
LEE & UNIVERSITY
I N T E R N A T I O N A L
PIANO
FESTIVAL & COMPETITION

PHILLIP THOMAS

Founding Director

JONATHAN JUNG

Director

ARTISTS

CHRISTOPHER HARDING

University of Michigan

THOMAS LANNERS

Oklahoma State University

JONATHAN JUNG

Lee University

CHOEUN LEE

Lee University

PHILLIP THOMAS

Lee University



MAY 27-30, 2021



LEE UNIVERSITY PIANO DEPARTMENT

Lee University piano alumni have gone on to start careers as performers, freelancers, teachers, or church musicians both here in the US and in Asia, and some decide to continue their studies at prestigious graduate institutions. Recently, Lee graduates were accepted to Doctor of Musical Arts programs with full-tuition support at Indiana University, the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Stony Brook University in New York, the University of Georgia, and the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, as well as Artist Diploma programs at Longy School of Music at Bard College, the Mannes School, and Georgia State University.

While working towards their degree, Lee piano students are encouraged and supported by the faculty to explore extracurricular performance opportunities, competitions, and employment/volunteer work to contribute to building our musical community. Several of our students serve as staff pianists for local churches, others work as piano instructors and staff pianists in community schools. Piano students also perform vital functions for the operation of the School of Music here at Lee, serving as accompanists for other music students' lessons, juries, and recitals, as tutors for piano proficiency classes, and as ensemble pianists for vocal and instrumental groups.

Recent Lee piano students have been recognized in state, national, and international competitions, including prizes in the Memphis International Piano Competition, the Music Teachers National Association Young Artist State Competition, the Nashville International Piano Competition, Tennessee Tech University Young Artist Competition, University of Tennessee Chattanooga Piano Arts Competition, Charleston International Music Competition and others.

In addition to intensive study with our own piano faculty, Lee piano students have the opportunities to work with renowned pianists from around the world right here on campus through programs like the Presidential Concert Series and the Performing Arts Series.

WELCOME

Welcome to Lee University's 16th annual International Piano Festival and Competition! We are looking forward to an inspiring week of music with the opportunity to learn from and make lasting connections with our distinguished artist-faculty and your talented fellow participants. Whatever your age or level of performance, we hope you will be challenged to expand your skills and understanding of a wide variety of piano literature. Emulating the mission of the Lee University School of Music, we aim to create an atmosphere that balances high levels of music-making with encouraging support for each participant.

The past year has been difficult for everyone. With the challenges in mind, we have designed the festival to be even more engaging, affordable, and memorable for our participants. Even in times of uncertainty, we wish to impart the importance of learning, communicating, and sharing music for many years to come.

While you are taking part in the festival, please take the opportunity to explore our academic programs (<https://www.leeuniversity.edu/academics/music/>). We are blessed with a vibrant piano program for undergraduate and master's students, and, not to mention, we offer generous scholarships and assistantships to our prospective students. Thank you for choosing to spend the week with us. If there is anything we can do to make your experience more enjoyable, do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

Phillip Thomas, PhD
Founding Director

Jonathan Jung, DMA
Director

2021 FESTIVAL PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 27

9:00am-9:30am — Introduction and welcome session
10:00am-12:00pm — Masterclass (Thomas Lanners)
12:00pm-1:00pm — Lunch break
1:00pm-2:00pm — Lecture Presentation (Christopher Harding)
2:00pm-2:15pm — Short Break
2:15pm-3:00pm — Private Lesson #1
3:00pm-3:45pm — Private Lesson #2
3:45pm-4:00pm — Short Break
4:00pm-4:45pm — Group Lesson #1
4:45pm-5:30pm — Group Lesson #2
5:30pm-6:30pm — Dinner
6:30pm-7:30pm — Evening Piano Recital #1 (Jonathan Jung)

Friday, May 28

10:00am-12:00pm — Masterclass (Jonathan Jung)
12:00pm-1:00pm — Lunch break
1:00pm-2:00pm — Lecture Presentation (Thomas Lanners)
2:00pm-2:15pm — Short Break
2:15pm-3:00pm — Private Lesson #3
3:00pm-3:45pm — Private Lesson #4
3:45pm-4:00pm — Short Break
4:00pm-4:45pm — Group Lesson #3
4:45pm-5:30pm — Group Lesson #4
5:30pm-6:30pm — Dinner
6:30pm-7:30pm — Evening Piano Recital #2 (Christopher Harding)

