For 34 years The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center’s (CMS) annual Young Musicians Concerts have provided a unique and thrilling opportunity for advanced high school instrumentalists whom CMS selects through a highly competitive audition process, to perform in a professionally produced concert at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, home of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Now, in an expansion of the program, CMS is proud to announce that, as the first step in a regional and ultimately national expansion of the program, for the first time it will present a regional level concert competition for similarly selected Long Island high school students.
The selected ensembles win individual coaching sessions with world-renowned CMS musicians, and the opportunity to perform in the public Long Island Young Musicians concert which the Tilles Center for Performing Arts at LIU Post is graciously hosting on Tuesday, January 31, at 1100 AM in the Hillwood Recital Hall. In addition, select ensembles from the Long Island competition will be invited to perform at the New York City Young Musicians Concert at Alice Tully Hall on April 27 at 11:00 AM.

The winners of this inaugural competition are from Jericho High School, William A. Shine - Great Neck South High School, Herricks High School, Manhasset High School, North Shore High School, and Syosset High School.

This expansion affords the opportunity for many more outstanding young musicians to be presented in a concert professionally produced by CMS in their home region. Suzanne Davidson, Executive Director, explained:

Teachers have told us repeatedly that so many of their students who win the competition to perform in the CMS Young Musicians Concert write their college essays about the experience -- the many years of practice, of collaborating and rehearsing with their friends, the excitement of winning the competition and the illumination that comes from the coachings with great CMS artists, all of this preparation culminating in the joy of performing on the stage of Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center. This is a defining experience in their lives, having a deep impact in shaping who they are as they graduate from high school. Education is central to CMS’s mission. As a result, in the strategic plan which CMS recently adopted heading towards its 50th Anniversary Season in 2020, the board made expansion of the Young Musicians Concert program, geographically and in the number of students whom the program will touch, one of its top priorities.

Future plans include adding regional concerts for schools in New Jersey, New York City, Hudson Valley (including Westchester County), and Connecticut, followed by partnering with schools around the country. The Chamber Music Society’s Artistic Directors, David Finckel and Wu Han, conveyed their enthusiasm:

On behalf of CMS, we wish to express our most heartfelt enthusiasm and support for this expansion of one of CMS’s most important programs. The artistic imprimatur of CMS today is stronger than ever, and to be able to offer deserving young musicians, as well as engaged audiences, a chance to connect with our organization is well worth the efforts of our organization and our partners combined. And surpassing all of our work in significance is both the dedication of our students, and the commitment of their parents, teachers and families, who, in our opinion, are investing not only in happier and more productive children, but in a more civilized society as well.
Educators from Long Island were equally enthusiastic. Michael Schwartz, the Performing Arts Department Head and Director of Instrumental Music at the William A. Shine – Great Neck South High School commented:

Having participated in the Lincoln Center Young Musicians concerts for many years, I am delighted that CMS has now created a Long Island regional competition which opens the potential for additional schools, chamber music groups and, most importantly, students to have the opportunity to be coached by artists from The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and perform in a professionally produced chamber music concert at the Tilles Center for Performing Arts. We know how valuable the incredible educational experience has been for our advanced music students in the Lincoln Center Young Musicians Concerts, working with the Chamber Music Society and meeting students from other schools who share the same musical passion for chamber music. It continues to be a high point in our musical season to attend the Young Musicians Concert each spring. [do we need this last sentence, repetition?] We are excited that now additional Long Island students will have this opportunity and experience.

And elementary and middle school orchestra teacher Aimee Lillenstein of the Jericho High School music faculty said:

One of the most important aspects of music education is to connect aspiring student musicians with high quality professional artists. We feel so privileged that The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center chose to expand the program to become more inclusive of students in the greater New York area. Now our students have the opportunity to work with the world class artistry of the Chamber Music Society musicians in their own backyard.

