

For Immediate Release

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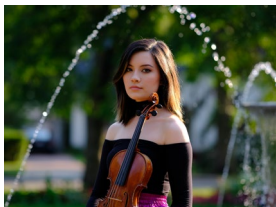
APPLICATIONS OPEN NOV 1st
for the 36th Annual Irving M. Klein International String Competition
June 5 - 6, 2020, San Francisco California

(San Francisco CA) Applications open November 1, 2020 for **The Irving M. Klein International String Competition**, produced by the California Music Center at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, dependent upon the status of local COVID-19 restrictions on public gathering in San Francisco. In 2020, in response to conditions imposed by the global pandemic, the Klein became #KleinOnline2020, and pivoted to an entirely virtual Competition seen by a worldwide audience of over 5,000. CMC will conduct and present the Klein in whatever form it may take in 2021.

Violinists, violists, cellists and bassists **ages 15 to 23 of any nationality not currently under professional management** are eligible to compete **June 5 - 6, 2021 in San Francisco or online**. For more details on prizes, repertoire and to submit an online application, visit californiamusiccenter.org. **Applications to be received by midnight Friday, February 5, 2021.**

For 36 years, the Klein has attracted some of the world's finest young string players to San Francisco each June to compete for cash and performance prizes. The Klein Competition has achieved international recognition as one of the most prestigious classical music competitions, recognized for the high caliber of the contestants; its unique, nurturing environment; and its commitment to the commissioning of new works: the Commissioned Works for the 2021 Klein Competition will be composed by **Sakari Dixon Vanderveer**.

The competition is named for the late cellist and master teacher who devoted himself untiringly to the development of young artists. Its award carries the distinction that has helped many top soloists gain prominence in the competitive world of classical music, including **Jennifer Koh, Mark Kosower, Vadim Gluzman, Jennifer Frautschi, Alban Gerhardt, Frank Huang and Robert deMaine; Oliver Herbert (2015), David Requiro (2006), Tessa Lark (2008) and Nikki Chooi (2009)**; and principal chairs in many of the finest U.S. orchestras, including the **Philadelphia and Cleveland Orchestras, the New York Philharmonic, and the Boston Symphony**.



Violinist Gabrielle Després won 2019's First Prize. She is currently attending the Juilliard School, and is a student of Masao Kawasaki and Joseph Lin. **Cellist Jiaxun Yao** placed second, and **violinist Masha Lakisova** won Third Prize. #KleinOnline2020 can be viewed on CMC's [YouTube channel](#).

The distinguished jury includes violinist **Glenn Dicterow**, former concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic and on faculty at the USC Thornton School of Music; violist **Karen Dreyfus**, who also teaches at the Thornton School; this year's commissioned composer, **Sakari Dixon Vanderveer**; violinist **Ian Swensen**, Chair of Violin at San Francisco Conservatory's String Department; and **Barbara Day Turner**, Music Director of San José Chamber Orchestra.

ABOUT THE 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 1985, CMC inaugurated the Irving M. Klein International String Competition ("the Klein") in 1986; since then, the Klein has become one of the most prestigious events of its kind, attracting ever-increasing numbers of entries annually from throughout the world and helping to enhance the developing careers of players who have gone on to become renowned soloists, chamber musicians, teachers, and prominent members of the world's finest orchestras. Learn more: californiamusiccenter.org.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER SAKARI DIXON VANDERVEER



Photo: William Vasta

Recently featured in the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra EarShot New Music Readings, Sakari Dixon Vanderveer seeks to incorporate the unique artistry of her collaborators in each of her works. Pieces such as *Obsidian*, *rippled in moonlight*, *gleams* and *Fire Season*, both written for Salastina Music Society, embody her affinity for employing visceral, stark contrasts that convey her recurring fascination with metamorphosis as a natural element of life.

Her most recent premieres include collaborations with Derek Bermel, for *Connecting ACO Community*; HOCKET, for *#What2020SoundsLike*; and Maxine Troglauer, for the *Composers Conference*, which Vanderveer attended as a Fromm Foundation Composer Fellow. Upcoming commissions include works for Ciyadh Wells, the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, the Portland Youth Philharmonic, and the Irving M. Klein International String Competition.

Vanderveer's relationships with colleagues at the University of Redlands engendered commissions from Spencer Baldwin, Kelsey Broersma, and the *PHAZE Ensemble*. Her studies with Mark Braunstein, Kira Blumberg, Dr. Anthony Suter, Derrick Spiva, Jr., and Reena Esmail enabled her to engage with the music community as a composer, performer, educator, and advocate for contemporary music. ###

Hi-res photos available from marcy@californiamusiccenter.org cell: 510-409-7855