



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER  
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Competition Winners to Perform Friday

(Brevard, NC) –The Brevard Music Center recently held its annual Jan and Beattie Wood Concerto Competition and chose five outstanding performers to appear on Friday, July 31, 2009 at 7:30 with the Brevard Music Center Orchestra. The concert will be conducted by Ken Lam, Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra. Maestro Lam is in residence at BMC for the summer fulfilling many roles; rehearsing the student orchestras, conducting the Brass Symphony and *Hello, Dolly!*, preparing the chorus for Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony (August 2) and now working with these young soloists and the Brevard Music Center Orchestra for Friday's concert.

The finals were open to the public Sunday night, July 19, in Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium. Always an exciting event at the Music Center -- supporters and fellow students listen intently and cheer for friends and favorites.

The five students chosen to solo with the orchestra include Brandon Garbot, a 15-year-old violinist from Portland, Oregon. He will perform the virtuosic *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso* by Saint-Saëns. Brandon began studying at the age of 7 with the Suzuki Method. He remembers listening to music non-stop whenever he was in the car, and he was always anxious look ahead at the pieces in the next book, even before he finished the last. Brandon attended the Music Center in 2008, and is once again the concertmaster for the high school division orchestra for his second summer.

Pianist Xiao Wang was born in Wuhan, China and grew up in Beijing. She began studying piano at age 4 and attended middle and high school at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and now studies at the University of Cincinnati with Elizabeth Pridonoff – a BMC faculty member. Xiao loves to perform and practices every day, including holidays, since she was a young child. She came to Brevard Music Center for the performing opportunities and loves to attend the variety of concerts, from student recitals to orchestra concerts. She will perform the first movement of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1.

Claire Mashburn will perform the *Poem for Flute and Orchestra* by Charles Griffes. She attends Louisiana State University and studies with Katherine Kemler. Claire began her music training with her mother, being taught how to sing and participating in church choir. Her flute instruction began at age 11 and she was excited to be able to play flute solos in church. Claire decided to attend BMC for the "impressive flute faculty" and she knew she would gain wonderful orchestral experience. She also loves the student camaraderie and has made great friends.

Bass Trombonist David Hagee studies with BMC alumnus Charlie Vernon of the Chicago Symphony. His hometown is Cincinnati, OH and currently attends DePaul University in Chicago. He enjoys the hills, trees and grass in Brevard since he says they are sorely missing where he is in Chicago. David will perform the Concerto for Bass Trombone and Orchestra by Thom Ritter George.

Yifei Deng studies viola at the Shanghai Music Conservatory High School in Shanghai, China. He is 17 years old and came to the Brevard Music Center from China so that he “could learn as much as (he) can about the world of music.” Yifei studies at BMC with Scott Rawls, an active chamber musician and teacher from UNC Greensboro. He enjoys his lessons and listening to some of the “greatest music” at the Music Center. (And he even likes the cafeteria!)

Join us for this exciting and supportive event, showcasing these talented students and exemplifying the mission of the Music Center to “teach gifted young musicians to prepare and perform great musical works at a high artistic level.” Lawn tickets are available for this concert (\$15) and all tickets can be purchased at [brevardmusic.org](http://brevardmusic.org) or by calling (828) 862-2105.

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