Saturday, May 29

10:00am-12:00pm — Masterclass (Christopher Harding)
12:00pm-1:00pm — Lunch break
1:00pm-2:00pm — Lecture Presentation (Jonathan Jung)
2:00pm-2:15pm — Short Break
2:15pm-3:00pm — Private Lesson #5
3:00pm-3:45pm — Private Lesson #6
3:45pm-4:00pm — Short Break
4:00pm-4:45pm — Group Lesson #5
4:45pm-5:30pm — Group Lesson #6
5:30pm-6:30pm — Dinner
6:30pm-7:30pm — Evening Piano Recital #3 (Thomas Lanners)
7:30pm-8:00pm — Submit questions for Q&A Session

2021 FESTIVAL PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 30

10:00am-10:30am — Lecture Presentation (ChoEun Lee)
10:30am-11:00am — Lecture Presentation (Phillip Thomas)
11:00am-11:15am — Short Break
11:15am-12:00pm — Private Lesson #7
12:00pm-1:00pm — Lunch break
1:00pm-2:00pm — Q&A Session with the Faculties
2:15pm-3:00pm — Private Lesson #8
3:00pm-3:45pm — Private Lesson #9
3:45pm-4:00pm — Short Break
4:00pm-4:45pm — Private Lesson #10
5:00pm-7:30pm — Dinner and watch prize-winners' performance
7:30pm-8:00pm — Competition Winner Announcement & Closing

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Pianist **Christopher Harding** maintains a flourishing international performance career, generating acclaim and impressing audiences and critics alike with his substantive interpretations and pianistic mastery. He has given frequent solo, concerto, and chamber music performances in venues as far-flung as the Kennedy Center and Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.; Suntory Hall in Tokyo; the National Theater Concert Hall in Taipei; the Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary; and halls and festival appearances in Newfoundland, Israel, Romania, and China. His concerto performances have included concerts with the National Symphony and the Saint Louis

Symphony Orchestras, the San Angelo and Santa Barbara Symphonies, and the Tokyo City Philharmonic, working with such conductors as Andrew Sewell, Eric Zhou, Taijiro Iimori, Gisele Ben-Dor, Fabio Marchetti, Randall Craig Fleisher, John DeMain, Ron Spiegelman, Daniel Alcott, and Darryl One, among others. His chamber music and duo collaborations have included internationally renowned artists such as clarinetist Karl Leister, flautist Andras Adorjan, and members of the St. Lawrence and Ying String Quartets, in addition to frequent projects with his distinguished faculty colleagues at the University of Michigan. He has recorded solo and chamber music CDs for the Equilibrium and Brevard Classics labels. He has additionally edited and published critical editions and recordings of works by Claude Debussy (Children's Corner, Arabesques, and shorter works) and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Viennese Sonatas) for the Schirmer Performance Editions published by Hal Leonard.

Harding has presented master classes and lecture recitals in universities across the United States and Asia, as well as in Israel and Canada. His most recent tours to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and mainland China included presentations and master classes at Hong Kong Baptist University, National Taiwan Normal University, Soochow University, the National Taiwan University of Education, and conservatories and universities in Beijing (Central and China Conservatories), Tianjin, Shanghai, Hefei, Guangzhou, Shenyang, Dalian, and Chongqing. He has performed and lectured numerous times in Seoul, including lecture recitals and classes at Seoul National University, Ewha Women's University, and Dong Duk University. He has served extended tours as a Fulbright senior specialist at the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, China (2008), and also at Seoul National University (2011). While teaching at SNU, he simultaneously held a Special Chair in Piano at Ewha Womans University.

In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate piano performance and chamber music at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance, Harding also serves on the faculty of the Indiana University Summer Piano Academy and is a frequent guest artist and teacher at the MasterWorks Festival in Winona Lake, IN. Recent summer festivals have also included the Chautauqua Institution in New York and the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival in Tampa, Florida.

