantine (Les Miserables.) This is Abigail's first solo performance at Carnegie Hall. Abigail loves all music: she studies piano and viola, and also enjoys music composition. She has composed two pieces of music that have been performed at multiple events and looks forward to studying music and music composition at Stanford this summer.

Pablo Rubin-Jurado is a vocal major at Juilliard pre-college, studying with Lorraine Nubar. He's been in the NYYS Composition Program since 2015. In 2012, he sang "Amahl" in "Amahl and the Night Visitors" by Menotti at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival. In 2013, he was the understudy for "Real Jake" in the Met Opera's "Two Boys" by Muhly. As an invited guest artist at HPAF In 2014, he played "Miles" in "The Turn of the Screw" by Britten. In the American Protégé International Vocal Competition, he won first place and a judges' distinction award in 2014, 2nd place in 2016, and was selected for the 10th Anniversary Showcase at Stern Auditorium in 2017. He also won 2nd place in the Hal Leonard Vocal competition and 2nd place in the New York Lyric Opera competition. He'll perform in the Gershwin International Music Competition's 2017-2018 Outstanding Young Artists' Concert Series. In 2018, he won the grand prize, best vocal technique, and most expressive performer awards in the Forte International Music Competition.

Kevin Yiyang Li, a Grade 11 honor roll student of Canada's St. George's school, has been learning the piano since the age of four and subsequently voice at the age of thirteen. Kevin have performed and competed in many local festivals resulting in top prizes. Having undergone years of piano/theory under the tutelage of Alex Lim and speech and drama sessions with the Opus Academy complements Kevin's training in Vocal studies. Kevin was able to complete his DipLCM performance degree in piano and singing with the London College of Music as well as Associateship diplomas in Speech and Drama with both the London College of Music and the Trinity College of London. Kevin was also accepted further to pursue summer vocal studies at the famed 2017.

Brian Wang, fifteen years old, is a sophomore at Hunter College High School in New York City. He started taking piano lessons at the age of four. His piano teacher is Alla Bell. Brian has won top prizes in many international competitions including a gold medal in "Passion of Music 2018", 1st place in American Arts Festival, Grand Prix in Concert Festival International Competition, gold medal in International Music Competition and Festival, and he performed at the Debut International Piano Competition Winners' Concert in Vienna, Austria. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestra several times. Brian also plays the violin, currently studying at Manhattan School of Music.



Monika Miodragovic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, and began playing piano at the age of five. In 2008, Monika was selected to perform with her duo at the internationally-recognized Kolarac Hall. The same year, she moved with her family to Chicago. In 2011, she won the Young Artist Competition and performed on stage at the Chicago Symphony Hall. Monika received her Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance and Music Theory at the University of Michigan under the mentorship of Prof. Christopher Harding. In 2014, she won second place with her quintet at the school's inaugural Dale and Nancy Briggs Chamber Music Competition. Monika continued her piano studies as a Teaching Assistant at Florida International University under the tutelage of concert pianist Kemal Gekić. In 2015, she performed in the Weill Recital Hall. The following year, Monika won the FIU Concerto Competition. In 2017, Monika was awarded the Graduate Performance Award as a recognition for her achievements.

Lucy Maxwell made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2016 playing the "unplayable" Lavapiés from Iberia by Albéniz. She has actively performed in various piano festivals across the USA including Symphony of Sounds in Alaska, Piano Texas Piano Festival and California Concerto Weekend where she dazzled audiences with an unprecedented performance of the Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 2, has won first prize at the Aloha International Piano Competition 2016 and in the American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music 2016. Lucy lives in Alaska, USA and in addition to her musical pursuits, Lucy holds a Bachelors in Commerce and Liberal Studies from the University of Sydney and is the Co-Founder of Arctic Spine and Arctic Surgery Center, a premier medical clinic and ambulatory surgery facility in Alaska. She studies piano with Dr. Timothy Smith at the University of Alaska.

JJ Piano Duo/Four Hands:

Huijung Yoo, of **JJ Piano Duo**, is an active pianist in South Korea. She graduated from Sunhwa Art Junior High School and graduated from Sunhwa Arts High School and Hanyang University College of Music and graduated from K.A and Konzertexamen courses at the National University of Music in Dresden, Germany. She has performed in many countries such as Germany and Austria, won many awards in Korea, and won the Barletta Young Musician International Competition in Italy. Huijung has been invited to perform in Germany 'Konzert der Generationen', Hellerau Kammermusik and Carl Maria von Weber Museum and participated in the master class of pianists Vera Gornostayeva, Mikhail Voskresensky and Karl-Heinz Kämmerling. She has been active in the Korea United Cultural Foundation, winning the Artist Achievement Award of the Year. She is a lecturer at Pyeongtaek University and Kangnam University.

