

Trio  Oriens

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# Oriens Music Competition 2026

*for talented young musicians to showcase excellence  
& broaden global horizons*

Violin & Chamber Music Divisions

*Final Round & Concert*

Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 10 AM

Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston

10303 Westoffice Dr, Houston, TX 77042



E&M Foundation

休士頓華僑文教服務中心

休士頓台灣松年學院

# OUR MISSION

Trio Oriens is thrilled to unveil the inaugural Oriens Violin Competition and the third year of the Chamber Music Competition. This unique opportunity is dedicated to young musicians aged 18 and under to immerse themselves in the rich tapestry of unique Asian influences, fostering a global perspective that transcends musical boundaries.

## FAINLISTS OF ORIENS VIOLIN COMPETITION 2026

(BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

### JUNIOR DIVISION

#### Evelyn Kao



Evelyn Kao began her musical journey at age 4 with piano and started learning violin with Dr. Shih-Ting Huang when she was 7. Her awards include First Place in the 2024 Charleston Baroque Music Competition and 2025 Virtuoso Competition, First Prize in Best Wieniawski Performance Competition in the Great Composer Competition series, First Prize in the New Heart Piano Competition in 3 consecutive years from 2022 to 2024 in the Intermediate Division, Honorable Mention in the junior division of the 2024 Concerto Competition of the Houston Youth Symphony (HYS), and Excellence Award of the Solo & Ensemble Contest. Currently a member of HYS Symphony Orchestra, Evelyn was the concertmaster in the Spring Concert of String Orchestra in 2024 and principal of Violin 2 in Philharmonia Orchestra in 2025. She also served as the concertmaster at the Texas Region 9 Middle School Symphony in 2025 and was continuously rated 1 in the Solo and Ensemble Contests.

**Shih-Hui Chen - Introduction: Sun, the Glowing Maiden from Four Pieces on Three Formosan Amis Legends**

**Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847) - Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64: I. Allegro molto appassionato**

# SENIOR DIVISION

## Madeline Lee



Madeline Lee is a sophomore at Bridgeland High School with a strong passion for music and performance. Over the years, she has consistently achieved superior ratings in Solo & Ensemble UIL and participated as a member of the Region 27 Symphony Orchestra. In addition to music-related activities, she enjoys reading.

**Shih-Hui Chen - Introduction: Sun, the Glowing Maiden from Four Pieces on Three Formosan Amis Legends  
Niccolò Paganini (1782–1840) - La Campanella, Op. 7 (arr. Fritz Kreisler)**

## Christopher Hu



Christopher Hu is currently an 11th grader at Cypress Woods High School. He started learning violin at age 11. He has earned many 1s in Solo and Ensemble contests. He plays piano as well and is an NFMC Gold Cup winner and an All-State winner. Outside of music, he enjoys reading, playing games, and hanging out with friends.

**Shih-Hui Chen - Introduction: Sun, the Glowing Maiden from Four Pieces on Three Formosan Amis Legends  
Fritz Kreisler (1875–1962) - Tambourin Chinois, Op. 3**

## Claira Yang



Claira Yang (16), a sophomore at Obra D. Tompkins High School, has been playing the violin for almost 13 years. She is a two-year qualifier for High School Region 13 Orchestra, a member of TMEA All-State Orchestra 2026, and has been a member of Houston Youth Symphony since 2021. Aside from practicing the violin, she enjoys drawing, crocheting, and reading a ton of books in her free time.

**Shih-Hui Chen - Introduction: Sun, the Glowing Maiden from Four Pieces on Three Formosan Amis Legends  
Erich Wolfgang Korngold (1897–1957) - Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35: I. Moderato nobile**

# FINALISTS OF ORIENS CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

(BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



## Cadence Quartet

Cadence Quartet was formed in 2025 at Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) and includes Patrick Guerrini (cello), Steven Harris (piano), Arna Green (violin), and Vanessa Solache (viola). Since their formation, they have performed at venues including the Houston Public Library and the University of Houston–Downtown’s State of the University Address. They have also appeared at the HSPVA Patricia Bonner Recital Hall, hoping to share their love of music through collaboration and performance.