Harding was born of American parents in Munich, Germany, and raised in Northern Virginia. His collegiate studies were with Menahem Pressler and Nelita True. Prior to college, he worked for 10 years with Milton Kidd at the American University Department of Performing Arts Preparatory Division, where he was trained in the traditions of Tobias Matthay. He has taken 25 first prizes in national and international competitions and in 1999 was awarded the special "Mozart Prize" at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, given for the best performance of a composition by Mozart. His current recording projects include the Brahms viola/clarinet sonatas and the clarinet trio, with clarinetist Dan Gilbert, violist Stephen Boe, and cellist Yeonjin Kim.



Thomas Lanners has appeared as a solo and collaborative pianist and clinician throughout the U.S. and abroad, presenting his New York solo debut in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2004. His performances have been broadcast nationally and internationally on programs such as American Public Media's *Performance Today*, BBC3 in London and RTE Radio 1's Sunday Miscellany in Ireland, among many others.

Thomas has performed, presented master classes, and given lectures on various musical topics as a guest artist throughout the United States, in Mexico, Canada, Europe and Asia. In recent summers he has served on the faculties of the Shanghai International Piano Festival and Institute (and will do so again in 2021) and the AmiCaFest Piano

Festival in Sicily. Within the past three years, he's presented master classes at Yonsei University in Seoul, and in China at the Sichuan, Shanghai and Zhejiang Conservatories, the Shanghai Conservatory Middle School, and East China and Beijing Normal Universities. Thomas gave a master class on the NYU Steinhardt School of Music's *Piano Artist Master Class Series* in 2012.

Other institutions he has visited as a guest artist include the Eastman School of Music, the Universities of Texas-Austin, Colorado-Boulder, North Texas, Miami, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Western Ontario (Canada), and Iowa; Northwestern, Syracuse, Louisiana State, Southern Methodist, and Baylor Universities.

His latest recording, *Ned Rorem: Piano Works, Volume 2*, was released worldwide by Centaur Records. The disc received great critical praise, including this from the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*: "Thomas Lanners brings exceptional detail and urgency to the repertoire, taking as much care with inner voices as he does with arching statements. Grade: A." An *American Record Guide* review of Thomas' previous CD, *Ned Rorem: The Three Piano Sonatas*, read: "Anyone who cares about mainstream 20th Century piano music should seek out this superlative recording." In a review of Lanners' recording of Leonard Bernstein's solo piano works, Jed Distler wrote for *ClassicsToday.com*: "All told, Lanners' loving mastery easily holds its own in any company. Warmly recommended." His championing of American piano music was the topic of an interview article in a 2010 issue of *Fanfare*.

He is an active writer on musical topics, with several feature articles having been published in *American Music Teacher*, among others. Always in demand as a clinician, he has presented many sessions at national and international conferences, including those of the Music Teachers National Association and the China International Piano Pedagogy Conference, hosted by the Shanghai Conservatory. Thomas has served as a juror in numerous international piano competitions.

Lanners received his Master's and Doctoral degrees from the Eastman School as a student of Barry Snyder. He also studied under John Perry at the Aspen Music Festival and Jerome Lowenthal at the Music Academy of the West. Designated the 2014 *Distinguished Music Teacher* by the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association, he currently serves as Professor of Piano at Oklahoma State University.



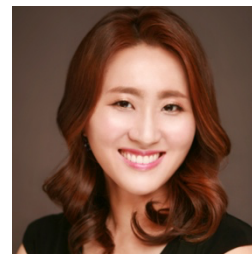
South Korean-New Zealand pianist **Jonathan Jung** concertizes regularly across the USA, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, South Korea, and Japan. He has been featured as a Guest Artist at the Texas State International Piano Festival and Brevard Summer Music Festival. Jonathan has performed with the Eastman Philharmonic Orchestra, Korean Philharmonic Orchestra of New Zealand, University of Auckland Symphony Orchestra, and Auckland Youth Orchestra. Jonathan received prizes in Kerikeri Piano Competition, Eastman Concerto Competition, Kapiti Coast National Piano Competition, and Christchurch National Piano Concerto Competition. His solo recitals and concerto performances have been recorded and broadcasted by Radio New Zealand and World TV.

As a composer, Jonathan has premiered and performed his own compositions at Carnegie Hall, University of Southern Mississippi, Tulane University, Hatch Recital Hall, and Brevard Music Center. In a review of his recent Carnegie Hall Recital, New York Concert Review wrote, “[Mr. Jung’s] The four pieces are (no title), Illuminate, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei. There is a strong French influence in the first three; the first two have striking Debussyian qualities, and the third reminds one of Milhaud. The piano part is virtuosic; there is no “hack-in-the-back” anywhere to be found in any of the selections. The fourth piece, the Agnus Dei, was much more individualistic, with a mournful sound that was truly moving.” Jonathan enjoys writing music for all instruments and he is a devoted chamber musician.