Hyunjung Kim, of **JJ Piano Duo**, graduated Sunhwa Arts High school, and received both a Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Ewha Women's University. She obtained her Master of Music at Indiana University. She has been a First Place Winner in the American Protégé International Music Talent Competition, second winner of Grand Prize Virtuoso, Golden Classical Music Awards , Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition .Ms.Kim has given many recitals in the Seoul Arts center. She is currently a faculty member of Myongji University and a columnist of the magazine "Music Review".

Jinwoo Jung is a student at Manhattan School of Music, where he studies with Koichiro Harada and Patinka Kopec. He won Second Prize in the New York Artists International Competition and the New York International Concours. As a result, he had the privilege to perform at the Winners' Concert at Bruno Walter Auditorium, Lincoln Center, which was his debut in New York. Jinwoo has performed with several orchestras, such as the IGMC Orchestra in Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Music Center and the New York Concerti Sinfonietta at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Most recently, he was awarded First Prize and the Judges' Distinction Award at the American Protégé International Competition, whereupon, he performed at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in the New York City. He was also honored citation by a standing committee senator from New Jersey.

Sarah Warshavsky, soprano, studies both musical theatre and classical voice with Giuseppe Spoletini at the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division. At MSM, Sarah is a part of the Opera Workshop where she performs scenes from operas. In her opera scenes this year, she played Zerlina from Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and Susanna from Mozart's "Le Nozze Di Figaro". Last summer, Sarah attended Eastman Community Music School's summer intensive called Music Horizons. She studied with Cecile Saine and portrayed the role of the Queen of the Night in two opera scenes from Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte". This past year, Sarah placed first in both The International Music Competition 'Rome' Grand Prize Virtuoso and Golden Classical Music Awards.

Ivana Galic is a recognized vocalist that "brings new emotion" to her work. She gained a Bachelor Diploma from Teaching University (Zagreb) and PG Diploma in Vocal Performance at Royal College of Music in London. Since early childhood, expressing herself through music shaped her vocal versatility today, both in classical and popular genres. She performed at different venues in Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Italy, France, Belgium, Finland, Norway, UK and Kenya. She was a finalist at *Darko Lukic National Competition* (2005) and *Emmy Destin International Award* (2003). In 2016 she won a US online contest in gospel blues category followed by an open invitation to a gospel festival in Atlanta in 2018. Ivana has participated in numerous musical projects, performed for Radio and TV, participated at master classes of renowned artists and sung in music societies, festivals and other events. She was a member of National Opera in Zagreb.

Richard Yan is a ninth grader from Scarsdale, New York. He is currently a member of the Edgemont High Chamber Choir Ensemble. He has performed in multiple school plays since elementary school and has been chosen this year for All County Chorus for his third year. He passed the ABRSM Piano Grade 8 exam with distinction and has competed in the American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition twice, earning second and third place awards. He has also won second place in the Young Artist Festival and was a Junior Honors Recital Competition Winner at the Interlochen Arts Camp. His two main instruments are piano and guitar, which he showcases in his music videos that he produces and uploads to YouTube. His three music videos have gotten over 160,000 views and 6,000 likes on his YouTube channel.

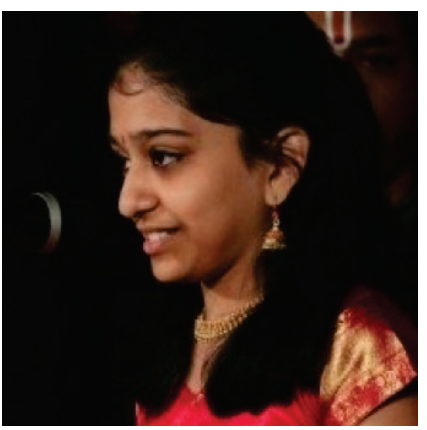
Yana Ebbing, fourteen, has been taking vocal lessons for two years and piano for four. In 2017, Yana was awarded Vocal Classical Champion at AGM 116th Annual National Convention and 3rd place in piano solo and vocal duets at 2017 AGM 40th Annual Great Lakes Regional Contest and in 2016, 1st place in the Piano Solo-Age Achievement and 3rd place in Piano Classical Duet at the American Guild of Music 39th Great Lakes Regional Competition. Yana was selected Honorable Mention Winner in American Protégé "We Sing Pop International Song Contest" 2016 and awarded Second Place Winner in the American Protégé Broadway/Musical Theatre Repertoire Vocal Competition and International Music Talent Competition 2017. Yana loves theater and performed in various plays, musicals, and cabarets. She recently performed as Jane in "Mary Poppins" in the Mercy High School musical. Yana has fallen in love with performing, singing, acting, and playing piano, now spending all her time chasing her dreams

Magdalena Aleksovska, singer and flutist, was born in 2002 in Skopje, Macedonia. Music has been a part of her life from her childhood, she started singing when she was seven years old. Ever since then, she has taken part in a lot of international festivals, shows and competitions, often bringing home a prize with her. Not only in Macedonia, also in Belarus, Bulgaria, Latvia, Turkey, Serbia, Croatia and Czech Republic. Up to now, she has five original songs, "Pupil", "Mice dancing", "First love", "Pletenka- Braid of love", "Prayer". Her most significant performances are "Slavianski Baazar 2013" and "Junior Eurovision 2015". The most important cooperation is with the Tokyo Opera for the "Night Heron" in 2014 in Skopje, Macedonia, as a member of the choir "Piccolo". In the future she wants to be a famous singer and a part of the theater singing her favorite musicals.

