

# OUR STORY

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CONCHORD MUSIC is more than a group of young musicians in Seattle; we're a non-profit with a mission—to promote unity, harmony, and mental health awareness through the transformative power of music.

Our journey began with a shared passion for music and a shared concern for the state of mental health in our communities. Many individuals, young and old, were silently struggling with anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges. This is where we saw an opportunity to make a profound impact.

Today, we come together to raise funds for NAMI Seattle (National Alliance on Mental Illness) through our ConChord Music Fundraising Concert. This event is not just about the notes we play or the songs we sing; it's about the power of music to heal, to inspire change, and to foster unity. It's about supporting an organization that has been a lifeline for so many in our community.

Join us in this harmonious journey to make a difference. Together, we'll strike a chord for mental health and unity in our community.

[WWW.CONCHORDMUSIC.ORG](http://WWW.CONCHORDMUSIC.ORG)



# FUNDRAISING CONCERT

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**DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**6:30-9:00PM**

**LEE THEATRE, FOREST  
RIDGE SCHOOL**



[Donate now & get your tickets!](#) ↗

# PROGRAM

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**Michelle Cao, Piano**

Chopin - Barcarolle in F-sharp Major, Op. 60

**Felix Zhang, Piano**

Bach - Italian Concerto 3rd Movement

**Stefan Zhou, Piano**

Beethoven - Six Variations on a Duet by Paisiello

**Esmee Lee, Cello**

Haydn - Cello Concerto in C major, 1st Movement

**Courtney Tam, Piano**

William Bolcom - The Serpent's Kiss

**Lauren Lee & Sophia Xu, Voice (Duet)**

A Variety of Christmas Carols

**Charles Lee & Jonathan Fung, Cello (Duet)**

How Great Thou Art

**Charles Lee, Cello & Nina Iorik, Piano (Duet)**

Saint-Saëns - The Swan

**David Gatien, Piano**

Liszt - Mephisto Waltz No. 1 in A major, S. 514

- INTERMISSION -

**Kevin Zhang, Erhu**

Zhou Wei - The Grapes are Ripe

Zhang Hen Shui - Deep into the Night

Huang Hai Bu - Horse Racing

**Nina Iorik, Piano**

Chopin - Ballade No. 2 in F major, op. 38

**Jonathan Fung, Cello**

Saint-Saëns - Allegro appassionato, Op. 43

**Ella Sumanaseni, Piano**

Liszt - Les jeux d'eau à la villa d'Este

**Charles Lee, Cello**

Shostakovich - Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-Flat Major,  
Op. 107, I. Allegretto

**Lauren Lee, Voice**

Beabadoobee - Glue Song

**Lauren Lee & Sophia Xu, Voice (Duet)**

Beabadoobee and Laufey - A Night to Remember

**Sophia Xu, Voice**

Mariah Carey - All I Want For Christmas Is You

# MUSICIAN BIOS

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**Michelle Cao** is an 11th grader at Newport High School. She started to play the piano at the age of 6 with Yunbo Cassady and currently studies with Dr. Sasha Starceovich. Michelle has won top prizes in many competitions including Aloha, Artciál, Orbetello and Chopin Avenue as well as US Chopin NW, EMTA scholarship, and WA State OAPC. She has attended various music programs such as Seattle Chamber Music Academy, Vivace & Chicago International Piano Festival, and Vancouver Piano Sessions. Michelle loves sharing her music with seniors and regularly performs at recitals for senior homes. Her profound passion for community service has inspired her to found CONCHORD Music to promote unity and mental health awareness in our communities through various music events.



**Jonathan Fung** is currently 14 years old and cello has always been an important part of his life and is a hobby that he truly enjoys. He started his cello journey under the instruction of Dr. Shiang-Yin Lee at the age of 4. When he was seven years old, he joined the Pacific Northwest School of Music's (PNSM) chamber program. After two years of his attendance there, he applied for the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra and was accepted. Currently, this is his fifth year at SYSO in Debut Orchestra. In the summer of 2022, he was chosen to be a part of the Honors Performance Series Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. He has also participated in his school's orchestra since the 2022 school year. He hopes to continue playing cello for years to come and to exceed much along the way.



**David Gatien** is 14 years old and currently studies piano with Yoshikazu Nagai. At age 6 and just months after starting piano, David entered his first piano competition (the USA NW Chopin Competition) and won a Gold Medal, the youngest in the “Age 9 & Under” Division. Since then, he has won multiple top performance awards at both the local and international levels. He is also a member of the Seattle Chamber Music Society (SCMS) Academy for Chamber Music. Outside of music, he loves cycling, playing video games, and exploring the vast world of classical music.