CMS Director of Education Derek Balcom will preside over the Long Island CMS Young Musicians Concert, which will be performed for an audience consisting of students, educators, family members of performers, and community music enthusiasts. The general public is welcome. Free tickets may be reserved by calling 212.875.5793 or emailing dbalcom@chambermusicociety.org

For more information on the Chamber Music Society’s education programs go to: https://www.chambermusicociety.org/nyc/education-programs/school-programs/

**LISTING INFORMATION:**
The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Presents
The Long Island Debut of The CMS Young Musicians Concert
Tuesday, January 31, 11:00 AM
Location: Hillwood Recital Hall at the Tilles Center for Performing Arts at LIU Post
720 Northern Blvd., Brookville, NY
Tickets are free, but reservations are required; available by calling 212.875.5793 or emailing dbalcom@chambermusicociety.org
Performances by eight competition-winning instrumental ensembles from Jericho High School, William A. Shine - Great Neck South High School, Herricks High School, Manhasset High School, North Shore High School, and Syosset High School.

Press Contact: Marlisa Monroe: mmonroe@chambermusicsociety.org
212.875.5776

COMPLETE PROGRAM DETAILS:

Antonin Dvořák (1841 – 1904)
Quintet in E-flat major for Two Violins, Two Violas, and Cello, Op. 97, "The American"
*Allegro non tanto*
Joseph Kim, violin; Subin Lee, violin; Hannah Lee, viola; Kalena Liu, viola; Brandon Sung, cello
Syosset High School
Teacher: Stephanie Merten; Principal: Giovanni Durante
Coach: Daniel Phillips

Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)
Quartet in D minor for Strings, D. 810, "Death and the Maiden"
*Allegro*
Rachel Chang, violin; Serene Lee, violin; Alexandra Hong, viola; Ryan Chung, cello
Manhasset High School
Teacher: Caroline Shyr; Principal: Dean Schlanger
Coach: Daniel Phillips

Eugène Bozza (1905 - 1991)
Trois Pièces Pour Une Musique De Nuit
*Andantino; Allegro Vivo; Moderato*
Samuel Levine, flute; Jeremy Chen, oboe; Eruc Yang, clarinet; Michelle Xing, bassoon
William A. Shine -Great Neck South High School
Teacher: Michael Schwartz; Department Head of Performing Arts: Dr. Pamela Levy; Principal: Susan Elliott
Coach: Romie de Guise-Langlois

Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)
Quintet in E-flat major for Piano, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, Op. 44 (1842)
*Allegro brillante*
Grace Kang, violin; Alexandra Tan, violin; Nicole Park, viola; Austin Kim, cello; Julia Feldman, piano
Herricks High School
Teacher: Catherine Fish; Principal: James Ruck
Coach: Mihai Marica

Handel/Halvorsen (1864-1935)
Passacaglia in G minor for Violin and Cello (1897)
Christine Ramirez, violin; George Pappous, viola
North Shore High School
Teacher: Jason Domingo; Principal: Albert Cousins
Coach: Mihai Marica

**Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1884)**
Quartet No. 2 in A minor for Strings, Op. 13  
*Adagio - Allegro vivace*
Leland Chan, violin; James Kim, violin; Gloria Lam, viola; Susan Baek, cello  
Jericho High School
Teacher: Aimee Lillienstein; Principal: Joan Rosenberg
Coach: Mihai Marica

**Louis Ferdinand (1772 – 1806)**
Piano Quintet in C minor, Op. 1  
*Allegro*
Caroline Ruggiero, violin; Elizabeth Ruggiero, violin, Caroline Lee, viola; Kevin Xu, cello; Siyu Yang, piano  
Syosset High School
Teacher: Stephanie Merten; Principal: Giovanni Durante
Coach: Mihai Marica

**Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1884)**
Trio No. 2 in C minor for Piano, Violin, and Cello, Op. 66  
*Allegro energico e con fuoco*
Christine Suh, violin; Josh Lee, cello; Soyoung Park, piano  
William A. Shine -Great Neck South High School
Teacher: Michael Schwartz; Department Head of Performing Arts: Dr. Pamela Levy; Principal: Susan Elliott
Coach: Michael Brown

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