Jonathan completed a Master of Music Degree and Bachelor of Music (Honours) Degree with First Class at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. In 2009, he received an invitation to study in the USA to complete a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree (2016), Master of Arts in Theory Pedagogy Degree (2015), and Master of Music Degree (2011) at the Eastman School of Music. His academic mentors include Barry Snyder, Rae de Lisle, Read Gainsford, Douglas Humpherys, Thomas Schumacher, Steven Laitz, Elizabeth Marvin, Katherine Ciesinski, David Temperley and Matthew Brown.

Jonathan has a passion for collecting rare historical music recordings of the early twentieth century. He now combines this passion with his academic interest: music theory and music analysis. Jonathan’s current research is on tempo rubato—an in-depth comparative study between nineteenth- and twentieth-century pianists’ interpretations. His thesis, titled “Structural Hearing of Rubato,” is a pedagogical study of tempo fluctuation in music performance, focusing on motives, counterpoint, and harmonization. Jonathan has presented his theoretical work at the MTNA and College Music Society conferences.

Jonathan is a dedicated teacher and has taught Applied Piano, Music Theory, Aural Skills, and Class Piano sequences at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Jones County Junior College. Starting Fall 2017, he joined Lee University as Assistant Professor of Piano to continue his teaching, research, and performance career. Jonathan is the Director of Lee University International Piano Festival and Competition (<https://www.leeupianofestival.com>) and he recruits pianists nationally and internationally. Outside his teaching duties, Jonathan enjoys playing the organ. He serves the music ministry as an organist at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church of Cleveland TN. Jonathan’s concert schedules and recordings are available on his website (<https://www.ioonghanjung.com>).



ChoEun Lee, a native of South Korea, is an active pianist, vocal coach, and chamber musician. She has given numerous performances in Korea, the United States, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, and Taiwan; in major venues including Carnegie Hall in New York City, Ozawa Hall in Tanglewood Music Center, and Harris Concert Hall in Aspen Music Festival. She has worked extensively in recitals and masterclasses with renowned musicians, including Stephanie Blythe, Jake Heggie, Martin Katz, Anne Sofie von Otter, Christine Schäfer, Dawn Upshaw, and Linda Watson. She was a pianist in Opera gala concerts in the Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca, Italy, where she worked with Donna Brunsma, Gianfranco Cosmi, and Rolando Russo. She was twice invited to Tanglewood Music Festival and has been named a recipient of the Grace B. Jackson Prize. One of her performances in Seiji Ozawa Hall was broadcasted on WAMC. She was also invited to the Emerging Artist Fellowship Program in Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar in Potsdam (NY), directed by Stephanie Blythe and Alan Smith. Since 2016, she has been invited as a repetitor to the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS) in Graz.

ChoEun Lee, as a harpsichordist, has performed many Baroque music concerts, and she is also passionate about discovering and performing contemporary classical music and vocal chamber music. She has appeared many times at the Grandin Vocal Chamber Music Festival and one of the core artists in the LotusFlower New Music Project. She has premiered various works and has worked with many current composers, including John Harbison, Michael Gandolfi, Jake Heggie, Thomas Pasatieri, John Plant, and Chinariy Ung. She world-premiered co-commissioned vocal chamber music, The Ocean of Eternity, for soprano, saxophone, and piano by Lori Laitman, in the National Opera Center in New York City.

As an active clinician, ChoEun Lee has given numerous masterclasses and presentations at universities and associations, including at Chattanooga Music Teachers Association (CMTA), Covenant College, Georgia College, Yeungnam University (Korea), Seoul Cyber University (Korea), Taitung University (Taiwan) and the National Taipei Normal University (Taiwan). She has been invited to the Annual UTC Piano Arts Festival as a guest artist and competition adjudicator. She was invited as a guest panel to CollabFest at the University of Southern California and the University of North Texas.

