

Building
tomorrow's
musicians,
one piece
at a time

Cascadia Composers present

In Good Hands

*Young Oregon performers
bring a fresh voice to new music
by Cascadia composers*

Thursday • 28 July • 2016 • 4 pm

The Old Church
1422 SW 11th Avenue
Portland Oregon 97201

Free admission
Meet the composers at
the concert reception!

Cascadia Composers
www.CascadiaComposers.org



A chapter of the National
Association of Composers, USA



Cascadia Composers

Mission Statement

Cascadia Composers engages our community through the creation, performance, and promotion of contemporary musical art, while providing resources and opportunities to Cascadia composers.

Cascadia Composers serves northern Oregon and southern Washington and was founded in 2008.

Website: www.CascadiaComposers.org

Governing Board

Jan Mittelstaedt, President

Mike Hsu, Vice President

Jeff Winslow, Secretary/Treasurer

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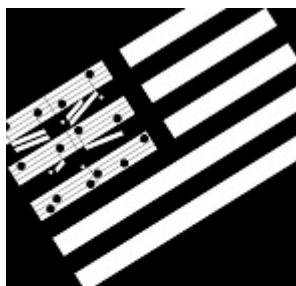
David S. Bernstein, Liz Nedela, Tim O'Brien, Greg A Steinke, Linda Woody, at large

Tomas Svoboda, Honorary Member

Cascadia Composers is a chapter of the National Association of Composers/USA (NACUSA)

NACUSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Founded by Henry Hadley in 1933, it is one of the oldest organizations devoted to the promotion and performance of American concert hall music. Many of America's most distinguished composers have been among its members.

These concerts and presentations are made possible by dues from NACUSA (National Association of Composers/USA) and fundraisers sponsored by Cascadia.



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CASCADIA COMPOSERS

(Cascadia Chapter of the National Association of Composers/USA)

presents

IN GOOD HANDS

Local Music Students Perform Music by Cascadia Composers

Thursday, July 28th, 2016, 4 pm

The Old Church 1422 SW 11th Ave., Portland, OR 97201

ENCHANTED

Matthew Kaminski

Andrew Kim, *piano*

AUBADE

Gary Noland

Ian Wang, *piano*

VARIATIONS ON NOTTURNO from ***Mikrokosmos 4*** by Béla Bartók

Linda Woody

Variation 1

Torin Repasky, *piano*

Variation 2

Eric Seaman, *piano*

Variation 3

Ethan Chan, *piano*

Variation 4

Eric Seaman, *piano*

AUTUMN WINDS

Lisa Ann Marsh

Khoi Hoang, *piano*

PICNIC ANTS

Jan Mittelstaedt

Regina Zhao, *piano*

AEOLIAN ISLE

Liz Nedela

Ethan Chan, Ginnie Wu, *piano*

WALTZ

Zach Davis

Mingqian Tan, *piano*

ALLEGRO IN B^b MAJOR

Gary Noland

Elaine Lee, *piano*

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|---|--------------------|
| LIKE SPIDERS ACROSS THE STARS Selina Teng, <i>piano</i> | Nick Yandell |
| FUGUE THEME FOR A NIGHT Justin Lu, <i>piano</i> | Timothy O'Brien |
| WALKING IN MAN GONG Rex Zhao, <i>piano</i> | Liz Nedela |
| MINI SCHERZANDO Jesse Nieman, <i>keyboard (harpsichord)</i> | Greg A Steinke |
| SONATINA FOR YOUTH (<i>Feeling Awesome</i>) Divya Amirtharaj, <i>piano</i> | Jan Mittelstaedt |
| CREATIVE MIND Mingqian Tan, Justin Lu, <i>piano</i> | Paul Safar |
| CLOUD HANDS Andrew Kim, <i>piano</i> | Mike Hsu |
| BOSSACAGLIA Mary Butte, <i>piano</i> | Paul Safar |
| WINTER STARLIGHT Alvin Lai, <i>piano</i> | David S. Bernstein |
| STARFISH Melaudie Palazo, <i>flute</i> | Jan Mittelstaedt |
| WINTER LIGHT Rex Zhao, <i>piano</i> | Lisa Ann Marsh |
| ALL THE BEAUTIFUL COLORS OF MY BELLY BUTTON LINT Ginnie Wu, <i>piano</i> ; Nitya Krishnakumar, <i>vocal</i> | Jennifer Wright |

Teachers Participating

Celia Bartel
Daniel Brugh
Judy Castle
Dianne Davies
Pauline Eidemiller
Myrna Elmore
Irene Huang
Luiza Kramarchuk
Ruth Sadilek
Debra Sostrin
Nancy Stone
Fen-Fang Tsao

Program Notes

ENCHANTED by Matthew Kaminski

Enchanted takes place in a fairytale like setting, and is more of a journey rather than a moral story. On this journey, one experiences magical thoughts and visions, hence the name.

