

MEDIA RELEASE



queenslandyouthorchestras



National Youth Concerto Competition celebrates 40th year

One of Australia's oldest and most prestigious music competitions, the National Youth Concerto Competition (NYCC), will celebrate its fortieth annual final in Brisbane next month. Australia's finest young violinists will compete in the nation's leading competition for string soloists aged up to 17 years.

The three finalists will be competing for the coveted NYCC award that helped launch the careers of celebrated Australian musicians Richard Tognetti (1980), Ray Chen (2002), Jane Peters (1978), Nicholas Milton (1985) and Li Wei Qin (1993) and other highly regarded performers over the past 40 years.

- The 2015 Finals Concert, String Sensations, will be held in the Old Museum Concert Hall commencing at 3 p.m. on Sunday 11 October. Tickets are available online through [qtix](#) or by calling 136 246.

Each of the three finalists will play popular works with the **Queensland Youth Symphony (QYS)**, the senior orchestra of Queensland Youth Orchestras (QYO). This year's finalists are:

- Yebin Yoo, aged 15, from Melbourne, who will play the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto
- Oscar Han, 14, from Sydney, who will perform the Sibelius Violin Concerto, and
- Jimmy Park, 16, from Canberra, who will play Lalo's Symphonie Espagnole.

Media advice: The three finalists and four recitalists (runners-up) will be available for interview when they are in Brisbane from 5 to 11 October to give recitals around Brisbane. Please contact Simone Vitiello, QYO Marketing Officer, on 3257 3028 or simone@qyo.org.au

The Finalists

Violinist Yebin Yoo from Melbourne started learning violin at the age of eight, completing her diplomas within six years. She regularly joins the Australian National Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra for concerts under the baton of Simone Young and Stanley Dodds amongst others. In 2013, she was selected for the Australian Chamber Orchestra Academy and also participated in a masterclass with the Seraphim Trio. Yebin is a member of an Australian National Academy of Music string quartet and will be participating in the Quartetthaus event as part of the Melbourne Festival in October this year.

Violinist Oscar Han from Sydney began studying the violin at the age of three and a half years old, and was awarded his LMusA Diploma with distinction at the tender age of twelve. He performed as a grand finalist in Australia's Got Talent 2013, and this year, was selected as a semi-finalist of the Oberlin International Violin Competition, held in Ohio, USA. Solo performance highlights thus far include performing at the Sydney Opera House and in the Fine Music 102.5 Even Younger Performers Award. Oscar has also worked with world-renowned musicians including Andrea Merenzon and Kellie Dickerson.

Violinist Jimmy Park from Canberra started receiving violin lessons at age five from Oi Machiko and Koen Rens, undertaking the Suzuki Method in Belgium. After moving to Canberra in 2008 (Year 3), Jimmy won third Prize in the International Animato Violin Competition, and in 2014, was accepted in to the Rising Stars program at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. Jimmy has participated in master classes with leading violinists Kyung Sun Lee in Seoul and Stefan Jackiw in Sydney.

Queensland Youth Symphony (QYS)

The majority of the 100 members of the **Queensland Youth Symphony** are tertiary music students, brought together by their passion for orchestral playing, and combining their skills to form one of the world's leading youth orchestras. QYS has its own subscription series, tours internationally every four years, and again in 2015 was named QPAC's Youth Orchestra in Residence.

Conductor John Curro AM MBE

Conductor John Curro AM MBE founded QYS in 1966 and continues conducting the orchestra with authority and charisma, motivating the orchestra to musical greatness. As a respected figure through the Australian musical community and within the international landscape of youth music education, he has conducted many of Australia's professional orchestras and various international orchestras including the London Virtuosi, the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

-ENDS-