ChoEun Lee holds a B.M. from Kyungwon University, an M.M. from the University of Cincinnati, and a D.M.A from the University of Southern California. She is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honor society, and a recipient of the Gwendolyn Koldofsky Keyboard Collaborative Arts scholarship four times. Previously she taught at California State University, San Bernardino, and served as a vice-president of CAPMT Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter. She currently serves in the leadership team of the International Keyboard Collaborative Arts Society (IKCAS) and the Program Committee at the Chattanooga Music Teachers Association (CMTA), and co-sponsors the Chattanooga Area Collegiate Chapter (CACC). ChoEun Lee is a director of LeeU Collab Music and teaches at Lee University as an assistant professor in collaborative piano and vocal coaching. (www.ChoEunLee.com)



Phillip Thomas is an educator, performer, and university administrator with a variety of scholarly interests. A year after graduating summa cum laude from Lee College (now Lee University), he completed the master's degree in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory; his major teachers were George Walker and Julio Esteban. Thomas later completed the Ph.D. degree in Music History from the College-Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati, where he was the recipient of a full-tuition scholarship and an assistantship in Music Theory.

His dissertation was entitled Music for One or More Alternately Tuned Acoustic Pianos, 1920-1993: Trends in Melody, Harmony, and Technique. While there, he studied harpsichord with Eiji Hashimoto, a noted performer, conductor, and editor.

Thomas has served as adjudicator for a variety of competitions on the local, regional, and international levels. His students often receive the highest ratings; some have won their respective divisions. Thomas is listed in the Who's Who Among American Teachers and is a member of the American Musicological Society, the College Music Society, and Historical Keyboard Society of North America.

In 1996, Thomas established Lee University's Chamber Orchestra, after serving as founding conductor of a community string orchestra for several years. He studied conducting at the Institute Provence-Aubagne in France with Yves Cohen, a student of Leonard Bernstein and Seiji Ozawa. Thomas led the ensemble in performances of masterworks, light classics, and other genres; a study tour to Germany and Austria; and a two recording projects. In the same period, Thomas began serving as a department chair in the School of Music at Lee. It boasts a highly-qualified faculty of some 20 members, who teach courses in music theory and history, church music, and music business.

Previously, Thomas had a long tenure as keyboardist for the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra. He also served as board member for the Tennessee Music Teachers Association and Chattanooga Youth Symphony. Thomas was also selected to review several college textbooks, including the second edition of Douglass Seaton's Ideas and Styles in the Western Musical Tradition, published by McGraw-Hill. For many years, he was staff pianist for the Mount Paran North Church of God just outside Atlanta, Georgia.

Most recently, Thomas has studied with harpsichordist Arthur Haas, a performer and recording artist, who teaches in the Early Music Program at The Julliard School. Thomas lives in Cleveland, Tennessee, with his wife Dale, a talented soprano and music educator. They have one daughter, Shannon, a professional violinist and university professor.

FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS



Thomas Austria Born and raised in Wilmington, NC, Thomas Austria enjoys going to the beach and occasionally plays piano at his home parish. He started piano lessons at age seven. For the last three years he has studied piano with Dr. Dmitri Vorobiev at UNCSA. In 2018, he was the only middle schooler to play at UNCG Piano Day. Later that year, he was one of few selected to perform at final evening recital for UNCG music camp. He participated in the 2019 Lee University Piano Festival. He learned to play bassoon in middle school during which he participated at all-state competitions. He has continued his bassoon studies at UNCSA under tutelage of Professor Saxton Rose. He has been bassoonist for Winston-Salem Youth Orchestra and has received a scholarship to attend the Glickman-Popkin Bassoon Camp this summer. Thomas once received an award for excellence in music theory during a UNCW music camp.



Korean born pianist **Han Sol Jeong** moved to Christchurch, New Zealand at age four, starting lessons at the age of ten. He received his Bachelor of Music (Honors) at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music with Professor Thomas Hecht on a full scholarship. He furthered his studies at Indiana University with Distinguished Professor André Watts and received his Master of Music. Currently he is doing a Performer Diploma at Indiana University, continuing his studies with Professor Watts. Han Sol has been part of the winning ensemble of the NZCT Chamber Music Contest Christchurch District 2012-2013 and has received the KBB Award at the National Finals at both the 2012 and 2013 contests. He has appeared as concerto soloist with the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra and the Risingholme Orchestra playing works by Gershwin and Schumann. In the 2017 National Piano and Violin Competition in Singapore, he was placed 3rd and got to play Beethoven's Emperor Concerto with members of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.