AUBADE by Gary Noland

The *Aubade* is the fifth in a set of six piano pieces I composed as a divertissement from my involvement in the composition of a 75-hour text piece at the time.

VARIATIONS ON NOTTURNO from **Mikrokosmos 4** by Béla Bartók
by Linda Woody

Hungarian composer Bela Bartok (1881-1945) wrote Mikrokosmos, a set of 153 progressive piano pieces in six volumes between 1926 and 1939. *Notturmo*, a short, haunting melody in E minor written over an eighth note pattern in 6/8 time, is the first piece in book 4. The set of variations by Linda Woody were originally written as a college composition assignment and first performed by a close friend at her senior recital. In the first variation, the meter is "squared up" and the melody is played in thirds. The second variation is in 12/8, with the accompanying eighth note pattern changing between the treble and bass and ends with a Picardy third. Variation 3 makes use of the 16th note motive from the theme. The final variation is a bit silly, written in E major with a Classical-sounding Alberti bass.

AUTUMN WINDS by Lisa Ann Marsh

Autumn Winds is the last of four pieces in *Seasons* and contains textures and rhythms that reflect the torrential changes autumn brings.

PICNIC ANTS by Jan Mittelstaedt

This a musical picture of a picnic where ants are uninvited guests.

AEOLIAN ISLE (Duet) by Liz Nedela

Portrays a mystical, exotic island. Duet takes turns with different melodies. From a collection of modal duets that illustrate the fifth note of each mode, using it above and below the starting note.

WALTZ by Zach Davis

This composition is all about contrasts. As this short piece speeds by, listen for the distinct melody passed between the hands, dissonant jabs of harmony, and the surprise ending.

ALLEGRO IN B \flat MAJOR by Gary Noland

I composed the *Allegro in B \flat Major* as a counterpoint assignment when I was a sophomore in college almost forty years ago. I made a few revisions on the piece some fifteen years ago. I composed two other movements shortly after writing the first one, both of which sit in a drawer (or box) somewhere awaiting further revisions.

LIKE SPIDERS ACROSS THE STARS by Nick Yandell

This piece is a piano arrangement of a work I originally wrote for mandolin and ukulele duet. The title is a line from Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, but gained a life of its own when I attempted to audiate the actual visual image contained within the simile. Just imagine some spiders crawling around in the cosmos...

FUGUE THEME FOR A NIGHT by Timothy O'Brien

This song started out as a study on the Fugue written for the organ. I wanted it to seem to be resolving around the minor scale, and how one accomplishes traversing across soundscapes with dark melodious features. This song is meant to mimic an organ church prelude and should have a light and airy character, yet a dark ominous feel.

WALKING IN MAN GONG by Liz Nedela

Blues Minor/Man Gong Pentatonic scale. Changing rhythms with slightly jazz influence in rhythm patterns and chordal structure; hand-crossings, wide range on keyboard. Portrays a “cool” stroll with a beat.

MINI SCHERZANDO by Greg A Steinke

Mini Scherzando is an excerpt from an earlier and longer work, *Tomorrow On Yesterday* for Harp, that I adapted for keyboard to be played ideally on harpsichord but also on piano.

SONATINA FOR YOUTH (*Feeling Awesome*) by Jan Mittelstaedt

Sonatina is written in sonata allegro form. Theme 1 expresses the exuberance of youth, especially teens, while theme 2 is more lyrical and reflective. The other two movements, which are not being performed, are entitled *Stressed Out* and *Right On*.

CREATIVE MIND (Duet) by Paul Safar

I wrote this piece back in 1996. It is dedicated to my father, Peter Safar, who had a very creative mind indeed. He was a fine amateur pianist and he and I did play through the piece a few times. But my most striking memory was playing it with my piano teachers at my father’s memorial service in 2003.

