

# THE KLEIN COMPETITION 2019

JUNE 1 & 2

The 34th Annual Irving M. Klein  
International String Competition





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On the cover: Alex Zhou,  
First Prize winner 2018  
(photo Carlin Ma).

On this page: Ariel Horowitz,  
Fourth Prize winner 2015  
(photo Scott Chernis).



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# WELCOME

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We are so pleased to welcome you to the 34th annual Irving M. Klein International String Competition, presented jointly with the esteemed San Francisco Conservatory of Music. This collaboration enables both organizations to fulfill their missions of discovering and developing the most superb young musical artists of conservatory age.

This weekend you will be introduced to nine extraordinary string players performing music that explores their artistic gifts and personas. Each performer will play a Bach unaccompanied work, a major concerto, a major sonata, and a new work commissioned by the Klein Competition from Carlos Oliver Simon (see his biography in this program book). This wide range of repertoire challenges different facets of each Semifinalist's musical abilities, and illuminates for us their approach to the inner life of the music and the insights that they bring to great masterpieces of the past and present. This process of discovery is the hallmark of the Klein Competition and a fascinating and elevating experience for all of us.

Over the past three decades, we have introduced hundreds of extraordinary young artists to audiences in San Francisco, the greater Bay Area, and across the United States, and watched with great pride and joy as they have blossomed and taken their places among the most significant musicians in the world. In accordance with our mission, we continue to present these players at every stage of their careers as concerto soloists with orchestras, as well as in public recitals, house concerts, master classes and educational outreach. Look out for, and join us at, these events throughout the year.

Our Jury is the soul of this event, upholding the highest musical standard, and demonstrating their earnest commitment to promoting the next generation of musical artists and to the future of our art form. This year, distinguished Klein Competition laureates Cathy Basrak (Assistant Principal Viola of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Principal Viola of the Boston Pops Orchestra), Nikki Chooi (eminent violin soloist and former concertmaster of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), and Amir Eldan, (Professor of Cello and Chair of the String Department at Oberlin Conservatory) join returning jurors Ian Swensen and Barbara Day Turner, and we welcome for the first time our composer Carlos Oliver Simon, and Dan Carlson (Principal Second Violin of the San Francisco Symphony).

Thank you for being here, and for supporting young musicians. We hope that you will be inspired by their performances, and we invite your ongoing involvement and support. Enjoy discovering the nine splendid young artists in this year's Klein Competition.

**Mitchell Sardou Klein**

Artistic Director  
California Music Center



It is my honor to welcome all of you to the 34th Annual Irving M. Klein International String Competition. The Klein Competition attracts the most talented young artists from across the globe and has long served as a launch pad for important careers. These individuals continue to raise the bar for the music profession on an international scale and many of the finest musicians in our midst today began their careers at the Klein Competition.

The San Francisco Conservatory of Music is pleased to host the Klein Competition in partnership with the California Music Center. This event is a celebration of passion, aspiration, and the power of live performance that inspires all of us. The Conservatory of Music is committed to preparing artists of the highest caliber and it is our honor to partner with the Klein Competition in furthering our collective mission.

I hope all of you enjoy your experience at the Conservatory, and that you will join me in wishing all of these young artists the very best for the future.

**David H. Stull**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "De H. Stull", with a stylized flourish at the end.

President  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music

## Irving M. Klein (1917-1984)

Virtuoso chamber musician, master cello teacher and compassionate friend, Irving M. Klein served as the primary exemplar of his own convictions about musical education. He spent a lifetime in pursuit of excellence in musical performance, and he possessed a rare gift for discerning and supporting the highest motivations in others, so that wherever he lived he was continually at the growing center of a flourishing musical community.



For 18 years he performed in this country and abroad with the Claremont String Quartet, a group he co-founded. Acclaimed as one of the finest ensembles of that era, the Claremont represented the U.S. Department of State in cultural exchange programs in Europe, Africa and South America. Klein was chairman of the String Department of the North Carolina School of the Arts and taught at Pennsylvania State University, Peabody Conservatory, University of Delaware, Goucher College and College of Notre Dame. He performed with the CBS Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Leopold

Stokowski's All American Youth Orchestra and the Musica Aeterna Orchestra. He founded the California Music Center in 1971 and was its director for 13 years.

Irving Klein dedicated his life to music and to humanity. It was his talent to create that very special atmosphere of inquiry, respect and love that served to activate the creative efforts of his musical colleagues, students and friends. He touched many lives gently and yet so profoundly that his spirit and example will shine on through them for generations to come. —ANNE HERSHEY

**First prize** is \$13,000, including performances with the Peninsula and Santa Cruz Symphonies, the Gualala Arts Chamber Music Series, Music in the Vineyards, Noontime Concerts and other performances.

**Second prize** (\$6,300, including performances with the San Jose Chamber Orchestra and the Piedmont Center for the Arts) is given by Ruth Short in honor of Elaine H. Klein, wife of Irving M. Klein, and for the past 33 years, an active board member and supporter of the Klein Competition and California Music Center.

**Third prize** (\$2,500) is given this year by David and Judy Anderson, in memory of Judy's father, Milton Preves, who was Principal violist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for nearly fifty years and was instrumental in developing the judging procedures for the Klein Competition (see page 6).

**Two Fourth prizes** (\$1,500) are awarded. One of the Fourth prizes is presented in memory of Jerry Lee Klein, Irving M. Klein's younger son.

