

Young Composer Shares Music with Piano Santa Foundation

At 14 years old, Daniel Trang has already explored music from more angles than many people do in a lifetime. Daniel is a pianist, composer, guitarist and cellist, and he has been involved in music in one form or another since he was 5 years old. For the last two years, he has also been the holder of the PSF Winter Grand Scholarship.

Daniel is an 8th grader in Oregon Connections Academy, an online public school where he is currently maintaining straight As. Attending an online school gives Daniel time to work on his music. Ultimately, he hopes to become a neurologist, and maybe attend Johns Hopkins University. For now, though, Daniel is focused



Daniel Trang

on completing his next composition, a work for chamber orchestra.

In fact, Daniel has already written more than ten compositions, including several fugues and a tango. For the last few years, he has participated in the Young Composers

Project, a program offered by Portland-area ensemble Fear No Music, and several of his pieces have been performed by local artists. He hopes to perform one of his own compositions at an upcoming PSF student event.

As a pianist, Daniel continues to win praise and accolades at events, including at the Oregon Music Teachers Association (“OMTA”) Romantic Festival, the Piano International Festival, and the Community Music Center. Chopin is a personal favorite of Daniel’s, and in general he prefers playing Romantic music, saying that it reflects his person-

ality more than other styles.

PSF Founder Mark Mention feels that watching young musicians like Daniel develop is one of the benefits of being involved with Piano Santa. “When you have a talented and dedicated student with good piano skills,” says Mark, “the use of an artist-quality grand piano can really enable the student to make great progress.”

Winning the first Piano Santa Foundation Winter Grand Scholarship in December 2009 was a milestone in Daniel’s musical development. He was awarded the use of

(Trang continued on page 2.)

Summer Music Fun

Saturday, August 13th

To hear Daniel and other great young PSF musicians, please join us for our free Summer Music Fun Recital!

(see page 4 for details &

mark your calendar!)



2011 Winter Grand Scholarship Competition!

PSF is pleased to announce the 2011 Winter Grand Scholarship Competition. The winner will be awarded a scholarship from PSF giving the use of a Yamaha GB1 in the student’s home for two years. “We are grateful to Yamaha and Classic Pianos for giving us the ability to offer this great opportunity to students in the Portland area again,” says PSF Executive Director Sandra Phadke. The 2011 Winter

Grand Competition is the second such event held in cooperation with Yamaha America, and the latest instance of the long collaboration between PSF and Classic Pianos. “We are very proud to be associated with the Piano Santa Foundation and its mission to enrich lives through music,” says Maurice Unis, president and owner of Classic Pianos.

The competition will be held on

November 5, 2011 at Classic Pianos and is open to all students who have completed syllabus level 6 (or equivalent) between the ages of 12 and 16. Deadline for applications is October 17, 2011. Please see www.pianosanta.org to download the application materials or call 503.245.6269 for more details.



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2011 will be the 17th year that PSF has been helping young people in our community by awarding scholarships, and I could not be prouder of the work our students are doing.

Every year, I get asked about former PSF students and whether they have continued on with their musical studies. I am happy to be able to report that music is still a big part of their lives and many of them make an effort to give back to their communities. Here are some updates:

Kai Talim, a PSF student from 2003 to 2010, moved to Chicago last year with his family, and he has stayed busy. Kai was chosen as a finalist of the 2011 National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and has been accepted into the Eastman School of Music. Recently, with the help of the Music Institute of Chicago, Kai organized a benefit concert with ten of his friends to raise money to help orphans in Japan. His sister, **Kelly Talim** (violin), has also continued her musical success; she will be featured on the NPR radio show "From the Top" later this year.

Y Hoang, recipient of the Dottie Lambertsen Merit Award in 2008, will be a junior at the University of Portland this fall and is majoring in Biochemistry with a minor in Music, focusing on piano performance. Last year, Y won the Concerto Soloist Competition and will be performing with the school orchestra this October. She continues to be actively involved in music-related activities at her school, including accompanying choirs on campus.

I hope you are as inspired as I am by these members of the PSF family. Thank you for your continued support, and please stop by and visit us at one of our upcoming events!

Sincerely,
Sandra Phadke



PSF Program Basics

PSF was created in 1994 to provide music education opportunities for children, particularly in underserved populations, in the Portland metropolitan area. The three main focuses of our programming are (1) **Scholarships:** placing pianos in students' homes for up to three years, (2) our **First Step and Second Step Keyboard Programs:** offering group piano lessons to elementary-aged children, and (3) **Placement Grants:** placing pianos with deserving community organizations. In support of these programs, we provide in-home piano tunings and maintenance, offer educational opportunities, and sponsor student recitals throughout the year. Please see our website for information.

PSF Board & Staff

Founder Mark Mention
Executive Director Sandra Phadke
President Barbara Platt
Secretary Phillis Whitmore
Treasurer Ajit Phadke
Board Member Kathryn Poleson

The Piano Santa Foundation

PO Box 80214
Portland, OR 97280
www.pianosanta.org
503.245.6269 phone

News Notes is published by the Piano Santa Foundation. © 2011 Piano Santa Foundation. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without the written consent of the Piano Santa Foundation.