CLOUD HANDS by Mike Hsu

Sometime in the late 90’s, I came up with the first 8 measures. It took me 16 years to finally write the rest of it. I named it *Cloud Hands* because the player’s hands float over one another, as in the T’ai Chi movement with the same name.

BOSSACAGLIA by Paul Safar

This piece was inspired after hearing a Purcell ground bass piece performed as a beautiful, simple solo encore after a piano concerto at the Eugene Symphony. I was also getting interested in bossa nova at the time through a piano student so I thought the two elements might make a nice combination. This piece was written for and is dedicated to my dear adult student (76 years young), Judy Tanner.

WINTER STARLIGHT by David S. Bernstein

Winter Starlight is a short little piano work that is very romantic in style in the sense that it is dominated by melody throughout. The piece was originally written for a music theory colleague of mine who played through it frequently in class to demonstrate the implied harmonies that exist. It was

designed for a college freshman class for analysis. The piece contains no accidentals outside the key of D Major and is barely over one minute in length.

STARFISH by Jan Mittelstaedt

Starfish is a composition created by recycling. It contains two themes that I used in my composition for flute and piano, *Links*, which was performed at a Cascadia Composers concert in 2012. These themes were originally part of a flute choir piece, *Exiles from Acadia*, performed in 1993 at my MM degree recital. I wrote *Starfish* for Melaudie Palazo.

WINTER LIGHT by Lisa Ann Marsh

Winter Light is the first piece in *Seasons*, composed in 2013. It depicts the peace and quiet of winter.

ALL THE BEAUTIFUL COLORS OF MY BELLY BUTTON LINT

by Jennifer Wright

In 2015, my piano students and I co-wrote a two-hour-long puppet show called “The Adventures of Sir Knight, The Princess and The Pig: A Fairy Tale of Five Elements”, which we performed with a seamless live piano soundtrack in Portland, Oregon in June 2015. The plot revolves around the bumbling but kind-hearted Sir Knight, who reluctantly joins the brave Princess and a talking Pig on a grand adventure to rescue Arfur the Dog, who has been kidnapped by dragons.

One of the host of memorable characters that the group meets along the way is The Flying Squirrel, an overly talkative and energetic fellow who enjoys singing annoying songs as they travel together.

When my students gathered to read through the final script, they were already familiar with most of the action since they all had helped craft the story and much of the dialogue. However, there was a part that they hadn’t heard, a bit that I had added at the last minute to fill in a missing transition. When we got to this part in the full-cast read-through, complete bedlam broke out:

Flying Squirrel: Are we there yet? Man, this anticipation is killing me! I wanna see DRAGONS!!! Hey, anybody for another round of “99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall”?

Princess: No thank you, Flying Squirrel, I think we could all use some quiet time.

Flying Squirrel: Oh wait! I know what we could sing! This is a great one. I made it up myself! I'll sing it a few times so you can learn it, and then we'll all sing it together. It has 143 verses and it's called "All the Beautiful Colors of My Belly Button Lint"!

Princess & Pig & Sir Knight: NO THANK YOU!

Flying Squirrel: Sheesh! Everybody's a critic! Oh well, your loss!

My students all fell over and laughed so hard that they couldn't breathe for a long time, and kept repeating the song title over and over while clutching their stomachs and screeching with glee. Then they all demanded to know how the song went, so I had to write it. They all helped me invent enough specialty colors to fill up 143 verses.

Composer Biographies

David S. Bernstein

David Bernstein's music has seen its expression in a wide variety of genres. His concert music ranges from compositions for the theatre and musical theatre to works for dance, opera, orchestra, chorus, band and many varied chamber music ensembles. His music has been performed in many areas of the United States, Canada, South America, and Europe. He has traveled widely and given lectures on his music in Vienna, Paris, Warsaw, Posnan, Crakow, The Eastman School of Music, The University of Alberta, The University of Southern California, New York University, The University of Kentucky, and many others. His music has been published by G. Schirmer, Acoma Productions, Ludwig Music Publications, Willis Music, Abingdon Press, Lawson-Gould, Dorn Productions, Music for Percussion, Inc., Clear Note Publications and Forton Music Publishers (England).

Zach Davis

Oregon resident Zach Gulaboff Davis is a M.M. student in composition at Mannes College of Music. In 2014, Zach completed a B.A. in piano performance and composition at Linfield College. He has performed as concerto soloist, pianist, and conductor; his compositions have been heard across the United States.