The prize for the **Best Performance of the Commissioned Work** (\$500) is named in memory of Allen R. Weiss and Susan E. Weiss, who were often seen ushering together at the competition, typically wearing a dress and bowtie made from the same fabric. They were tireless volunteers for musical and theatrical organizations, and they spent their lives encouraging children (especially their own) to express themselves through the arts. This year's prize is given by the Weiss Family.

**The Pablo Casals Prize** (\$500) is for the best performance of the solo Bach work, in honor of the musical tradition of the great master. This year's prize is given by Loretta O'Connell in honor and memory of Harry Adams.

**Semifinalist Prizes** Each semifinalist not awarded a named prize will receive \$1,000.

If you are interested in underwriting a Klein Competition prize, please contact California Music Center's Executive Director, Marcy Straw, at [marcy@californiamusiccenter.org](mailto:marcy@californiamusiccenter.org) or 415.252.1122.

## THE JUDGES/JUDGING

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**Cathy Basrak** (Klein winner 1995) is the Assistant Principal Violist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and Principal Violist, Boston Pops. On faculty at the New England Conservatory of Music, she holds a bachelors of music from Curtis, and studied with Michael Tree and Joseph de Pasquale.

**Daniel Carlson** joined San Francisco Symphony in 2006 where he serves as Principal Second Violin. He previously served as rotating concertmaster for the New World Symphony. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School.

**Nikki Chooi** (Klein winner 2009) was the winner of the 2013 Michael Hill International Violin Competition and Laureate, 2012 Queen Elisabeth Music Competition. Concertmaster of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra for the 2016-17 season, he is an avid soloist and chamber musician.

**Amir Eldan** (Klein winner 1997) was appointed assistant professor of cello at Oberlin Conservatory in 2006. Eldan holds doctorate and masters degrees from the Juilliard School and a bachelors of music, cum laude from Cleveland Institute of Music, studying with Richard Aaron.

**Carlos Simon** is composer of this year's Commissioned Works (see page 8).

**Ian Swenson** is the Isaac Stern Distinguished Chair of Violin at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and a frequent soloist and chamber musician. He was a winner in the Naumburg Foundation's International Violin (1984) and Chamber Music Competitions (1985).

**Barbara Day Turner** is the founder and Music Director of the San Jose Chamber Orchestra. She conducted for Opera San José for 18 years, and has served as Music Administrator and Conductor for the Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theater.

### Klein Competition Judging Procedures

Judges are asked to refrain from discussion until the first secret ballot in each round is tallied, after which there may be discussion and re-votes only in the event of ties. In the semifinal round, the judges vote in no particular order for the three semifinalists who will typically be advanced to the final round. In the final round the judges vote for first place, which is determined, then proceed to vote for each remaining award, one at a time, starting with second up to the number of prizes being awarded.

**Milton Preves** (1909–2000) first attended the Klein Competition in 1987 as a judge and subsequently was instrumental in developing the basis for the current judging procedures, which have been further refined over the years. Preves was a violist, conductor, teacher, soloist and a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for 52 years starting in 1934. He was its Principal Violist from 1939 to 1986. He played under the batons of all the symphony's conductors from Fritz Reiner through Sir Georg Solti, except for its founder, Theodore Thomas. Preves was a founding member of the Chicago Symphony String Quartet.

## The Mentor

Hailed by The Washington Post as “sweetly lyrical”, violinist and activist **Ariel Horowitz** cannot remember life before loving music. A student of Ani Kavafian at the Yale School of Music, Ariel previously studied with Itzhak Perlman and Catherine Cho at The Juilliard School as an Arnold R. Deutsch/Dorothy DeLay Scholarship recipient. Prizewinner of the Stulberg and Klein Competitions, and the Grumiaux, Juilliard, and Yale concerto and chamber music competitions; Ariel received the Salon De Virtuosi Career Grant in 2017. As founding director of The Heartbeat Project music education initiative on the Navajo Reservation, Ariel received “From the Top” Alumni Leadership Grants (2017-18) and the 2017 McGraw Hill-Robert Sherman Award for Music Education and Community Outreach. Ariel enjoys an active performance schedule, frequently pairing masterworks of the classical canon in dialogue with her political and interdisciplinary compositions. Her Juilliard School senior recital featured the premiere of her multimedia composition, *Woman*. In 2017, she was Yale Philharmonia Concertmaster and soloist for Richard Strauss’s *Ein Heldenleben*. She performed as soloist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at the Strathmore Music Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, among others, as well as numerous recitals in the U.S., Europe and South America. Ms. Horowitz will serve as mentor for the Semifinalists in the Competition, assisting them in preparation for their performances.

## The Collaborative Pianists

**Jeffrey LaDeur** is known for his “delicate keyboard touch and rich expressivity” (San Francisco Chronicle) and playing described as “deeply moving, probing, felt entirely in the moment” (Eduard Laurel). LaDeur is founder and artistic director of New Piano Collective and the San Francisco International Piano Festival, now entering its third season. Recent highlights include an acclaimed solo recital debut at Carnegie Hall and a new recording for MSR Classics of lieder by Beethoven and Schumann with mezzo soprano Kindra Scharich, as well as Schumann’s *Fantasy in C* for solo piano. LaDeur is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory, and his teachers include Douglas Humpherys, Yoshikazu Nagai, and Robert McDonald. Jeffrey received his formative musical training from Mark Edwards and Annie Sherter, a student of Vlado Perlemuter and Alfred Cortot.

