

Senior Recognition

EMILY CHAN began playing bassoon in seventh grade in order to accommodate to her mother's desire for her to be in an orchestra. Through her three years in ECYS' Senior Symphony and many more in other music groups, her love for her instrument has grown beyond the ties of filial obligation. In addition to bassoon, Emily is a pianist of thirteen years and a saxophonist of nine. She also plays bass for her band and enjoys running. She would like to thank her parents for unconditionally supporting her manifold expensive extracurricular pursuits through the years and her teacher Alice Benjamin for her patience and inspiration. Emily will be continuing to UC Berkeley.



ELIZABETH CHIN has been a member of ECYS for six years. She has been in the Senior Symphony for two years and attends Saratoga High School. At school, she is also a member of the marching band, symphonic wind ensemble, and symphonic symphony orchestra. She has been participating in the County Honor Band for three years and the All-State Honor Band for two years. Elizabeth has been studying clarinet for ten years under Charlotte McManus. Besides music, Elizabeth is also a member of the Key Club at school and she enjoys art, photography, cooking, eating, and sleeping. She is excited to be attending UCI next fall.

RACHEL CHO is a senior at Lynbrook High School, and has been a part of the ECYS Senior Symphony for five years. At school, Rachel is the president of SHFC, and is involved in the school orchestra and TFC. Along with the violin, she enjoys playing the kazoo and the melodica in her free time, and plans to further her vocal education with a major in voice and minor in Latin at Yale University this fall. She is grateful for all the support she has received from her family, friends, and former violin teacher, Davis Law. Rachel would also like to thank the ECYS family for taking her under its wing, and fostering a confident, ambitious, and musically aware woman.



JENNIFER HEE JAE CHOI is a senior at Monta Vista High School. She had been a member of ECYS Senior Symphony for four years. She began playing the cello in third grade and has enjoyed playing at competitions, concerts, and with orchestras ever since. She has enjoyed playing as an ECYS concerto competition soloist for three years. She thanks Dr. Kolchinsky, Mrs. Spieth and ECYS for the countless opportunities which allowed her to understand music and grow tremendously as a musician. Jennifer enjoys helping her community as well. She is currently the Head Volunteer Team Coordinator of Harmony of Hearts Ensemble, an organization which strives to teach and help disabled children understand and enjoy music. Next year, Jennifer plans to go to Evanston, Illinois and attend Northwestern University.

KATHERINE CHUANG is a senior from Monta Vista High School and has been playing bassoon in the ECYS Senior Symphony for the past two years. In addition to ECYS, Katherine plays in the Monta Vista Wind Ensemble and has been in the Santa Clara County Honor Band for four years and the California State Honor Band for two years. Katherine is co-president of the Biology Club and is a member of CSF, FBLA, and Comickers. Katherine is also a Girl Scout, and is currently the president of the Teens Take Over committee and member of the Community Advisory Board to serve the Girl Scouts of Northern California Council. She enjoys volunteering in hospitals assisting patients and in parks preserving the environment. Next year, Katherine will be majoring in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology as a Regents Scholar at UCLA and plans to continue playing bassoon. She would like to thank her family, mentors, and friends for all the guidance and support they have given her.



ALEXANDER FONG is a senior at Archbishop Mitty High School and has been playing in the senior symphony for two years. At school, he has performed in the AMHS Symphonic Band and has played in several school performances, most notably "Les Miserables." Besides studying the French horn, Alexander also participates in a wide array of extracurricular activities; Robotics and Boy Scouts to name two. Outside of school and these activities, he also enjoys cooking, hiking, and playing badminton. He will be attending UC Berkeley to pursue a career in physics, but hopes to continue studying and playing music. He wishes to thank his parents and his French horn teacher for their encouragement and guidance.

ANNE HALVORSEN, a senior at Homestead High School, began playing the cello when she was ten years old. She has been a member of ECYS for seven years, beginning in Chamber Players. At school, Anne is a member of several clubs, including the National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society. She is a National Merit Finalist and has received numerous academic awards at school, including a Harvard Book Award. Outside of school, Anne enjoys cooking, reading, and traveling. Next year, she will attend UC Berkeley where she plans to study civil engineering.



STEPHEN HAN is a senior at Gunn High School and became a member of the Senior Symphony this year. He has played piano, flute and started playing the double bass from 9th grade in school string orchestra. Stephen is Taekwondo black belt and enjoys playing basketball and racquetball. He plans to attend UC Berkeley to study mechanical engineering next year.