Mike Hsu

Mike Hsu grew up listening to British new wave and synthpop, and Chicago house. He takes the rhythms, harmonies, and layering techniques

found in non-classical music and incorporates them into basic classical structures. Mike performs with ARCO-PDX and Classical Revolution PDX. Professionally, Mike works as a physician at Kaiser Permanente.

Matthew Kaminski

Matthew Kaminski attends Southridge High School. He studies piano with *Ruth Sadilek* and composition with *Daniel Brugh*. Matthew has participated in numerous piano and composition festivals, and has been awarded honorable mention for the MTNA, and second place nationally for the NFMCC. Matthew has been a part of the *Young Composers Project* through *Fear No Music* for the last two years, and he has been interviewed by *Susannah Mars* regarding this organization for an *Artslandia* podcast. Matthew is a member of *Cascadia Composers*, and recently had a piece performed by *The Mousai*. In addition, Matthew enjoys singing with the *Oregon Youth Chorale*; he recently conducted the world premiere of his choral composition.

Lisa Ann Marsh

Lisa Ann Marsh is a founding member of *Crazy Jane Composers*, the women composers of *Cascadia Composers* in Portland, Oregon. Her solo piano and chamber works are frequently performed in the Portland area. Her music is inspired by the beauty of the natural world and the artists she collaborates with. www.LisaAnnMarsh.com.

Jan Mittelstaedt

Jan Mittelstaedt holds a BS in education from Bucknell University, a BA in music from Marylhurst University and a MM in composition from The University of Portland. Her composition teacher at The U of Portland, Dr. Walter Saul, continues to be her mentor. President of Cascadia Composers, NACUSA, Jan is published by Schaum Publications, and Boston Music (Music Sales International). Two of her student piano pieces have been included in National Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival bulletins (NFMCC). She was selected to participate in the 1993 Ernest Bloch Composers Symposium, was Oregon Music Teachers Association (OMTA) Composer of the Year in 1994, and has received many ASCAP Plus awards. Her biography is included in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in American Women*. Nationally Certified by Music Teachers National Association, Jan serves as a member of the OMTA syllabus adjudicating staff, presents workshops and programs on teaching composition to teachers and students, and adjudicates student compositions. In 2013, she received Portland District's Honorary Lifetime membership (OMTA).

Liz Nedela

Liz Nedela BA, MEd, MM, NCTM, teaches piano and composition in Vancouver WA. She strives to write music that is accessible to musicians and audiences of varied preferences -- educational, avant garde, church music, instrumental, vocal -- solo music, ensemble, orchestral, choral, using a wide variety of styles of music. She is fond of experimental scales, modes and pentatonic; ethnic music; counterpoint; and the continued quest for melody in any style of music. As a result, many commissions have ensued from Chapters of MTNA, two art galleries, church music, and special music by select musicians for concerts. As the 2014 [WSMTA](#) Commissioned Composer of the Year, a piano duet resulted from an in-depth study of pentatonic scales, ranging from ancient to present day jazz influence.

Gary Noland

Gary Noland's catalogue consists of over 400 works, which include piano, vocal, chamber, experimental and electronic pieces, full-length plays in verse, "chamber novels," and graphically notated scores. His music has been heard on four continents. Six CDs of his music are available for purchase at www.northpacificmusic.com

Timothy O'Brien

Timothy Arliss O'Brien's composition life started at the age of 5, grew through his musical studies at a Harding charter prep high school in Oklahoma, matured from his time as a music major at Oklahoma Wesleyan University, and is now flourishing in the city of Portland, Oregon. Many of his early works were for the instruments he plays: trumpet and piano, but in the past years, his catalogue of compositions has expanded to include everything from operas, sacred works and choral works, to brass quintets, percussion duets, and sonatas that include the toy piano and theremin.

Paul Safar

Paul Safar is a versatile composer/performer and private piano instructor living and working in Eugene, Oregon. Having received his B.Mus from the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio, Paul draws upon his classical music training while often incorporating stylistic elements from jazz and rock. He works regularly with the soprano Nancy Wood and thrives on collaborative projects. In addition to numerous chamber music and vocal works, Paul has written one orchestral piece, a *Concerto for Electric Guitar*. Paul was the OMTA composer of the year for 2013-14.