Xinyu Li, born in Henan, China, won the First Prize of the 1st Yamaha Chinese Piano Competition youth group in the Yunnan area. She was invited to perform in Meng Ming Wei Concert Hall, Tsinghua University for the Yamaha Competition of the national group. In 2013, Xinyu was selected as the silver medal recipient of the Youth Group for Piano Solo in the Yunnan area screening competition. Xinyu studied with Minge Cui, Chengzhong Dou, Qinwen Wang, Dongxia Wang, Xiliang Wang, Jeremy Samolesky, and Cahill Smith. She currently studies at Lee University with Dr. Jonathan Jung. Away from her piano studies, Xinyu enjoys swimming, hiking, and eating delicious food.



South Korean pianist, **Soyoung Lim**, graduated from Busan High School of Art and holds Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance degree from Dong-A University in Busan, South Korea. She has received several awards in piano competitions, including a grand prize from the 31st National Students Music Competition and a Gold prize from the 15th Busan Duo Music Competition. She has also won the Lee University Concerto Competition twice, in 2019 and 2020. In Fall 2018, she received an invitation to study in the USA to complete a Master of Music Piano Performance Degree at Lee University. She is a recipient of Young Musician Scholarship and serves as a graduate assistant. Soyoung currently studies piano with Dr. Jonathan Jung.



Jenji Perng, from Johns Creek, Georgia, is a sophomore at Northview High School. She has studied with Ms. Hwee Boon Ng since the age of 5. She won 1st place on the Local Association level of GMTA 2021 and has participated in multiple Bach and Sonata competitions. Aside from piano, Jenji loves to play viola and to overanalyze anime scenes.



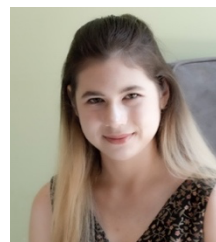
Guanyu Shen is born in Shaoxing, Zhejiang, China. She participated in 2019 the 5th International Festival of Melbourne and won the second prize of the competition senior group. She currently studies with Steinway Piano Artist Dr. Thomas Lanners at Oklahoma State University.



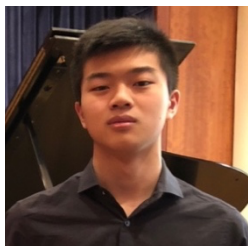
Emma Webb is a senior Piano Performance major at Lee University, studying under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Jung. She originates from Rockford, Illinois where she studied under the direction of Merle Langs. Emma has participated in numerous competitions and her awards include 1st place in the Senior Division of the Chandler Starr Miller Scholarship Competition and 2nd place Senior Division of the Chopin Competition in Milwaukee, WI. She recently completed her junior recital in fall of 2020 as well as a joint recital with graduate student, Soyoung Lim, in 2019. Emma also has played cello in numerous ensembles including the Lee University Orchestra, Chamber Strings, Symphonic Band, Rock Valley Community Orchestra, and The Cleveland Orchestra.



Gracie Webb works as the primary pianist and organist at church. Her responsibilities include arranging and writing music and assembling local musicians for special events. She enjoys teaching her private piano students and playing in weddings. Gracie was secretary of her chorale class her sophomore year and president her senior year. She has qualified for Allstate choir at Illinois Music Education Association her last three years in high school and has participated in numerous other choir and piano events through her school. Gracie spends much of her time balancing college classes, practicing piano, and working as a coffee shop barista, but she also enjoys baking and sketching.



Carey Byron (16) began her piano studies at the age of 4. She has won numerous awards including 2021 YoungArts' National Arts Competition as a Finalist, first prizes at the MostArts Festival Young Pianist Competition, Los Angeles Young Musician International Competition, and Franz Liszt International Competition to name a few. She has performed solo, chamber, and orchestral performances in concert venues such as the Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, Carnegie Hall, Zipper Concert Hall, Miller Theater, Warner Concert Hall, Redlands Bowl, the Millennium Park, Krzysztof Penderecki Concert Hall (Lusławice, Poland), Ignacy Jan Paderewski center (Kaśna Dolna, Poland), Sala dei Notari (Italy). She attended Colburn Music Academy (2016-2020) and currently studies with Prof. Ning An. She is a Young Scholar of the Lang Lang International Music Foundation, a finalist in From the Top, a second-year Scholarship Recipient of the U.S. Chopin Foundation, and a junior in Indiana University High School.