Pianist **Miles Graber** received his musical training at The Juilliard School, where he studied with Anne Hull, Phyllis Kreuter, Hugh Aitken and Louise Behrend. He has lived in the Bay Area since 1971, where he has developed a wide reputation as an accompanist and collaborative pianist for instrumentalists and singers. He has performed with numerous solo artists, including Zuill Bailey, Sarah Chang, Cho-Liang Lin, Camilla Wicks, Axel Strauss, Mimi Stillman and Judith LeClair. He is a member of the chamber groups Music Æterna, GGR Trio, Alcyone Ensemble, the Sor Ensemble, Mira Trio, and the new music group Sounds New. He is active as a teacher and chamber music coach and is on the faculties of The Crowden School in Berkeley and San Domenico Conservatory in San Anselmo.



**Carlos Simon** is a native of Atlanta, Georgia whose music ranges from concert music for large and small ensembles to film scores with influences of jazz, gospel, and neo-romanticism. His latest album, *My Ancestor's Gift*, incorporates spoken word and historic recordings to craft a multifaceted work inspired as much by the past as the present.

Simon was selected as a Sundance Institute Film Music Composer Fellow for its 2018 Film Music and Sound Design Lab. His string quartet, *Elegy*, honoring the lives of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Eric Garner was recently performed at the Kennedy Center for their Jukebox Series.

In 2018, Simon toured Japan with the Asia/America New Music Institute performing in sacred temples and concert spaces including Suntory Hall, Tokyo. Simon has served as a Composer Fellow at the Cabrillo Festival for Contemporary Music, and was a winner of the 2016 Underwood Emerging Composer Commission from the American Composers Orchestra, the 2015 Marvin Hamlisch Film Scoring Award in 2015, and the 2015 Presser Award.

Recent commissions include those from Morehouse College, the University of Michigan Symphony band, and Albany Symphony's *Dogs of Desire* (American Music Festival). He served as the 2016 young composer-in-residence with the Detroit Chamber String and Winds.

Simon's work has been performed by Tony Arnold, Third Angle New Music Ensemble, Hub New Music Ensemble, Asian/American New Music Institute, University of Michigan Symphony Band, American Composers Orchestra, Flint Symphony, Color of Music Festival, *Dogs of Desire*, University of North Texas Symphony Band, University of Miami Symphony Band, Georgia State University Wind Ensemble among many other organizations. His piece *Let America Be America Again* (text by Langston Hughes) has been tapped for an upcoming PBS documentary.

As music director and keyboardist for GRAMMY winner Jennifer Holliday, Simon has performed with the Boston Pops Symphony, Jackson Symphony, and St. Louis Symphony.

Simon earned his doctorate degree at the University of Michigan, studying with Michael Daugherty and Evan Chambers. He holds degrees from Georgia State University and Morehouse College; with further studies in Baden, Austria; at the Hollywood Music Workshop with Conrad Pope; and at NYU's Film Scoring Summer Workshop. Simon is on the music faculty at Spelman College in Atlanta.

## Program Notes

Bill Traylor was born a slave in Alabama in 1853 and died in 1949. He lived long enough to see the United States of America go through many social and political changes. He was an eyewitness to the Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction, Jim Crow segregation and the Great Migration. As a self-taught visual artist, his work reflects two separate worlds—rural and urban, black and white, old and new. In many ways the simplified forms in Traylor's artwork tell of the complexity of his world, creativity, and inspiring bid for self-definition in a dehumanizing segregated culture. This piece is inspired by the evocative nature as a whole and not one piece by Traylor. Themes of mystical folklore, race, and religion pervade Traylor's work. I imagine these solo pieces as a musical study; hopefully showing Traylor's life between disparate worlds.



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## PAST WINNERS

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### 2018

- 1 Alex Zhou, violin
- 2 Julian Rhee, violin
- 3 Isabelle Ai Durrenberger, violin
- 4 Sophia Su, violin
- 4 Jean Kim, cello

### 2017

- 1 Jeremy Tai, cello
- 2 Zhanbo Zheng, viola
- 3 Kyumin Park, violin
- 4 Peter Eom, cello
- 4 Karisa Chiu, violin

### 2016

- 1 William Langlie-Miletich, bass
- 2 Coleman Itzkoff, cello
- 3 Alina Kobialka, violin
- 4 Evin Blomberg, violin
- 4 Sarah Hall, violin

### 2015

- 1 Oliver Herbert, cello
- 2 Isabella Perron, violin
- 3 Emily Shehi, violin
- 4 Erika Gray, violin
- 4 Ariel Horowitz, violin

### 2014

- 1 Zlatomir Fung, cello
- 2 Charles Seo, cello
- 3 Angela Wee, violin
- 4 Luke Hsu, violin
- 4 Kyumin Park, violin

### 2013

- 1 Youjin Lee, violin
- 2 Wyatt Underhill, violin
- 3 Dana Kelley, viola
- 4 Brannon Cho, cello
- 4 Kevin Lin, violin

### 2012

- 1 Austin Huntington, cello
- 2 Emma Steele, violin
- 3 Alexandra Switala, violin
- 4 Jean Kim, cello
- 4 Natalie Lin, violin