Korn Danviboon is a talented young man with impressive resume in performing arts. His talents include singing, acting, dancing and modeling. In Thailand, Korn was awarded the prizes from HRH princess Sirindhorn and Princess Ubolratrajjakanya for his singing competing in M2E and EBO singing contests, Korn also attended and competed in many international contests, fashion festivals and television programs. He received 11 medals from WCOPA 2016 USA and 12 medals from WCOPA 2017 USA he is the only one junior vocal male who pass through grand finale, and he also received the 2nd runner winner of Shining Star Singing Contest in Istanbul Turkey in 2016. In modeling, Korn took parts as a model in fashion week in Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar representing DVIS KIDS (Clothes Brands). In television program, Korn was chosen as a junior singer to join "We Kid Thailand".

Phoebe Tian is a 7th-grade student at Diamond School in Lexington, Massachussetts. A kind and confident girl, she loves singing, dance and composing. Phoebe has played the piano and guitar for many years and has won numerous awards and accolades in international music events. She took 3rd place in the "Golden Voices of America 2017", participated in a concert for the Ethiopia Cultural Exchange Press Release, and won 1st Place in the 4th International Hong Kong Children's Music Festival. Phoebe won the Gold Award in the Third China Campus Original Music Elementary, won the Top Ten Children's Award in the Third China Children's Admiralty Music Competition 2015, and is the reigning champion of the "Children's Voice" CCTV music channel. She won the Tenth Chinese Children's Karaoke competition's 1st Place Award in 2012.

Shermaine Saw, a thirteen-year old ACSI international student from Singapore, brings musical passion into diverse genres from Classical and Broadway, to English/Mandarin Pop. She was the First Place Winner for both Classical & Musical Broadway in 2015, as well as in We Sing Pop at American Protégé. She won a Bronze medal at International Anton-Bruckner Choir Competition, Austria, and was conferred as the youngest singer to win the Grand Championship during POTY 2014. Additionally, Shermaine won Highest Gold at Asia Arts Festival 2017. She respectably preformed for President of Singapore, Prime Minister & Ministers in major events, such as ASEAN Chairmanship 2018, 'Istana Open House', 'May Day Rally', 'ChildAid', 'EduSave Scholarship', and 'National Engineers Day'. In school, Shermaine was privileged to be a Soloist to showcase with PhilHarmonic Orchestra in Italy 2017. Shermaine received Distinctions for the LCM Diploma Popular Music, ABRSM Grade 6 Singing, LAMDA Grade 7 Musical Theatre.



Srinidhi "Sri" Ramesh, a 17-year-old music enthusiast, has been involved in music since the age of four. Her start was with Carnatic music, the South Indian classical music style. She has won numerous awards in prestigious organizations such as CMANA, Cleveland Aradhana, and the Thyagaraja Festival. She has also given many concerts in venues like Chennai Music Academy. She was always interested in pop music but began learning Western style music only at the age of fourteen. She fell in love and continues to cultivate her interest in the music style. She is experimenting with music composition, and has done covers of many songs, both with instruments and acapella. Sri looks up to and has admired singer Ariana Grande for years and emulates much of Grande's talent in her own music. Sri aspires to make it in the pop world as an Indian and hopes to inspire people through music.

Esha Krishnamoorthy, a singer-songwriter from the San Francisco Bay Area, has been recognized for her music since the age of thirteen, winning various talent competitions, scholarships, and international accolades for her craft. From performing at music festivals to being invited to perform at Carnegie Hall, Esha has put everything she has into developing and building the foundations of her music career. Esha creates a unique blend of heartfelt lyrics, powerful vocals, and catchy guitar riffs. Her debut single "Just Don't Let Me Go," produced by GRAMMY-winning engineer Brian Gibbs, released on over 150 music streaming sites in early 2018. This past spring, Esha released the second single off her debut album, an alternative-rock song called "Out Of My League." Fans can expect to hear a full-length album by the end of the year. Esha's musical influences range from Fleetwood Mac and Journey to as Kodaline and Nothing But Thieves.

We thank all applicants and their families for their ambition and dedication to this endeavor. The American Protégé Organizational Committee is grateful to all the institutions, companies and families, who provided support to the applicants.

American Protégé Organizational Committee:

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