Hans Chan, a 22-year-old from St. Louis, MO, is a senior at Eastman School of Music, currently studying with Professor Alan Chow. Since beginning piano at the age of eight, Hans has won numerous awards, including prizes in the MTNA National Young Artist Piano Competition, ArtePiano International e-Competition, Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, NFMCA Lana M. Bailey Concerto Award, and more. He has been a scholarship student at festivals such as Pianofest in the Hamptons and PianoSummer at New Paltz, and performed in masterclasses for esteemed teachers such as Douglas Humpherys, Gilbert Kalish, and Boris Slutsky. Hans has

performed as soloist with the Alicante Symphony Orchestra in Perugia, Italy, as well as given solo performances in cities including Gijón (Spain), New York City, Seattle, Rochester, St. Louis, and more. In the fall of 2021, he will be starting his fifth and final year at Eastman/University of Rochester, completing his dual degree in Piano Performance and Economics. Hans is a member of the national music honor society, Pi Kappa Lambda.



Caleb Chen, a native of Taichung, Taiwan, is a freshman piano performance major studying at Lee University. He received second place in Taichung Musical Competition (2015) and won first place in Church of God Teen Talent Competition (2019) that offered Caleb one-year full-tuition scholarship to study at Lee University. Caleb has participated in Indiana University Bloomington Piano Camp in 2018 and 2019. His pre-college professor is Prof. Chia-Huei Ai from Tunghai University. He now studies with Dr. Jonathan Jung.



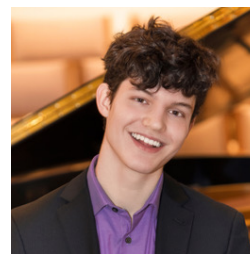
Lynnae Eades is from Fairmont, West Virginia and started studying piano at age seven. She competed and tied first place in the CMTA music competition (2019) and won third place in the CMC music competition (2019). She is currently the pianist for Ladies of Lee, a traveling ensemble, and she enjoys collaborating with other musicians whenever the occasion arises. She is a sophomore piano performance major at Lee University and is the recipient of academic scholarships and the Young Musician Scholarship. She studies in the studio of Dr. Jonathan Jung. In her free time, she enjoys reading historical fiction, hiking, and listening to music.



Olivia Halm is from a family of 12 and has always had a passion for music. She started playing the piano at the age of 7 and began to pursue music her senior year. She is currently studying in the RCM program through the New Tampa Piano Pedagogy Academy. When not studying, she likes to train for the Spartan races and experience new recipes.

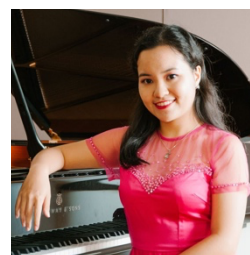


Ye Eun Kim is from Seoul, South Korea, and is the winner of the Seoul Music Youth Education Competition. She won first place at the Asia International Piano Academy and Festival with Competition, and Haneum Music Competition, and performed at a concert for the winner. She is also the winner of the Universal Music Competition and has won numerous competitions. She has studied piano since she was five years old. She studied piano with Ho-jin Jung in Korea and entered Lee University in the U.S. in 2020 and is studying with Dr. Jung.



Adrian King is a high school senior from Silverdale, Washington. He is a student of Dr. Peter Mack of Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle and Dr. Dainius Vaicekonis of Seattle Pacific University. Adrian will be attending Eastman School of Music in the fall. Adrian has been a prize winner at many international competitions in both piano solo, concerto, and duet categories. He was the winner of the 2019 Seattle International Piano Competition. Adrian received 1st prize at the 2018 Aloha International Piano Competition. He was a National YoungArts winner in 2019, 2020, and 2021. Adrian and his sister, Mya, received 2nd place in the 2016-17 National MTNA Competition in Baltimore,

Senior Duet Division. Adrian won the concerto competition at the 2017 Northern Lights Music Festival in Minnesota and performed with the NLMF orchestra under conductor Gavriel Heine. He has also performed concerti with orchestras in both Washington and Hawaii.