### 2011

- 1 Mayumi Kanagawa, violin
- 2 Matthew Allen, cello
- 3 Ji-Won Song, violin
- 4 Daniel Cho, violin
- 4 Mindy Park, cello

### 2010

- 1 Francesca dePasquale, violin
- 2 Angelo Xiang Yu, violin
- 3 Taeguk Mun, cello
- 4 Fabiola Kim, violin
- 4 Philip Kramp, viola

### 2009

- 1 Nikki Chooi, violin
- 2 So Jin Kim, violin
- 3 Meta Weiss, cello
- 4 Jacquelin Choi, cello
- 4 Sujin Lee, cello

### 2008

- 1 Tessa Lark, violin
- 2 Robin Scott, violin
- 3 Ying Xue, violin
- 4 Emily Deans, viola
- 4 Char Prescott, cello

### 2007

- 1 Jing Wang, violin
- 2 David McCarroll, violin
- 3 Madeleine Kabat, cello
- 4 Lydia Hong, violin
- 4 Alice Yoo, cello

### 2006

- 1 David Requiro, cello
- 2 Yu Jin, violin
- 3 Celeste Golden, violin
- 4 Song-le Do, cello
- 5 Natalia Szadkowski, violin

### 2005

- 1 Mihai Marica, cello
- 2 Tee-Khoon Tang, violin
- 3 Ilana Setapen, violin
- 4 Kathryn Eberle, violin
- 5 Rachel Harding, violin

### 2004

- 1 Jung-Min Amy Lee, violin
- 2 David Kim, viola
- 3 D. Joshua Roman, cello
- 3 Yves Dharamraj, cello
- 5 Clara Lyon, violin

### 2003

- 1 Eric Nowlin, viola
- 2 Tao Ni, cello
- 3 D. Joshua Roman, cello
- 4 Katie Hyun, violin
- 5 Ayane Kozasa, violin

### 2002

- 1 Min-Ji Kim, cello
- 2 Teng Li, viola
- 3 Caroline Campbell, violin
- 4 Kathryn Eberle, violin
- 5 Adam Barnett-Hart, violin

### 2001

- 1 Howard Zhang, violin
- 2 Teng Li, viola
- 3 Eunice Keem, violin
- 4 Yvonne Lam, violin
- 5 Adam Barnett-Hart, violin

### 2000

- 1 Angela Fuller, violin
- 2 Yoon-Jung Cho, violin
- 3 Jun Jensen, cello
- 4 Yang Xu, violin
- 5 Hannah Jin, violin

### 1999

- 1 Frank Huang, violin
- 2 Madeline Adkins, violin
- 3 Lucia Micarelli, violin
- 4 Cecelia Sang-Kyung Lee, cello
- 5 Jon Keigwin, bass

### 1998

- 1 Denise Djokic, cello
- 2 Patrick Jee, cello
- 3 Christina Castelli, violin
- 4 Yon Joo Lee, violin
- 5 Hee-Guen Song, violin

### 1997

- 1 Kirsten Johnson, viola
- 2 Amy Schwartz, violin
- 3 Vivek Kamath, viola
- 4 Amir Eldan, cello
- 5 Boris Tonkov, viola

### 1996

- 1 Lisa Kim, violin
- 2 LuKasz Szymer, cello
- 3 Alberto Parrini, cello
- 4 Jenny Oaks, cello
- 5 Margo Tatgenhorst, cello

### 1995

- 1 Cathy Basrak, viola
- 2 Pavel Spordl, violin
- 3 Ani Aznavoorian, cello
- 4 Kirsten Johnson, viola
- 5 Esther Noh, violin

### 1994

- 1 François Salque, cello
- 2 Nurit Pacht, violin
- 3 Serge Oskotsky, cello
- 3 Ayako Yoshida, violin

### 1993

- 1 Jennifer Koh, violin
- 2 Vadim Gluzman, violin
- 3 Julia Tom, cello
- 4 Lara St. John, violin
- 5 Joanna Kurkiewicz, violin

### 1992

- 1 Mark Kosower, cello
- 2 Qi-Xin Pu, violin
- 3 Lisa Lee, violin
- 4 Owen Lee, bass
- 5 Annie Chang, viola

### 1991

- 1 Jennifer Frautschi, violin
- 2 Alexis Gerlach, cello
- 3 Brent Samuel, cello
- 4 Carol Ou, cello
- 5 David Park, violin

### 1990

- 1 Robert deMaine, cello
- 2 Jian-Wen Tong, cello
- 3 Joan Kuwon, violin
- 4 Misha Keylin, violin

### 1989

- 1 Alyssa Park, violin
- 2 Wendy Warner, cello
- 3 Alban Gerhardt, cello
- 4 Cornelius Chiu, violin

### 1988

- 1 Sang Mee Lee, violin
- 2 Gianna Abondolo, cello
- 3 Richard Hirschl, cello
- 4 Eileen Moon, cello
- 4 Annie Chalex, violin

### 1987

- 1 Molly Mo-Lin Fung, violin
- 1 Gloria Justen, violin
- 3 Hai-Ye Ni, cello
- 4 Robin Sharp, violin

### 1986

- 1 Stephanie Arado, violin
- 2 Sandra Park, violin
- 3 Sara Parkins, violin
- 4 Charles Chandler, bass
- 4 Timothy Landauer, cello



### **Semifinal Round**

**June 1, 10am- 4pm**

The playing order has been determined by lot. For the Semifinal Round, each contestant plays an uninterrupted 20 to 25-minute program, which must include a Bach unaccompanied work, the commissioned work by Carlos Simon, and a major portion of the semifinalist's chosen concerto.

