



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER  
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

## NEWS RELEASE

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### BMC to Present Soloists of Tomorrow

(Brevard, NC) – The Brevard Music Center is presenting “**Soloists of Tomorrow**” on Sunday, August 1, 2010 at 3:00 pm. This special concert showcases the winners of the annual Jan and Beattie Wood Concerto Competition. Selected after preliminary and final rounds of auditions, the five chosen winners appear as soloists with the Brevard Music Center Orchestra, led by conductor and 2010 faculty member Ken Lam.

Nineteen-year-old pianist **Vijay Venkatesh** comes from Laguna Niguel, CA, where he is studying privately with pianist and BMC faculty Norman Krieger at the University of Southern California. Vijay has been studying the piano for the past 15 years, and recently signed with Artistic Analogies Film Co. to record his first album this coming September. He will also embark on a five-country European tour in October, travelling to Spain, Monaco, Italy, Turkey, and Greece. Vijay is also a 2009 Davidson Fellow, a 2008 Grand Prize winner of the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Awards, and a 2007 First Prize winner of the World Piano Pedagogue Competition. Vijay will perform the first movement of Tchaikovsky’s powerful Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23.

Trumpet player **Casey Tamanaha**, 21, is from Honolulu, HI, and is enjoying his third summer at the Music Center. Casey has been studying trumpet for nine years and is currently a junior at the Juilliard School studying with Professor Mark Gould. Casey will perform the Arutunian Trumpet Concerto.

Pianist **Esther Shin**, 24, comes from New York, NY. She was the winner of the 2009 BMC Piano Competition, sponsored by the Zimmerli Foundation. She recently graduated with a Masters of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music, and will be continuing her graduate studies at the Moody Theological Seminary. She has been studying piano for 20 years, and her principal teacher is Ann Schein. Esther also has a Bachelor of Music degree from the Peabody Conservatory, where she studied with Boris

Slutsky. At the Music Center, Esther enjoys her piano lessons with Professor Sandra Wright Shen. She will perform Liszt's dazzling Piano Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major.

Nineteen-year-old violinist **Jia Rong Gan** is an international student from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She is a rising junior at Western Illinois University, where she is studying with Professor Julieta Mihai. Jia has been studying the violin for fourteen years. She will perform the third movement of Saint-Saens' Violin Concerto No. 3 in B minor, Op. 61.

Flutist **Eva Ryan**, 21, hails from Charlottesville, VA, and is currently a rising senior at Northwestern University. She has been studying flute for eleven years with her principal teachers Walfrid Kujala and Richard Graef. In March of next year, she will perform the Nielson Flute Concerto with the Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra, and will perform the first movement of this Concerto on Sunday.

The Brevard Music Center was founded by James Christian Pfohl in 1936. His vision to establish a music program for talented young people has since matured into one of this country's finest summer institutes and festivals for aspiring musicians. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, BMC welcomes to its 180-acre campus each year 400 students, representing over 40 states and eight foreign countries. It has, as well, 65 distinguished faculty artists drawn from America's most prestigious conservatories, universities and orchestras. Each summer, the Center invites an array of celebrated guest artists to appear in performance with the students of BMC. BMC's unique learning environment—students living and working alongside faculty and guest artists—creates an unparalleled sense of community.

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