

THE CONCORD ORCHESTRA

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Richard Pittman

Conductor and Music Director

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Newton resident Jaclyn Freshman has been named first runner-up of the Concord Orchestra's 2010 Ehlers Young Artist Competition. She will give a pre-concert recital preceding the orchestra's spring concert on Saturday, March 20. "Jaclyn impressed with her polished, poised, stylish performance," music director Richard Pittman said of her audition.

Jaclyn will perform the adagio movement of Bach's Sonata No. 1 in G minor and Ravel's *Tzigane*. *Tzigane* is the French word for "gypsy." Ravel first conceived the piece for violin and piano and later arranged for violin and orchestra. Today, it is still more often played in the original version of violin and piano.

Jaclyn began playing violin at age five. She is a student of Jin-Kyung Joen at the New England Conservatory Preparatory Division and plays first violin in the NEC Youth Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Benjamin Zander.

Jaclyn has performed as a soloist with several orchestras across the Bay State. She is a prizewinner for the Metrowest Symphony Orchestra's Young Artist Competition, the Brockton Symphony's Feinberg Competition, the Bay State Music Teachers Association Strings Competition, the New England Philharmonic's Young Artist Competition, and the Lowell Philharmonic's Jeanne Selander Memorial Concerto Competition.

Jaclyn is the first to have ever won all three age groups of the Newton Symphony Orchestra's Young Soloist Competition. She was also a finalist for the NEC Preparatory School Concerto Competition and the Rhode Island Philharmonic Concerto Competition.

Jaclyn's musical talents are not limited to the violin. She is an accomplished singer, an avid guitar and piano player, and a budding actress. She made her YouTube debut in the seventh grade singing Hannah Montana songs with reworked lyrics.

"It all started with a science project in the seventh grade. My friend and I had to explain the process of photosynthesis, so we decided to make a song about it," said Jaclyn. The original song, "If We Were a Movie," became "If We Were Photosynthesis... You'd be the CO₂ and I'd be the H₂O." "It brought pop music into the class, and people could really relate to it," she said. Did they get an A? "Yes!" she beamed.

Jaelyn now has over a dozen popular songs posted on You Tube, mostly accompanying herself on the guitar. She took up the guitar shortly after the science project specifically for this purpose. "I always really loved singing, and it's hard to accompany yourself on the violin," she quipped.

Jaelyn is currently a sophomore high honors student at Newton South High School. She spends her summers at the Greenwood Music Camp in Cummington, Massachusetts, where she participates in both chamber music and orchestra.

The Concord Orchestra Young Artist Competition is open to musicians of high school age or younger who reside in eastern Massachusetts. The winner is chosen by a panel of orchestra members and the music director. The winner also receives a cash prize from the Charles and Arlene Ehlers Memorial Scholarship Fund.

This year's winner is cellist Rainer Crosett, who will perform Barber's Cello Concerto with the Concord Orchestra. Also on the program is Greatest Hits by Michael Gandolfi and Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 9 (the Great C Major).

Concerts are Friday, March 19 and Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden Street, Concord. Jaelyn will give her pre-concert recital at 7:15 on Saturday evening. The second competition runner-up, pianist Mackenzie Melemed, will give a pre-concert recital on Friday evening. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for senior citizens, and \$10 for students. For tickets and information, call 978-369-4967 or visit www.concordorchestra.com.

Short Calendar listing

Newton resident Jaelyn Freshman has been named first runner-up of the Concord Orchestra's 2010 Ehlers Young Artist Competition. She will give a pre-concert recital preceding the orchestra's spring concert on Saturday, March 20. On the concert program is Greatest Hits by Michael Gandolfi and Symphony No. 9 (the Great C Major) by Franz Schubert. Samuel Barber's Cello Concerto will be performed by Rainer Crosett, the winner of the Young Artist Competition. Pre-concert recitals are at 7:15 each evening. Concerts are Friday, March 19 and Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden Street, Concord. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for senior citizens, and \$10 for students. For tickets and information, call 978-369-4967 or visit www.concordorchestra.com.