A 75-minute lunch break follows the first five performances.

Once all the semifinalists have performed their programs, the judges will determine who will compete in the Final Round on Sunday. Finalists' names will be announced before we adjourn on Saturday, and special prize awards will be presented. As this is an all-day performance program, guests are free to come and go, but please refrain from doing so while the artists are performing.

### **Final Round**

**June 2, 3pm**

The Finalists (announced at the end of the day Saturday) will each play a 25 to 35-minute program containing the repertoire as described in the programs below. Final Round programs are required to present a portion of a major sonata and additional movements of the performer's concerto. If time allows, finalists may also include additional Bach movements or the Simon commissioned work.

There will be an intermission during the Final Round. At the conclusion of all performances, the judges will convene and determine the prizewinners. The Awards Ceremony will begin immediately afterward.

### **Why Include Commissioned Works?**

We have always believed that musicians (and especially young ones) need to know the language of the music of their own time. Music continues to evolve and progress by absorbing the history, culture, and sensibilities of the world around the composers and performers. Music exists, in part, to express the experiences of the present moment.

For these reasons, the Klein Competition requires applicants to perform 20th/21st Century works, to demonstrate facility in performing music of the present. In addition, we commission excellent composers to create new works to challenge the imagination and technique of our performers at the Competition. The Commissioned Works ask each performer to create an individual concept of a previously unperformed composition and make this new piece their own expressive vehicle. Hearing how each interprets this new music enables the listeners to learn a great deal about the contestant's abilities and expressive inclinations.

## Dakota Cotugno, cello

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Prelude Allemande
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Robert Schumann (1810-1856)	Cello Concerto in A Minor, op. 129 Nicht zu schnell

### Final Round

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)	Sonata for Cello and Piano in F Major, op. 99 Allegro vivace
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Sarabande Gigue
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Robert Schumann (1810-1856)	Cello Concerto in A Minor, op. 129 Langsam Sehr lebhaft

## Hannah White, violin

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)	Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003 Andante Allegro
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)	Violin Concerto No. 3 in B Minor, op. 61 Allegro

### Final Round

César Franck (1822–1890)	Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major, FWV 8 Recitativo - Fantasia Allegro poco mosso
Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)	Violin Concerto No. 3 in B Minor, op. 61 Andantino quasi allegretto Molto moderato e maestoso - Allegro non troppo

## Lucia Ticho, cello

### Semifinal Round

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)	Concerto No. 2 in D Major for cello and orchestra, Hob. VIIb:2 Allegro Moderato
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 5 in C Minor, BWV 1011 Prelude

### Final Round

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)	Sonata for Cello and Piano in C Major, op. 65 Dialogo. Allegro Marcia. Energico Moto Perpetuo. Presto
Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)	Concerto No. 2 in D Major for cello and orchestra, Hob. VIIb:2 Adagio Rondo
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 5 in C Minor, BWV 1011 Courante

## **Zechariah Mo, viola**

### **Semifinal Round**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Prelude Allemande
Carlos Simon (b. 1986 )	Between Worlds
William Walton (1902-1983)	Concerto for Viola and Orchestra Andante comodo Vivo con molto preciso

### **Final Round**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Sarabande
Rebecca Helferich Clarke (1886-1979)	Sonata for Viola and Piano Impetuoso
Carlos Simon (b. 1986 )	Between Worlds
William Walton (1902-1983)	Concerto for Viola and Orchestra Vivo con molto preciso Allegro moderato

## Strauss Shi, violin

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Partita No 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004 Allemande Courante
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)	Violin Concerto in D Minor, op. 47 Allegro Moderato

### Final Round

César Franck (1822-1890)	Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major, FWV 8 Allegretto ben moderato Allegro
Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)	Violin Concerto in D Minor, op. 47 Allegro di molto Allegro ma non tanto

## James Baik, cello

### Semifinal Round

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)	Cello Concerto in A Minor, op. 129 Nicht zu Schnell
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 5 in C Minor BWV 1011 Prelude

### Final Round

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)	Cello Sonata No. 5, op. 102, no. 2 Allegro con brio
Robert Schumann (1810-1856)	Cello Concerto in A Minor, op. 129 Langsam Sehr Lebhaft
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 5 in C Minor Allemande Sarabande

## Gabriel Polinsky, bass

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 4 in E-flat Major, BWV 1010 Sarabande Bourrées I and II
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Eduard Tubin (1905-1982)	Concerto for Double-bass and Orchestra Cadenza Allegro non troppo, poco marciale

### Final Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 4 in E-flat Major, BWV 1010 Prelude
Eduard Tubin (1905-1982)	Concerto for Double-bass and Orchestra Allegro con moto - Allegro no troppo Allegro sostenuto - Cadenza Allegro non troppo, poco marciale
César Franck (1822-1890)	Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major, FWV 8 Allegretto poco mosso

## Julia Mirzoev, violin

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003 Allegro
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)	Violin Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, op. 77 Nocturne: Moderato Scherzo: Allegro

### Final Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003 Grave
Claude Debussy (1862-1918)	Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Minor, L148 Allegro vivo Intermède. Fantastique et léger Finale. Très animé
Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)	Violin Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, op. 77 Passacaglia: Andante -Cadenza Burlesque: Allegro con brio -Presto

## James Hettinga, cello

### Semifinal Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Prelude Gigue
Carlos Simon (b. 1986)	Between Worlds
Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)	Schelomo: Rhapsodie Hébraïque (excerpt)

### Final Round

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009 Sarabande
Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)	Cello Sonata in C Major, op. 119 Andante Grave
Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)	Schelomo: Rhapsodie Hébraïque

**James Baik**

James Baik, 17, is a cellist studying with Hans Jørgen Jensen. He is currently a senior and attends New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois.

