

Nancy Zhou, First Prize Violin

2009 Johansen International Competition for Young String Players



At the age of 16, **Nancy Zhou** won **First Prize Violin** and \$10,000 in the **2009 Johansen International Competition (JIC) for Young String Players** (Ages 13-17) held in Washington, DC in March 2009. In addition to winning first prize violin, she also won the competition's prize for **Best Performance of the Commissioned Work**. Her appearance as soloist in with the **Prince Georges Philharmonic Orchestra** in October 2010 is in conjunction with her Johansen competition awards.

Born in 1993, Ms. Zhou attends the Keystone School of San Antonio, Texas. She has been influenced in music by her father and teacher, Long Zhou. Ms.

Zhou has been studying the violin since age 4, and played her first recital when she was 5. Since then, she has attended master classes with Nodja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Peter Oundjian, Pinchas Zukerman, and Koichoro Harada of Japan's Toho School of Music.

Ms. Zhou will be collaborating with violinist **Anne-Sophie Mutter** on tour in areas around Europe in 2009 (on violin) and 2011 (on viola). Other highlights of her concert schedule include a recital in Georgetown (Texas), and concerts in which she will perform the Sibelius Concerto with the San Antonio Symphony, Brahms Concerto with the Symphony of the Hills of Kerrville, TX, and Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole* with the Mid-Texas Symphony.

In 2006, at age 13 and as the youngest contestant, she participated in the 13th Wieniawski International Competition for Violinists Aged 30 and Under, ranking in the top 24 from a pool of 108 applicants. In earlier years, she twice won the Pearl Amster Concerto Competition in 2003 and 2004, and was awarded a Director's Prize at the Kingsville International Competition at age 10. Ms. Zhou has been an active member of the Youth Orchestras of San Antonio, and won the YOSA Concerto Competition, performing with the Philharmonic Orchestra as a soloist. She has participated in the Tuesday Musical Club Competition, ranked in the Bach Circle, the highest level. Nancy has also been to string camps, and has performed at a number of Child Prodigy Concerts.

In addition to competing internationally and nationally, Ms. Zhou has appeared on the national radio show, "From the Top," and has been constantly active during the school breaks. She was enrolled in the Aspen Music Festival and School, studying with Paul Kantor, and the New School's New York String Seminar, directed by Jaime Laredo. She currently studies with her father, Long Zhou, violinist, violist, and conductor Jaime Laredo.