FLORENCE HSIAO, a senior at Palo Alto High School, has been a member of ECYS for four years. She began her orchestral career in Sinfonietta before moving up to Senior Symphony three years ago. She started taking clarinet lessons in eighth grade and currently studies with Debra Gardner. During the 07-08 season, she had the opportunity to solo with the Senior Symphony. Besides the clarinet, Florence is also an avid pianist and has received numerous awards. She is known for her dramatic movements and passionate style while performing on either instrument. In addition to classical music, Florence also enjoys film production, eating gourmet foods, and traveling. She hopes to continue playing music and pursue her interests in Biology at Princeton University next fall.

ALBERT HUANG began playing the trombone in elementary school and has enjoyed it ever since. He has played with ECYS since high school, and will be pursuing his music education at Southern Methodist University. He would like to thank Cathy, Dr. Kolchinsky and his fellow musicians for a great four years at ECYS.



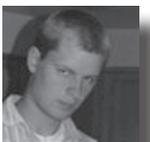
ALLEN HUANG is a Harker School senior and has been in ECYS for four years, with three years in the Senior Symphony. At school, he plays in the Harker School Orchestra and was the concertmaster this year. He started playing violin at age six and is currently studying under Dr. Kolchinsky. Outside of academic and musical studies, Allen enjoys playing badminton and running cross country, as well as hanging out with friends. After graduation, Allen will major in computer engineering and science at UCI with a full scholarship while continuing his musical studies. Finally, Allen would like to thank Dr. Kolchinsky, who has taught him many valuable lessons as well as giving him a lifelong love of classical music.

THOMAS IVY is a senior graduating from Menlo-Atherton High School. He joined ECYS Chamber Players in sixth grade, and played in Camerata and Wind Orchestra before joining the Senior Symphony in 2007. Thomas has studied classical clarinet with Debra Gardner for seven years. He also doubles on saxophone with his high school advanced jazz band. Music has been an important part of his life, and he has won several awards and certificates for musical performance. Thomas's other interests include math and robotics, and he has participated in FIRST Robotics all four years of high school. He hopes to major in mechanical engineering and will be attending UC Davis in the fall as a Regents Scholar.



MELANIE JEE is a senior at Mission San Jose High School. Prior to joining the ECYS Senior Symphony in 2007, she was a member of the Philharmonic Orchestra at San Jose Youth Symphony. She is also a member of the Symphony Orchestra at the Youth Orchestra of Southern Alameda County. In addition to music, Melanie enjoys her Washington Hospital volunteer position as a patient companion and likes to read and hang out with her friends. After graduation, Melanie plans to attend the University of the Pacific as a pre-pharmacy major and continue on to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She also plans to continue to play her oboe at UOP's Conservatory of Music and is considering a minor in music.

KRISTINA KAN, a senior at Lynbrook High School, picked up the horn four years ago and has enjoyed playing ever since. In addition to playing the horn, she's also active in CSF and FBLA. Kristina would like to learn how to play the guitar and possibly the drums, so she should probably start practicing on Guitar Hero and Rock Band. During her free time, she loves to watch dramas, listen to music, and is currently addicted to tetris. Next year, she'll be attending UC Berkeley.



MAXIMILIAN KIETURAKIS began playing viola in the fourth grade. Since joining ECYS, he has studied under Leonid Kantorovich. In addition to music, Max has a huge interest in soccer - a sport he has been playing for fourteen years, competing at the Nor-Cal Premier Level. In the future, Max plans to continue viola in Poland, possibly with a local symphony. He also plans to study Medicine at the Medical University of Gdansk as a part of their six-year MD program.

SELENA KUO is a senior at Lynbrook High School and has been playing oboe for seven years. She started playing in ECYS five years ago and was a part of the Senior Symphony for three years. Aside from music, Selena also participates in other activities in school such as water polo, swimming, CHEF club, LINK crew, and much more. Next year Selena will attend UCSD and major in Biology. Selena thanks her family and friends for always being there for her and will never forget them! Love you all





KEVIN LEE has been with ECYS for 2 years. His activities at Aragon High School include varsity tennis, wind ensemble, and Asian Club. He has also served as a volunteer at the Mills Peninsula Hospital and was a service commissioner for his school. He is a National Merit Commended Scholar and AP Scholar with Distinction. He is also the recipient of the Bank of America Achievement Award in Math, as well as a winner of the Burlingame Music Club and Elks Club competitions. He plans to major in life science at UCLA .