James began playing the piano at the age of six, and cello at the age of eight in Houston, TX. James' debut solo appearance took place in the spring of 2015 when he performed with the Houston Civic Symphony Orchestra and the Clear Lake Symphony as a winner of their concerto competitions. In that same year, James was featured on the front cover of the October issue of *Southwestern Musician*, as a result of soloing at Lila Crockett Theater during the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) conference. James was selected as a Houston Young Artist and participated frequently 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 and has subsequently performed with the Oistrakh Symphony. Along with that, James was a finalist at the 2018 Johansen International Competition in Washington D.C. Most recently, James was named a Young Arts finalist and participated at Young Arts Week in Miami, Florida this past January. He was also awarded the grand prize at the Walgreens National Competition this past December, resulting in a performance at the Pick Staiger Hall in Northwestern University. During the summer of 2017, James studied at the Meadowmount School of Music, and in the summer of 2018, he attended the Aspen School of Music, where he had the opportunity of being in the Finckel Wu Han Chamber Music Program.

At the start of the 2017 school year, James moved to Chicago from Houston to study with Hans Jørgen Jensen and further his cello studies. During his free time, James loves to eat great food, sleep, and spend time with family.





### **Dakota Cotugno**

American cellist Dakota Cotugno started playing cello at 12 years old and has loved it ever since. He recently graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder on a full scholarship with a degree in cello performance. He will be continuing his education at the University of Michigan, studying with Richard Aaron, in pursuit of a master's degree. Dakota has studied with Heather Plattenberger, Charles Lee, Thomas Heinrich and is currently studying with David Requiro.

Dakota has taken part in competitions such as the Undergraduate Division Honors Competition at CU Boulder, winning first place, and was a prizewinner at the T. Gordon Parks Collegiate Concerto Competition in 2018. He has attended the Bowdoin International Music Festival and the Accademia Musicale Chigiana program in Siena, Italy and has participated in masterclasses with Joshua Roman, Narek Hakhnazaryan, Asier Polo, and the Takacs Quartet. This summer, Dakota will be attending the Icicle Creek Chamber Music Festival. Dakota has a passion for teaching, and currently has a private cello studio of over 20 students.



### **James Hettinga**

Cellist James Hettinga, age 19 from the USA, currently studies with Dr. Melissa Kraut at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM). Studying since he was four, he finds great joy in performing alone and with his seven siblings, all of whom play strings.

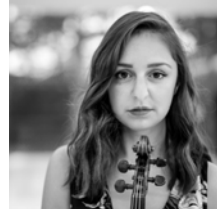
An avid chamber musician, James's quartet, (the Razumovsky Quartet) of the CIM Young Artist Program took the Silver Medal in the Junior Division at the 2018 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. James has appeared on the national radio show, *From the Top*, performing the Mendelssohn Octet.

James has won solo competitions such as the Cleveland Cello Society Competition in both Junior and Senior divisions, and the Duquesne Young Artist National Competition. Most recently he won the 2019 Tennessee Cello Workshop Competition, and the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition.

In 2016, James made his concerto debut in Severance Hall. He has had the privilege of performing with prestigious musicians including Jinjoo Cho, Matthew Allen, members of the Cavani and Ariel String Quartets, and cellists of The Cleveland Orchestra. Additionally, he has performed in master classes for Paul Katz, Hans Jensen, Clive Greensmith, Ralph Kirshbaum, and the Jupiter and Brentano Quartets.

**Julia Mirzoev**

Toronto-born violinist, Julia Mirzoev is currently pursuing her Master's in Music degree at the Yale School of Music, studying with Ani Kavafian, where she also regularly performs in the New Haven Symphony as a substitute violinist. Most recently, she has been featured in the Canadian Broadcasting Company's "Top 30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30". She has received numerous awards, including the grand prize at the Canadian Music Competition, first prize at the Cremona International Festival Competition, Kiwanis Toronto President's Trophy prize, the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra first prize, the Orchestra Toronto competition first prize, and the University of Toronto Concerto Competition first prize. As a soloist, Julia has performed with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Canadian Sinfonietta, the Scarborough Philharmonic, Sinfonia Toronto, Orchestra Toronto, the University of Toronto Symphony, and the Chinese Arts Society of Toronto Orchestra. As a chamber musician, Julia's group, the Agon Quartet, has most recently received the Yale Chamber Music Competition award. She has also collaborated with prominent musicians such as Andrew Wan, Jonathan Crow, Alexander Kerr, Brook Speltz, Julie Albers, and Barry Shiffman. Her playing has been featured on CBC Radio's 94.1 and Classical 96.3 FM. Julia's previous teachers include Jonathan Crow at the University of Toronto, and Jacob Lakirovich.