**Nina Lorik** is a 13-year old pianist and harpsichordist from Seattle. She has participated in numerous competitions and regularly volunteers in organizations. In 2022-23, Nina took part in Seattle Chamber Music Academy. Additionally, in summer 2023, she traveled to the piano festival of Oberlin Conservatory of Music. In her free time, Nina enjoys reading and composing.



**Charles Lee** is a 10th grader at Lakeside School, and he started playing the cello at the age of 4. Since then, he has distinguished himself in numerous competitions including winning the 3rd Grand Prize in the Strings category (age 8-35) at the Vancouver International Music Competition, 2nd place in Bellagrande International Music competition, 1st place in Simon-Fiset Strings competition, alternate winner in the Junior string division at WA MTNA, and at the Performing Arts Festival of the Eastside (PAFE), he received the Best of Divisions-Outstanding Performance in Cello category, 1st place in Concerto Division, and 1st place in Solo Division.



**Esmee Lee** started cello when she was 5 years old. She has been awarded as the first prize winner in the cello bass junior category of Taiwan national music competition in 2022 and the finalist for the concerto competition of SYSO, 2023. She has played in the renowned Carnegie Hall, Benaroya Hall, Amphitheatre Paris Cité de la Musique, and National concert hall of Taiwan. She currently studies with Efe Baltacigil. Esmee is the recipient of Chimei Museum Foundation.



**Lauren Lee** is a 16 year old self-taught singer. As a child, she joined her local choir and now sings as a hobby.



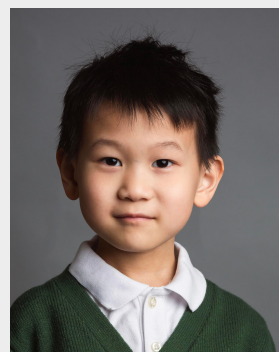
**Ella Sumanaseni** has been playing piano since she was 5 years old and is currently studying with Donna Bender and Christopher Janwong McKiggan. Ella has also been studying violin for eight years. She is currently a senior at Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart. Recent honors include Silver Medal at Piano League Piano Star, WA State Music Teacher Association Honor Recitalist, Distinguished Gold at 2022 SIPF Viennese Festival, and Grand Final Gold Medalist at 2021 Piano Star International Competition. Outside of piano, Ella enjoys painting, planning her school's STEM Club, and hanging out with friends and family.



**Courtney Tam** has studied with Dr. Yelena Balabanova at the International Conservatory Studio since 2011. In 2022, Courtney notably performed with the Mukilteo Orchestra after winning the SCMTA Concerto Competition. Courtney's awards include 1st Prize at American Virtuoso Competition and performance at Carnegie Hall, Gold Medals at the Pacific NW, Chopin NW, Northern Lights and Charleston International Competitions, EMTA Best of Festival for three consecutive years, Grand Prix winner of International German Music Piano Competition, and more. Courtney attended the prestigious Seattle Piano Institute at UW, Seattle Chamber Music Academy, and Vancouver Piano Sessions. She was a Finalist in the Seattle Symphony Young Artists for two consecutive years.



**Sophia Xu** is 16 years old and has been singing since she was 7. She joined local choirs and later started studying with a private voice teacher. Sophia is now in Newport High School's choir and theater programs, Seattle Opera's Teen Vocal Studio, and competes in singing competitions.



**Felix Zhang** is a 3rd grader at the Seattle Country Day School. He started his piano journey when he was 4-5 years old. He is currently studying piano with Dr. Sasha Starceвич. Felix has won several international and local competitions including Gold Prize at Pacific NW Piano Competition, Platinum at WPTA Singapore International Piano Competition, Gold at Music and Stars Awards Competition, winner at American Protégé Summer Gala Concert, etc. Felix is also playing violin in the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, tennis and skiing.



**Kevin Zhang** has played Erhu for the past 9 years starting at the age of 4. He has performed locally with several orchestras and youth groups. More recently, Kevin has played Cello for 2 years and is part of Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra. Kevin is interested in biology and some of the healthcare issues facing American youth today. He is currently a 7th grader at Tye Middle School. Aside from music, he enjoys playing badminton, reading, and debating.



**Stefan Zhou** is 9 years old, 3rd Grader in Endeavour Elementary School in Sammamish, Washington. He started learning piano at six and has been studying with Dr. Sasha Starcevich since fall 2021. He learnt a lot from Dr. Starcevich on how to tell the music story, shape the melody, express the feeling and most importantly have fun when playing the piano. He started to perform in couple competitions in 2022, he won 3rd place in the Eastside Chapter Scholarship Competition. He really enjoys performing in front of friends and family. Piano and basketball are his most favorite hobbies.