(Trang continued from page 1.)

a brand new Yamaha GC1, provided by PSF partners Classic Pianos and Yamaha America. Both he and his sister are able to practice on the piano, and the quality of the instrument has helped them both develop their musicianship along with their technical skills. "It's been great having this Yamaha grand piano," Daniel says, "because we finally get to hear the music the way it should sound."

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Ayumi Mizuno

Stepping Stone Scholarship recipient **Tram Bui** recently won second place in the Donna and David Eason Competition sponsored by OMTA, and was named a winner in the 2011 OMTA Romantic Festival.

Karlos Perez-Ramos, a Standard Scholarship student, was awarded a scholarship to attend the Pipe Organ Encounters program this summer. Pipe Organ Encounters is an educational outreach program of the American Guild of Organists.



Karlos Perez-Ramos

Ayumi Mizuno, a Merit Extension Award recipient, was a winner at the OMTA Ensemble Music Festival, performing the Mozart violin sonata (KV 301) with her younger sister Fumika.

Standard Scholarship Student **Tom Hoang** was named a winner at the 2011 OMTA Romantic Festival.

Make a Difference! PSF Needs Volunteers

PSF relies on the support of our volunteers whose passion for music and the organization make our programs possible. Volunteers assist in a variety of ways including serving on committees, helping out at recitals, and working on the library. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer, please contact us at 503.245.6269 or email us at info@pianosanta.org.

Scholarship Committee

The scholarship committee reviews applications, interviews candidates and recommends scholarship recipients to the Executive Director and Board of Directors. A background in music is a plus, but is not required.

Library Volunteer

The PSF library contains over 1,000 music books. Library volunteers sort and catalog donated music, and help work the library desk at PSF events.

Events

There are many opportunities to help at our four recitals each year. Volunteers are needed for event planning, photography and video, staffing the receptions (setup and cleanup) and handing out programs.

Website Design and Maintenance

PSF needs help adding and updating new articles on our website, adding photos and documents, as well as designing new features. Previous website design experience required.

Mailings and Administrative Support

Throughout the year, PSF needs assistance from volunteers to help with mailings. Tasks include collating materials, labeling, and sealing envelopes. Assisting with mailings provides a great opportunity to catch up with other PSF volunteers.

GRACE NOTES Our heartfelt thanks go to the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their support of PSF programs, as well as to the many anonymous donors who have made generous contributions. Your support makes all the difference! If your name is missing from this list (and you wish to be added), please call our office, and we will be sure to make the correction in our next edition.

Individuals

Benefactor

Carol Ratzlaf

In memory of Eileen and John Gibson

Patrons

Sharon Streeter

Julie Jelline and John Barker

Contributors

Lynn Ramsdell

Greg and Nan Anderson

In honor of Mark Mention

Laury Riley

Stephen Guntli and Chrissy Roccaro

RH and Roni Hinkson

Janet Leigh and Marc Gaudin

Paul Lambertsen

Claire Galton

Patricia Schleuning

Bob and Fran Greenlee —In memory of Annie Mention, our dear friend

Elizabeth Wolmut

Valerie Stinson

Christina Frost

Supporters

Anne and David Munro

Christine Lewis

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Dudley

Janet Harmon

Patrick Caplis

Steven Mullinax and Bonnie Messinger

Marjorie McCracken

Corporations and Foundations

Ausplund-Tooze Foundation

A-440 Tuning

Classic Pianos

Yamaha America



SPREAD THE WORD!

Is there anyone you know who could benefit from a PSF program?

We accept piano students as young as seven years old into our scholarship programs. We would be happy to discuss opportunities with any students who may be interested. Please let them know about us.

Did you know that PSF also grants pianos to organizations such as community centers and hospitals, as well as for use in music therapy programs? If you know of a community organization that could benefit from a PSF piano, we would love to hear from them!

The PSF library has more than a thousand titles and is still growing. We are continuing to build our library as a community resource and are looking for other organizations that could benefit from the use of our library.

 Please contact us by calling 503.245.6269 or email us at info@pianosanta.org 



enriching life through music

Upcoming Events

Each year, PSF hosts four student events that are free and open to the public. These events give us a chance to showcase the incredible talent of young people, and give our students a chance to share their music with the community. PSF students are at all levels, with our more advanced students playing some amazing classical pieces. Last year's Holiday Recital included Bach Preludes, a Beethoven Sonata and a Chopin Scherzo.

Please join us for one or more of these upcoming events:

Summer Music Fun

Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, 1:30pm
Central Lutheran Church
1820 N.E. 21st Ave., Portland 97212
Reception to follow.



2010 Piano Santa Foundation Dress Rehearsal

Dress Rehearsal

Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, 1:30pm
Central Lutheran Church
1820 N.E. 21st Ave., Portland 97212

Holiday Recital

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011, 1:30pm
Central Lutheran Church
1820 N.E. 21st Ave., Portland 97212
Reception to follow.