

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Building Community through the Arts

ESO's Guest Artist Master Class Series features Pianist Joyce Yang

Elgin, IL - Pianist Joyce Yang, critically acclaimed as "the most gifted young pianist of her generation" with a "million-volt stage presence" will host the second of four one-on-one coaching seminars as part of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra's **Guest Artist Master Class Series** Saturday, January 30th from 2-4pm in Community Room A-B-C at the Gail Borden Public Library in downtown Elgin. Ms. Yang will spend the afternoon coaching Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra musicians on piano works including Mozart's Piano Sonata No. 7, Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 8, and Chopin's Prelude for Piano in D-flat Major "Raindrop".

The ESO's Guest Artist Master Class Series provides young musicians one-on-one coaching by professional musicians featured as guest artists at Elgin Symphony Orchestra concerts. In addition to Joyce Yang, the 2009-2010 line up will feature violist Jamie Laredo, and violinist Jennifer Frautschi. The Elgin Symphony Orchestra has presented educational opportunities for students of all ages since its formation in 1951. Over the past six decades the ESO has continued to adapt its programs for the needs of surrounding schools and communities. The support received from corporate sponsors, teachers, students, parents and schools helps continue the growth of the ESO's educational offerings. For more information on the ESO's Education programs, call (847) 888-4000.

Tchaikovsky 4 at the Elgin Symphony Orchestra

An incredible evening of Russian masterworks features Van Cliburn Silver Medalist Joyce Yang performing Prokofiev's most popular piano concerto, along with Rimsky-Korsakov's *Russian Easter Overture*, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, three jewels of the timeless collection of Russian orchestral music.

Tickets to this event start at \$15 for all concerts. Performance times are Friday, January 29th at 1:30pm, Saturday, January 30th at 8:00pm and Sunday, January 31st at 3:30pm. All performances are at the Hemmens Theatre in downtown Elgin. A "Lunch with the Maestro" is offered prior to the Friday Matinee performance on January 29th at 11:30am in the Heritage Ballroom at the Centre of Elgin, located across the street from the Hemmens Theatre. "Lunch with the Maestro" tickets may be reserved until January 25, 2010 for

\$25 each.

For more information, call the ESO Box Office at (847) 888-4000 Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm, or visit www.ElginSymphony.org. To stay up-to-date on all ESO events, visit www.facebook.com/ElginSymphonyOrchestra. Groups of 10 or more qualify for discounted tickets - speak to a Box Office representative for more details.

Upcoming Concert Events

STAY TUNED with Five By Design

February 20 & 21, 2010 - Hemmens Theatre
Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Five by Design

Sit back and stay tuned for a night recalling when television ruled the airwaves and variety was king. Vocal quintet Five By Design's vibrant harmonies and comedic talents move seamlessly from songs to skits and back again. Classic commercials come to life promoting everything from bananas to toothpaste, while on another network family and friends are unexpectedly reunited. So pop open a TV dinner and don't touch that dial!

ROYAL FIREWORKS

March 5, 6 & 7, 2010 - Hemmens Theatre
Jeanette Sorrell, *conductor* | St. Charles Singers, chorus
Matthew Agnew and Nazar Dzhuryn, cellos

This season our yearly salute to the Baroque features not only the St. Charles Singers and Handel's Water Music, but the ESO's own cellists, Matt Agnew and Nazar Dzhuryn performing Vivaldi's concerto written for two celli.

Elgin Symphony Orchestra

Named "Orchestra of the Year" an unprecedented three times by the Illinois Council of Orchestras, the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Maestro Robert Hanson, performs over 60 concerts a year thrilling more than 50,000 patrons, from Metro Chicagoland to Wisconsin and Indiana. In addition, the Symphony's education initiatives reach approximately 20,000 children, teachers, families, and young musicians per year through a variety of participatory music programs. Each season the Elgin Symphony attracts rising stars and internationally known guest artists including: Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Sir James Galway, Pinchas Zukerman, Midori, Leonard Nimoy, Giancarlo Guererro, Rachel Lee, Jodi Benson, and Pascal Roge. In 2008, the Elgin Symphony Orchestra released its first international recording, an album featuring works of Aaron Copland, as part of the NAXOS label's American Classics collection. The ESO continues to broadcast its Classics performances on the fourth Friday of each month on 98.7FM WFMT, which provides the best and broadest selection of classical music and fine arts programming in the country.