

MostArts opening concert to feature 2014 pianist competition winner Miyashita

6/24/15



Mayuki Miyashita, Grand Prize winner in the 2014 Young Pianist Competition at Alfred University&s (AU) inaugural MostArts Festival, returns to the Miller Theater stage for the event&s 2015 opening concert, Sunday, July 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Miyashita, a ninth-grader from Maryville, TN, will perform with the MostArts Festival Orchestra a small, Mozart-sized ensemble - with Dr. Lisa Lantz, the guiding force behind the festival, conducting. A gala reception will follow the program (\$\$ see below).

The opening concert will mark the first in the weeklong series of musical and art events running through Saturday, July 11. Activities will include both daytime and evening programs open to the public. All daytime concerts and activities are free; the Evening Concert Series requires a ticket.

An "Applause Pass Patron" \$100 ticket will provide entry into all six evening concerts in Miller Theater; single evening tickets are \$20. Special rates for senior citizens are available at \$50 for six evenings, \$10 single ticket; student rates are \$25 for the week or \$5 for a single evening ticket. Special group and family discounts are also available. For information please visit MostArts@alfred.edu or call 607.871.2828.

The 2015 Young Pianist Competition will culminate with a \$10,000 first prize; \$2,500 for second place award; \$1,500 for third; two \$500 Audience Awards; and a \$500 Discretionary Prize. Eight competitors were selected earlier this summer.

"For this (opening) concert, I chose the 'Mendelssohn Piano Concerto& because it is so sparkling and light, and filled with happiness and joy," said Miyashita. "I want to share the happiness and excitement with the orchestra and the audience. I am looking forward to seeing Dr. Lantz again and all the orchestra members who will be performing this concerto with me!"

Miyashita also received the "Audience Favorite" Award at last summer&s MostArts Festival. She has won numerous national awards, including First Prize in the Midwest International Piano Competition in Iowa and Second Prize in the Kaufman Music Center International Youth Piano Competition, New York City.

At noon, Monday, July 6 “Sound Bites Sampler #1” the first in the chamber music series, will open in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall. These sessions will showcase chamber music with various groups of musicians who will speak about the works to be performed in an informal atmosphere as the audience enjoys lunch or dessert.

The evening concert will feature Concert Pianist Anthony Pattin.

“I am again proud and honored to be a part of this exciting and important music festival on its way to becoming among the most popular summer music venues for students and professionals alike,” said Pattin.

Pattin has performed concerts throughout the United States including for the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Concert Series, Chicago. He is a prize-winner in several national piano competitions, including first-prize in the Bartok-Kabalevsky International Piano Competition. Pattin lives in Birmingham, AL and is active as a pianist in solo, orchestral, and chamber music performances, as well as an adjudicator and music scholar. He has appeared as soloist with the Alabama Symphony, the Toledo Symphony, the Detroit Metropolitan Orchestra, and the Arkansas Symphony, two concert tours of Japan, and in recital throughout Europe and Central America. Pattin has recorded six compact discs on the APT label.

Tuesday’s itinerary will include “Sound Bites Sampler #2” in Holmes; a 6:30 p.m. carillon recital with guest artist Joey Brink; and the 7:30 p.m. concert with German Concert Pianist Andreas Klein and Yuval Zaliouk, conductor.

“This festival offers a full program of classical music for young and old, performed by young pianists between the ages of 13-18 in a competition setting, and by professional musicians in various chamber music ensembles and a full symphony,” noted Klein.

Klein’s career as an orchestra soloist and recitalist has taken him to the world’s most prestigious venues from London’s Wigmore Hall, Berlin’s Philharmonic Hall, New York’s Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall, to Washington, D.C.’s Kennedy Center. In Europe as well as in the United States, Mexico, and the Middle East, he has gained critical acclaim for his performances in major cities such as Berlin, Rome, Milan, Bern, Leipzig, Dresden, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Cleveland, Damascus, and Mexico City.

Wednesday’s program will again feature the noon “Sound Bites Sampler #3 as well as two free recitals by the Young Pianist Competition finalists at 2 and 4 p.m. in Miller Theater. At 7:30 p.m. there will be a new addition from last year a Big Band Dance “Music Under the Stars” by John Piazza JR. & “Little Big Band” from Syracuse, at the McLane Center; a cash bar and food will be included in the price of the evening’s ticket.

Thursday will offer “Sound Bites Sampler #4” along with the 7:30 p.m. evening program with the MostArts Orchestra conducted by Steve Thomas and featuring the piano competition finalists. There will be a “Meet and Greet the Artists” reception following the concert.

The Chamber Music Series continues Friday with “Sound Bites Sampler #5 at noon. From 1-2 p.m. “What’s Hot at the AU Hot Shop?” will feature a glassblowing demonstration with Angus Powers, associate professor of glass, in the Alfred Glass Studio “Hot Shop” Binns-Merrill Hall. The evening performance will once again feature piano competition finalists with the MostArts Festival Orchestra conducted by Thomas; a meet and greet artist reception will follow.

On Saturday, July 11, from noon-3 p.m. there will be a Roman Glass Furnace Workshop with Powers at 1306 State Route 244, a mile from campus, on the right. Also, at noon, Higby will present a Raku Extravaganza at the “Hair Pin Turn” above Miller Theater (weather permitting).

The final evening Gala Concert with the MostArts Festival Orchestra will feature Grammy Award winner Angelin

Chang, with Lantz and Zaliouk conducting. Award announcements and presentations will be made following the program. Festivities will conclude with a Grand Finale Gala Reception; there will be a \$10 donation taken at the door.