Born and raised in a musical family, Vietnamese pianist **Nhi Luong** started playing piano at the age of four. In 2017, she won first prize at the Yong Siew Toh Concerto Competition and performed with the Conservatory Orchestra. In recognition of her exceptional potential, she has been the recipient of the Steven Baxter Memorial Scholarship, Lyra Foundation Grant and the Yong Siew Toh Artistic Development Grant. Nhi was selected to perform in various international festivals such as the Amalfi Music Festival (Italy), Engadin Summer Piano Academy (Samedan, Switzerland) and Musical Chairs (Montreal, Canada). Nhi obtained her bachelor's degree in Piano Performance

with full scholarship at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (Singapore) and is currently pursuing her Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance and Chamber Music at the University of Michigan under the tutelage of Prof. Christopher Harding.



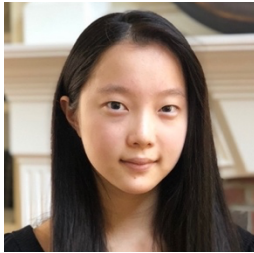
Mary Elizabeth Nerren of Johnson City, Tennessee is a junior piano performance major at Lee University. Mary studied with Dr. Esther Park at ETSU precollege (2016-2018), Dr. Cahill Smith (2018-2020), and currently studies with Dr. Jonathan Jung. Mary was recently recognized as the winner of the 2019 Blair Academy for the Arts Grand Virtuoso Competition and second prize winner of the 2019 Nashville Steinway Artist Junior Piano Competition. In 2017, she participated in winning the MTNA Nationals Piano Duet competition as a result of winning the 2017 Regionals and 2016 State MTNA piano duet competitions. In 2016, Mary successfully completed the Royal

Conservatory of Music Level 10 piano repertoire and technical requirements assessment. After completing her bachelor's degree, Mary plans to pursue a Master's degree in Music Performance or Music Theory.



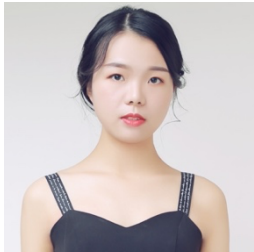
Angelina Ning, 16, is a junior at American Heritage School and currently studies with Professor Kevin Kenner of University of Miami. Her past awards include top prizes at the Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition, East Carolina University Young Artists Competition, Peter Perret Youth Talent Search Concerto Competition, MTNA Southern Division Competition, David Dubois Piano Competition, Thousand Islands International Piano Competition, and the Steinway Piano Competition in Miami. In June 2019, she was featured on NPR's From the Top with host Simone Dinnerstein. Most recently, Angelina has received first prizes in the

Ocala Young Artist Competition and the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra Young Artists Competition. She has performed with the Alicante Symphony Orchestra, the Winston Salem Symphony Orchestra, the Alhambra Symphony Orchestra, and the FIU Symphony Orchestra. She has also participated in masterclasses with many esteemed musicians including John Perry, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Jerome Lowenthal, Boris Slutsky, Yoheved Kaplinsky, and Ilana Vered. She has attended the Southeastern Piano Festival, the Colburn Music Academy Piano Festival, the Texas State International Piano Festival, and Music Fest Perugia. Outside of music, Angelina enjoys reading and journaling and is also on her school's scientific research team.



Grace Peng is from Johns Creek, Georgia, and currently studies with Dr. David Fung. Since beginning piano at age 5, her teachers have included Dr. Elena Cholakova and Raffi Besalyan, and she has won numerous accolades, including being a 4-time winner and 7-time laureate of the Georgia Music Teachers' Association Auditions, the 2019 Atlanta Music Club Scholarship Competitions, and the 2019 and 2020 Athens Music Scholarship awards. She was a finalist at the Nashville, LaGrange Symphony Orchestra, and Osaka International Music Competitions. She has attended Oberlin Conservatory Piano Festival, the John Perry Academy of Music, and currently serves as

the pianist of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra. As an avid chamber musician, Grace is the pianist for the Sycamore Piano Trio.



Yian Wang, born in 1998, began studying piano performance at the age of five, and has graduated from Sichuan. In 2012, she held her first solo recital which included twelve Chopin Etudes. In 2014, she won bronze prize at the 15th Chopin International Piano Competition in Asia. In 2017 she won third prize at the Fifth Kawai Asia Piano Competition, and in 2018 she won bronze prize at the Changjiang Piano 2018 National Competition. After her participation in many competitions, she became more and more interested in developing her skills abroad.

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