

## MEDIA RELEASE



*2013 Winner Josephine Chung in the Finals round of the National Youth Concerto Competition with the Queensland Youth Symphony*

## National Competition Seeks Australia's Finest Young String Talent

*National Youth Concerto Competition Showcases Professional Level Musicianship*

**18 February, 2014-** Applications are now open for the 2014 National Youth Concerto Competition, presented by Queensland Youth Orchestras. Established in 1976, the national competition, now in its 39<sup>th</sup> year, is the most nationally recognised of its kind for Australian string soloists under 17 years of age.

Each applicant is required to submit a recorded audition of works to be judged by a panel of professional musicians. Up to three finalists are then selected to perform their chosen

concerto in a public finals concert on **Sunday, 12 October** in Brisbane with the Queensland Youth Symphony (QYS), conducted by QYO Director of Music **John Curro AM MBE**.

Last year's winner, fourteen year-old Josephine Chung said about the competition, "My experience at the 2013 NYCC was everything I think all competitions should be. The atmosphere of the competition was non-competitive and friendly. Rehearsing and performing with the orchestra was a really significant learning experience for me."

Josephine is currently in year ten at Pymble Ladies College in Sydney and recounts her experience in the NYCC as a pivotal moment in her musical development. "I learned that playing as a soloist is much harder and much more complicated but also much more fun, than I thought previously. I'll be able to apply skills I learned during the week to any playing I do in the future."

The 2014 winner will gain a \$3,000 prize and will join the ranks of some of this country's greatest musicians. Past winners of the competition have achieved great success as soloists, orchestral musicians and music directors, including Richard Tognetti (1980), Jane Peters (1978), Nicholas Milton (1985), and Li Wei Qin (1993).

Judges will also select promising applicants to participate as recitalists throughout the competition's **Finals Week, October 6 – 12, 2014**, a week-long program of recitals in public locations throughout Brisbane.

*Finals Week* will also include a number of Brisbane school recitals to showcase the breathtaking discipline and musicianship of young music students and the quality of Australian string teaching.

For an application form or for further information about the 2014 National Youth Concerto Competition visit [www.qyo.org.au](http://www.qyo.org.au) or contact Queensland Youth Orchestras on 07 3257 1191 or [info@qyo.org.au](mailto:info@qyo.org.au). Applications close at 5pm, Monday 30 June 2014.

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For interviews and images, please contact QYO Marketing Officer Eva Mowry Lewis: 07 3257 3028; [eva@qyo.org.au](mailto:eva@qyo.org.au)