



Cellist James Baik, 17

Is the 2019 First Prize winner of the Irving M. Klein International String Competition. At the start of his senior year James moved to Chicago from Houston to study with Hans Jørgen Jensen and further his cello studies. He now attends New Trier High School in Winnetka IL.

James began playing the piano at the age of six, and cello at eight in Houston, TX. He made his solo debut appearance in spring 2015 with the Houston Civic Symphony Orchestra and the Clear Lake Symphony as a winner of their concerto competitions. Later that year, James was featured on the cover of the October issue of Southwestern Musician, and soloed at Lila Crockett Theater during the Texas Music Educators Association conference. Selected as a Houston Young Artist, James frequently

performed in community concerts in the Houston area.

In 2017, he was a finalist at the Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition and performed at Meyerson Symphony Hall. He was also a winner of the 2018 DePaul Concerto Competition, subsequently performing with the Oistrakh Symphony. James was a finalist at the 2018 Johansen International Competition in Washington D.C.

Most recently, James was named a YoungArts finalist and participated at YoungArts Week in Miami, Florida this past January, and was a finalist in the 2019 Stulberg Competition. He was also awarded the grand prize at the Walgreens National Competition December 2018 with a performance at the Pick Staiger Hall in Northwestern University.

James studied at the Meadowmount School of Music 2017 summer program, and in summer 2018, he attended the Aspen School of Music, where he participated in the Finckel Wu Han Chamber Music Program. During his free time, James loves to eat great food, sleep, and spend time with family. ###