**Zechariah Mo**

Violist Zechariah Mo, 17, is the Merit Scholarship Recipient at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy, a training center for advanced pre-college musicians where he studies with Almita and Roland Vamos. Zechariah's accomplishments include first prize from the IL ASTA competition, the Society of American Musicians Competition, DePaul Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, and the West Suburban Concerto Competition. He has also won top prizes from the Fox Valley Youth Concerto Competition, Chinese Fine Arts Society Competition, the Sejong Competition, and the Rising Star Concerto Competition. Zechariah has performed with the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra, West Suburban Symphony Orchestra, Fox Valley Orchestra and has also performed twice with the Oistrakh Symphony of Chicago.

Zechariah attended Bowdoin Music Festival for the past two summers, studying with Almita Vamos and Ivo-Jan van der Werff. He will be attending the Aspen Music Festival this summer studying with Victoria Chiang.





### **Gabriel Polinsky**

Gabriel Polinsky (20), of Lynbrook, New York, got his start on the bass at age eight following in the footsteps of his older brother. Gabe currently studies at the Curtis Institute of music where he is finishing his second year, working with Edgar Meyer and Hal Robinson. He is the recipient of the Carol Coe Conway Memorial Fellowship, and has previously studied at The Juilliard School under Tim Cobb.

Gabe was recently named the winner of the Philadelphia Orchestra's Allen M. Greenfield Competition, and also named a semi-finalist in the International Society of Bassists solo competition. He is returning for his second season at the Tanglewood Music Center this summer and has previously been awarded positions with the Pacific and Aspen Music Festivals. Aside from the double bass and classical music, respectively, Gabe also plays piano and ventures out into different genres regularly, either playing along with recordings or in small groups. Gabe finds respite from school and music exploring Philadelphia and cooking.



### **Strauss Shi**

Born in China and raised in San Francisco, Chinese-American violinist Strauss Shi made his solo debut with the Utah Symphony at the age of seventeen and since then, he has concertized in the United States, China and Europe. Strauss was recently invited to compete as a semi-finalist at the 7th Windsor Festival International String Competition (2019). Strauss is a top prize winner at numerous competitions including First Prize at the USC Thornton Concerto Competition (2018), Grand Prize at the Mondavi Center Young Artists Competition (2017), First Prize at the United States International Music Competition (2016), and Second Prize at the inaugural Siqing Lu Futian International Violin Competition (2016), among others. His

2018-2019 season includes his sold-out San Francisco debut recitals at the Noontime Concerts Series and San Francisco Conservatory of Music with pianist Yi-Fang Wu and solo debuts with the USC Thornton Symphony, the Pacific Symphony, and the Downey Symphony Orchestra.

Strauss began his violin studies at the age of eight with Pan Zuohan, Elizabeth Liang, and later with Chen Zhao. Strauss received his Bachelor of Music degree studying under Catherine Cho at The Juilliard School. He is currently pursuing a graduate degree as a Starling Fellow at the USC Thornton School of Music under Midori Goto and Pamela Frank.

### **Lucia Ticho**

Cellist Lucia Ticho is a Chicago native currently pursuing degrees at Columbia University and the Juilliard School in New York. She studies with Richard Aaron and has previously worked with Tanya Carey. Lucia has appeared on radio programs such as NPR's *From the Top* and APM's *Performance Today*, and she was a semifinalist in the Stulberg, Klein, and Johansen International String Competitions. She was also the second prize winner of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra for five years, and has performed as a soloist with a number of Chicago-area orchestras.

Lucia has performed extensively at the Aspen Music Festival, where she was a participant in David Finckel and Wu Han's chamber music studio. She has also played in the New York String Orchestra Seminar and the National Youth Orchestra of the United States (as assistant principal cellist). She has collaborated on projects with internationally acclaimed artists such as violinist Stefan Jackiw, singer-songwriter Ben Folds, and dancer Charles "Lil Buck" Riley, and has played under esteemed conductors including Valery Gergiev, Christoph Eschenbach, and Riccardo Muti. Lucia studies political science at Columbia.





### Hannah White

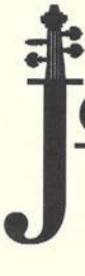
At her Carnegie Hall solo debut to a sold-out audience, Hannah White's performance was proclaimed by the New York Times as "...highlight of the evening" and "...terrific," noting that "...her technical dexterity and expressive flair earned an enthusiastic ovation."

Hannah has toured and soloed extensively in the United States and Europe, with symphony orchestras as Cleveland, New World, Albany, South Bend, Ann Arbor, Milwaukee, Sphinx, Madison, Orchestra Noir, and Buffalo. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Severance Hall, Kennedy Center, Cambridge England, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Ordway Center, Harris Theater, New World Center, Disneyland, and the Davos World Economic Forum, Switzerland.

Hannah has won top prizes at many competitions, earning 1st place at the following: Medallion International Artist Competition; Final Forte Competition; Sphinx Competition Junior Division; MTNA Nation Competition; Midwest Young Artists National Competition; International Chamber Competition; MPPrize International Chamber Competition; St. Paul String Quartet Competition, twice; Jules M. Laser Competition; Sejong Competitions, twice; Chinese Competition; DePaul Competition; and the Fischhoff Competition's Silver Medal.

Hannah studies with Robert Lipsett at the Colburn Conservatory of Music, following studies with Almita and Roland Varns and Dr. Hye-Sun Lee at the Music Institute of Chicago's pre-college academy; and with Danielle Belen at the University of Michigan.