**Thomas Oboe Lee (b. 1945) - Piano Quartet (2019): III. Adagio**

**Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924) - Piano Quartet No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 15, IV. Finale: Allegro molto**

## Cerulean Duo

Claira (16, violin) and Evangeline Yang (14, cello), two sisters who go to Obra D. Tompkins High School. They have been playing their assigned instruments since they were little, and now occasionally form a duo to perform together. They both like to play video games together and enjoy each other’s company in many shared activities. They have been members of the Houston Youth Symphony and the 2026 TMEA All-State Orchestra.



**Traditional Japanese Folk Song - Sakura (arr. Sherry Lewis)**

**Reinhold Glière (1875–1956) - 8 Pieces, Op. 39: II. Gavotte, III. Berceuse, IV.**

**Canzonetta**

## Morendo Trio

The Morendo Piano Trio is composed of three passionate high school students who strive to share their passion and love for music. Cellist Joanna Sun and pianist Erika Tang are freshmen at Seven Lakes High School, and violinist Madeline Lee is a sophomore attending Bridgeland High School. All three members have participated in a school orchestra and have a deep understanding of collaboration within an ensemble. Together, they hope to develop invaluable experiences and assets to further support them throughout their journey as musicians.



### **Pia Moon - Arirang Vivace for Trio**

**Franz Schubert (1797–1828) -Piano Trio in E-flat Major, D. 929: III. Scherzando**

## Versailles Quartet

Hello, we are the Versailles Quartet. We have four members: Jennifer Mai (first violin), Andrew Lin (second violin), Khoa Nguyen (viola), and Sophie Hong (cello). We are excited to present to you Ravel Quartet in F Major and Lan Hua-Hua. Jennifer Mai is a high school junior who adores Tchaikovsky, Hilary Hahn, and going on walks. Andrew Lin is a sophomore who enjoys playing the violin. His favorite composer is Shostakovich, and he enjoys listening to Bruno Mars. Khoa Nguyen is a junior in high school who plays viola during school, but enjoys going on hikes on trails around the Houston area. Sophie Hong is a high school junior who loves Dvorak, Jacqueline du Pre, and reading comics. We have been in the same orchestra at Tomball Memorial High School for more than a year. Together, we combine our own personal strengths to elevate our musical abilities and to perform to our best capabilities. It is a gift to be able to showcase something we've worked so hard and diligently on. We are excited to showcase our deep appreciation for music. We hope the audience can sense our passion and love for music.



**Zhou Long (b. 1953) - Lan Hua-Hua: I. Adagio**

**Maurice Ravel (1875–1937) - String Quartet in F Major: II. Assez vif – Très rythmé**

## OUR JUDGE PANEL



Violinist **Michael Fahey** has been performing, teaching and conducting in the Houston area since 1991. He has performed with the Theatre Under The Stars Orchestra, Houston Latin Philharmonic and many other orchestras and has conducted high school groups at Symphony Hall in Chicago as well Carnegie and Lincoln Center in New York. In 2012, Mr. Fahey was the recipient of the Houston Symphony educator of the year award. After 30 years of service, Fahey retired from public school teaching at Stratford High School in 2020. Mr Fahey is the founder and conductor of the ECHOrchestra, a community orchestra based in the Energy Corridor, which is now in its 11th season!

Mr. Fahey holds the Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Violin Performance from the State University of New York and the Master of Music Degree in Violin and Music Education from the University of Akron, Ohio. He has also done post graduate work at The Cleveland Institute of Music. He is a member of the Artist Faculty at the Paganini School of Music in Katy, TX and is in demand as a guest conductor, workshop clinician and violinist. He has recently been appointed as Symphonia conductor with the Houston Youth String Orchestra and clinician with the American Classics Music Festivals. He lives in the Energy Corridor with his wife Melanie and two rambunctious canines.