JACQUELINE LIU is a Lynbrook viking and has been in the senior symphony for five years. She attributes her fondest memories to ECYS and hopes to have a great time on tour in a few weeks. At school, she is a part of the chamber orchestra, a member of CSF, and TFC. As VP of SHFC, she inspires others to give their time up to do some community service here and there and to be the best that they can be. In her free time, Jackie does lots of volunteering and other fun stuff. Next year, she will be passing time with the hobos at People's Park. Go CAL Bears!



MICHAEL SHEN is a seventeen-year-old senior at Mountain View High School. He began playing violin from the age of six with Mr. Ker Qi, and has been playing the viola for the last two years. He started out in Sinfonieta in 2003 and has been in Senior Symphony since 2005. In 2007, Michael traveled with the MVHS orchestra to Skywalker Ranch for a recording session. Additionally, they received the highest rating of "Superior" at the CMEA Orchestra Festival. Michael is also co-President of a Dragonboat team that consists of Mountain View High and Milpitas High students. In 2008, they raced at Long Beach, LA, snatching gold in the Highschool B Division and 4th place in the Mixed A Division. Michael is also on the MVHS badminton team, where he plays Mixed Varsity. In the summer of 2008, Michael attended the summer program at SEMI High Tech U hosted by LAM Research Inc. where he received the Special Recognition Award and the prestigious Shigeo Takayama Leadership Scholarship Award. He is currently a student of Camilla Kolchinsky and co-principal of the ECYS Symphony viola section. Additionally, he was a Concerto Competition Winner and soloist in the 2008-2009 season. Starting Fall 2009, Michael will be attending UC Berkeley.

ROSETTE SU is a senior at Monta Vista High School and has been a member of ECYS for four years, three of them in Senior Symphony. At school, she plays with the Monta Vista Wind Ensemble and in various state and county honor bands. She has also been a member of the ECYS Woodwind Quartet this past year. She would like to thank Dr. Kolchinsky, Debra Gardner, and her oboe teacher for a great musical experience. She plans to attend Berkeley in the fall.



REBECCA WANG has been playing violin in ECYS since fifth grade. She began in Chamber Players and worked her way up to Symphony, which she has been a member of for the last three years. In addition to violin, she also sings in her school's honor choir and has been teaching herself how to play acoustic guitar. A senior at Castilleja School, Rebecca is an active participant in theater, a member of the varsity tennis team, and a section editor of the school newspaper. Some of her other obsessions include frozen yogurt, Guitar Hero, superhero movies and Disneyland. Next fall, Rebecca will attend UCLA, where she wants to study either biology or neuroscience. She hopes to continue her musical studies throughout college and beyond.

MICHAEL WANG is a senior at Monta Vista High School and this is his fourth season as a piano accompanist for the senior symphony and occasionally for Sinfonieta. He is also an accompanist for Monta Vista's Chamber Orchestra. Michael studies with Lena Grozman and has been playing classical piano for 12 years. In addition to piano, Michael has been beatboxing for 2 years and is the president of Monta Vista's Beatbox Club. Outside of music, Michael plays badminton and basketball. He participates in numerous Chinese speech and essay contests. In his free time, he enjoys reading, writing, and solving puzzles. Music has always been and will always be a part of Michael's life. He plans to attend the University of Chicago after graduation and major in biology.



MAX WU is a senior at Mission San Jose High School. He has studied flute with teacher Lu Chang for seven years. Max participated in the CYS for three years before moving to ECYS in 2005, making this year his third with the ECYS Senior Orchestra. He also plays piano and tenor saxophone in addition to flute. Aside from music, Max has been active in MSJ's Science Bowl and Science Olympiad teams. In his free time he enjoys playing video games, sleeping, and dreaming about playing video games. He will be studying biological engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology starting this fall.

AMY YU, a senior at Gunn High School, has studied viola under the guidance of Anna Sokhor for eight years. Amy joined ECYS six years ago and spent the past three years in the Senior Symphony. In addition to viola, she played the piano for twelve years. Amy is also a member of the Gunn German Honor Society and an editor on her school's newspaper. Apart from music, she paints as a hobby and has won several art awards. In her spare time, Amy enjoys volunteering at the Palo Alto Art Center, playing Rock Band, watching House and looking for new music. In the fall, Amy will attend UC Berkeley where she plans to pursue a (tentative) double major in biology and art history.