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The Klein Competition has benefited from the generosity of individuals, businesses and foundations who believe in the power of music and the strength of young musicians. These donors to the California Music Center help provide the opportunity of a lifetime for young musicians, for which we are enormously grateful.

California Music Center gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all of our donors. These gifts and pledges were received from May 1, 2018 through May 15, 2019. We apologize for any errors or omissions.



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## **Special Thanks to our 2018-19 House Concert hosts:**

Davidson Bidwell & Edwin Waite, Katherine & Roy Bukstein, Doris Davis, Tom Driscoll & Nancy Quinn, Mike Finn, Joan Talbert & David Lyon, Tom Wagner & Sharron Helmholz.

## **Special Thanks to those hosting Laureates and Semifinalists in 2018-19:**

Davidson Bidwell & Edwin Waite, Susan Bates, Helen & Gene Galvin, Leslie Hsu & Richard Lenon, Dexter & Kathie Lowry, Arlene Owseichik, Ruth Short, and Fred Spitz.

## **Special Thanks to our 2019 Competition Team**

Kyle Baldwin, Miles Graber, Ariel Horowitz, Jeffrey LaDeur, Yu-Ting Wang, and our partners at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

*\*CMC Board Director*

For over 33 years, we've been dedicated to our mission of nurturing and championing the world's finest young string players. We seek to develop wider audiences for classical music through public concerts, master classes and community outreach, with The Irving M. Klein International String Competition (The Klein) as our entry point. *We want to help sustain and grow the art form, making classical music an everyday pleasure for everyone.*

We support these exceptional players early in their careers, assisting them with the development of professional and performance skills, encouraging their community involvement, and providing them performance opportunities and monetary support.

The Klein has enjoyed international acclaim as one of the most prestigious classical music competitions in the world. It is recognized for the high caliber of the contestants, its unique, nurturing environment, and its commitment to the commissioning of new works.

California Music Center (CMC) was founded in 1974 by Irving M. Klein, a virtuoso chamber musician and master cello teacher, as the sponsoring organization for a summer music institute and chamber music series for young artists. Following Mr. Klein's passing in 1984, CMC inaugurated the Irving M. Klein International String Competition in the summer of 1986, which has become its primary focus, along with the production of chamber music featuring its laureates in the Bay Area and beyond.

The Klein has helped enhance the developing careers of hundreds of players who have gone on to become renowned soloists, chamber musicians, teachers, and prominent members of the world's finest orchestras. They include notable soloists Alyssa Park (1989), Jennifer Koh (1993), Vadim Gluzman (1993) and Alban Gerhardt (1989); Tessa Lark (2008) and Nikki Chooi (2009); principal chairs and members of the finest U.S. orchestras (Cleveland, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, New York and Los Angeles); and in the Bay Area, three members of the San Francisco Symphony, David Kim (2004), Charles Chandler (1986) and Wyatt Underhill (2013).

In addition to the Competition, our prizewinners perform with our presenting partners Santa Cruz Symphony, Gualala Arts, Noontime Concerts, Peninsula Symphony, Young People's Symphony Orchestra, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, the Beethoven Center at SJSU, Piedmont Center for the Arts, Vallejo Symphony, Master Sinfonia, and Napa's Music in the Vineyard. They also perform at house concerts around the Bay Area. These intimate recitals include a dinner and conversation with these young players.

Laureates are cultivated to become ambassadors in the community, conducting interactive performances, master classes, and demonstrations in schools, as well as piloting an experiential learning mini-residency program in San Francisco.

In short, we not only exist to serve the next generation of string performers, helping them to launch their careers, but believe that by connecting youth and adults alike to classical music, and developing new audiences, we can encourage music participation and spark lifelong arts appreciation.

# UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

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BY KLEIN COMPETITION WINNERS  
with our PRESENTING PARTNERS

August 3–4, 2019  
**Oliver Herbert, cello**

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1st Prize 2015  
**Music in the Vineyards**  
**Napa Valley**  
[musicinthevineyards.org](http://musicinthevineyards.org)

March 28–29, 2020  
**Alex Zhou, violin**

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1st Prize 2018  
**Santa Cruz Symphony**  
**Santa Cruz**  
[santacruzsymphony.org](http://santacruzsymphony.org)

April 19, 2020  
**Alex Zhou, violin**

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1st Prize 2018  
**Gualala Arts Chamber Music Series**  
**Gualala**  
[gualalaarts.org](http://gualalaarts.org)

May 15–16, 2020  
**1st Prize Winner 2019**

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**Peninsula Symphony**  
**San Mateo and Campbell**  
[peninsulasymphony.org](http://peninsulasymphony.org)

May 17, 2020  
**2nd Prize Winner 2019**

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**San Jose Chamber Orchestra**  
**San Jose**  
[sjco.org](http://sjco.org)

May 2020  
**2nd Prize Winner 2019**

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**Piedmont Center for the Arts**  
**Oakland**  
[piedmontcenterforthearts.org](http://piedmontcenterforthearts.org)

## SAVE THE DATES

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September 2019

### **Strings a la carte**

A fundraiser to benefit the California Music Center, producer of the Klein Competition. Cocktails, small bites, silent auction, and performances by Klein Laureates.

**San Francisco**

November 2019–April 2020

### **House Concert Series**

Venues TBA

June 6–7, 2020

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