Violinist **Mann-Wen Lo** performs extensively throughout the world in some of the most prestigious venues as a soloist and chamber musician. Lo has been a recurring artist in performances at Carnegie Hall, Jordan Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and Walt Disney Hall, among others. Featured on radio and TV broadcasts in the United States, Taiwan, Japan, and France, Mann-Wen has gained recognition at numerous competitions and awards. Most recently, her recording with the Mana Music Quartet featuring music of Queen Lili'uokalani won Instrumental Album of the Year at the 2021 Na Hoku Hanohano Award.

Mann-Wen has been a featured recording artist under labels such as Warner Classics, Navona Records, and CMH Label Groups. She has collaborated with musicians from world-renowned string quartets, including the Juilliard String Quartet, the Cleveland Quartet, and the Takács Quartet. Her festival appearances include Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, Menuhin Festival Gstaad, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Saito Kinen Festival, Hawaii International Music Festival, Hawaii Chamber Music Festival, Alfredo de Saint Malo International Music Festival (Panama) and Rencontres Franco Américaines de Musique Chambre.

Mann-Wen has performed as a soloist with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, the Academy of Taiwan Strings, Tokyo Geidai Strings Ensemble, and American Contemporary Ballet in Los Angeles. She has served as guest concertmaster at the Pasadena Opera, American Contemporary Ballet, and Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, and as guest assistant concertmaster at the Dallas Chamber Symphony. As a core member and principal violinist, Mann-Wen performs regularly with Delirium Musicum, a boundary-pushing conductor-less chamber ensemble. She has been a featured recording artist under labels such as Warner Classics, Navona Records, and CMH Label Groups.

Mann-Wen exploration beyond the Western Classical genre has led to collaborations with Grammy award winning artists such as Jake Shimabukuro (ukulele), Bèla Fleck (banjo) and Kalani Pea (Singer). She is also a recording artist with the Vitamin String Quartet, known for its popular renditions of rock and pop music.

In addition to serving as Professor of Practice at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music, Mann-Wen is a recurring faculty at the Deutsch-Polnische Festival für junge Musiker in Bremen, the Montecito International Music Festival and Texas Music Festival. She has served as a jury member for the International Music Competition Opus 2022, Houston Virtuosi Concerto Competition 2023, World Wave Music Festival, and AAMA 10Th Young Musicians Festival Competition.



**Dr. Jane Perkyns** has performed extensively throughout Canada, the USA, and China appearing both as soloist, and collaborative artist. She has also been heard on both regional and national radio programs and has had the honor of premiering several works both in the solo and chamber music field. Of her playing, Charles Ward of the Houston Chronicle wrote: “In finely crafted playing, Perkyns reveals the music’s harmonic roots and gentle phrasing.” She is also in demand as a clinician and adjudicator for piano workshops and competitions. Her accomplishments have been recognized in several editions of **Who’s Who in American Education, Who’s Who of American Women, Who’s Who in America, and Who’s Who in the World.**

Her ongoing research in the teaching and performing areas has led to lectures and demonstrations at various musical conferences including the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, Texas Music Educators Conference, and the College Music Society regional conferences. Her article publications have also appeared in Texas Music Teacher.

Dr. Perkyns is a Professor of Music at Texas Southern University in Houston, TX where she has been a member of the faculty since 1991 teaching applied and group piano, music history, theory, piano pedagogy and assisting in opera workshop and performance seminar classes. She presently serves as the Interim Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences. She has been the recipient of two university awards: the McCleary Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2011 and the Faculty Excellence Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Advising in 2015.

Along with her accomplishments in the classical field, Dr. Perkyns has also been active in the area of musical theatre and composition, writing and producing children’s musical theatre and teaching musical theatre classes to children with disabilities. Her musical theatre works have been performed throughout Texas. Excerpts of the production “Love is a Disability” were performed at the 2000 George Bush Medal Awards Ceremony in the presence of the President Bush, Sr.

Dr. Perkyns received her graduate degrees from The Juilliard School (M.Mus.) and the University of British Columbia (DMA).



**For upcoming competitions and concerts, please visit  
[TrioOriens.org](http://TrioOriens.org)**