Greg A Steinke

Dr. Greg A Steinke is retired, former Joseph Naumes Endowed Chair of Music/Art and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Marylhurst University, Marylhurst, Oregon; Associate Director, Ernest Bloch Music Festival ('93–97) and Director, Composers Symposium ('90–97) (Newport, OR); served as the National Chairman of the Society of Composers, Inc. (1988–97). Composer of chamber and symphonic music and author with published/recorded works and performances across the U. S. and internationally; speaker on interdisciplinary arts, and oboist specializing in contemporary music. Dr. Steinke is the current national president of NACUSA and also serves on the NACUSA Cascadia Chapter Board.

Linda Woody

Linda Woody lives in West Linn, OR and is a music graduate of Marylhurst University (BA Music, BM Composition 2013). She studied music composition with Dr. Bob Priest and Dr. John Paul. She enjoys writing for a variety of ensembles including handbell choir, choral groups, piano trio, string trio, middle school band and mixed instrumental groups. Her works have been performed by members of the Oregon Chamber Players, Big Horn Brass, Delphinium String Quartet, the Classical Beauties piano trio, Free Marz String Trio, Lake Carillon and Vesper Bells handbell choirs, the Marylhurst Chorale and by members of Third Angle and the Oregon and Vancouver Symphonies.

Jennifer Wright

Jennifer Wright is a pianist, teacher, composer and artist of various stripes. She holds two degrees in classical piano performance (B.M., Hartt School of Music, Connecticut; M.M., Trinity College of Music, London, England) and studied for two years at the Stuttgart Music Conservatory in Germany. Jennifer has served on the Board of Directors of Cascadia Composers and is a proud member of the "Crazy Jane Composers". Her wild and wooly works, including her colorful experiments with her deconstructed "Skeleton Piano", have been performed at the Portland International Piano Festival, March Music Moderne, Crazy Jane concerts, Cascadia Composers concerts, and on recital series in the U.S., the U.K. and Finland.

Nick Yandell

I'm Nicholas Yandell, a Portland-based composer seeking to create the 21st century in musical art by capturing every aspect of postmillennial life we experience, past, present and future, and concocting it all into a formula of organized sound. Thank you for listening.

Performer Biographies

Divya Amirtharaj is a freshman at Westview High School and has always been passionate about music. She has been playing piano for ten years, successfully doing Syllabus program and winning different OMTA competitions. As well she plays the clarinet and bass clarinet in her school jazz, concert, and marching band, and has recently been teaching herself the guitar. Apart from the different instruments she plays, Divya has explored her Indian heritage by learning Indian classical vocal music and can almost always be found listening to music ranging from jazz to pop and R&B. Outside of music, Divya is very well rounded and is part of Westview's Varsity Swim Team and has swum competitively across the Northwest for seven years. She competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee for two years after winning the state championship and was named a Broadcom Masters Semifinalist for her work in STEM. This summer Divya will be continuing her work with the American Red Cross and Good Samaritan Hospital as well as completing a computer science internship at PSU. Divya also enjoys gardening, photography, and staying active outdoors in her free time and loves to visit cafes and boutiques with her friends and family.

Mary Butte has always been passionate about music and performance. Only in the past few years has Mary directed her passion towards classical piano. Prior, she practiced voice, trumpet and musical theatre. Outside of classical piano she enjoys tending to her small collection of houseplants. Mary is currently studying under the direction of Celia Bartel.

Ethan Chan, 9, is a student of Fen-Fang Tsao. He has studied piano for three years. He was selected as one of the winners in the Trula Whelan Concerto Competition this year. Ethan is excited about playing works of living composers and he also enjoys reading, swimming and traveling with family.

Khoi Hoang, 14 years old, has been playing piano for ten years and has studied with Dr. Debra Sostrin since 2011. He will be a freshman at Sunset High School in the fall. Last year Khoi won the Grand Scholarship Competition of the Piano Santa Foundation and enjoyed performing in a variety of recitals, a master class, and OMTA Festivals, where he consistently received Winner ranking. Khoi volunteers as church choir pianist for Vietnamese Catholic churches in Beaverton and Portland. In his spare time, he enjoys basketball, solving puzzles and Rubik cubes, folding origami, and hip-hop dancing.

Andrew Kim is 13 years old and will be entering high school this fall. He has studied piano for 8 years, completing OMTA Piano Syllabus Level VIII, and earning consistent Superior ratings in NFMC Festival. Andrew has studied violin for 4 years, done OMTA Violin Syllabus and NFMC Festival, and performed in the Baroque Orchestra of MYS. Andrew has also been learning the clarinet at school and, after just 1 1/2 years, was asked to play in the Beaverton area Middle School Honor Band. He marched with Highland Park Middle School in the Junior Rose Parade in June. This summer, he attended Young Musicians and Artists Camp in Salem as a pianist. He studies piano and violin with Ruth Sadilek.

Nitya Krishnakumar, 15, comes from a musical background. Her grandfather and mother are trained in Indian classical music. She has been training on piano with Ms. Fen-Fang Tsao since elementary school. Nitya has also been singing with Pacific Youth Choir for six years and has performed with Oregon Symphony at the Arlene Schnitzer concert hall in over 15 concerts.

Alvin Lai, 14, began his music studies with Dianne Davies Little Mozarts program in kindergarten. Next year he will be a freshman at Westside Christian High School. Alvin helps out with his church's middle school service worship, and also enjoys playing videogame and anime piano arrangements. His hobbies include biking, basketball, and soccer. His favorite subjects are math and history.

Elaine Lee is 11 years old and began her piano studies with Irene Huang, NCTM three and half years ago. Elaine is a very diligent student in many other areas. In just a couple of years, she is already a consistent winner of OMTA period Festivals. She also enjoys swimming and basketball.

Justin Lu, 17, has been playing piano for 6 years, the last two from Pauline Eidemiller. He also is part of a robotics team and play tennis. His favorite composer is Debussy because his music is colorful and imaginative.

Jesse Nieman is 13 years old and currently home schooled. Jesse has been playing the piano about five years. He has really been enjoying playing the piano since he started taking lessons from Mrs. Eidemiller last year. He enjoys reading books whenever he finds extra time. He also plays the violin in Portland Youth Conservatory Orchestra (PYCO).

Melaudie Palazo, aged 11 is a 6th grader at St. Pius X School and is starting her third year of flute study with Judy Castle. She has studied piano since the age of five. She also enjoys tennis and swimming, besides music.

Torin Repasky is 11 years old and in 7th grade at Class Academy. He has been studying piano for four years and is a student of Nancy Stone. Torin likes to compose music, play soccer, and build with Legos; he would like to become an architect when he grows up.

Eric Seaman, 13, will be an 8th grader this fall at Lake Oswego Junior High School, where his favorite subjects are social studies and math. He's been learning piano for 7 years with teacher Fen-Fang Tsao. He has participated in numerous OMTA piano festivals and the Portland International Piano Festival. Soccer is Eric's other passion. He plays midfield and forward for the Westside Timbers. His team recently won the U13 Oregon State Cup and will play against other state champions in Idaho this summer. Eric's other interests include skiing, basketball, and backyard games with his friends.

Mingqian Tan, 16, is a high school junior at the School of Science and Technology. He has completed OMTA's ESMAR Evaluation and has participated in various OMTA and Federation Festivals. Besides playing piano, he enjoys creating compositions and arrangements using MuseScore. Mingqian studies with Pauline Eidemiller NCTM.

Selina Teng, 16, student of Myrna Elmore, NCTM, has been playing piano since age five. She has earned many awards in the OFMC Jr. Festival events and has been a consistent winner in OMTA period festivals. Selina will be a junior at Westview HS this fall. Apart from piano, she enjoys debating, painting, reading and having fun with her dog, Phila.

Ian Wang is 13 years old and is a very gentle person with great passion for music. Ian is a consistent winner of many OMTA period festivals. He will be an eighth grade in International School of Science this Fall. Besides music, Ian also plays violin, basketball and loves reading. He is a student of Irene Huang, NCTM since age six.

Ginnie Wu is 7 years old. She has been learning to play the piano with Fen-Fang Tsao for 2 years. She has been a winner in the OMTA Classical and Ensemble Festivals. Ginnie enjoys swimming and reading in her spare time.

Regina Zhao is 6 years old and attends Hiteon Elementary in Beaverton. She has been studying piano for 9 months with Dianne Davies. Her favorite subject is math and she loves to create things. Along with piano, she is taking origami lessons from her brother Ryan.

Rex Zhao is 13 years old and a 7th grader at ISB School in Beaverton. He started lessons at 7 and transferred to Dianne Davies in 2012. Rex also studies Chinese Zither with his brother Ryan. Rex also participates in fall soccer, cross country, winter & spring basketball and track. Rex plays percussion in the school band and his favorite subject is math.

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