

SUNDAY
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Piano and violin prodigies to face off in annual N.J. competition

3 Central Jersey kids in concert for performers 10 and younger

Staff Report

NEW BRUNSWICK — Aspiring pianists and violinists up to the age of 10 will be featured in the Le Petit Orchestre Concerto competition and performance, being conducted at 6 p.m. April 14 at Kirkpatrick Chapel, 85 Somerset St.

This program, which gives the young artists the opportunity to perform concerto repertoire with an orchestra, will feature several young musicians, including three from Central Jersey.

Alexandra Xu, a 9-year-old pianist from Scotch Plains, began studying the piano at Mila's Debut School of Music, where she won the Student of the Year award in 2010. Since 2011, Alexandra has been studying piano with Lana Ivanov. She was the first-place winner at the Russian Music Festival in 2011 and the second-place winner in 2012. Alexandra was also a winner of the 2012 Young Pianist Competition of New Jersey's Ensemble and the young Artist and Divisions. She received the High Honors Award from the New Jersey's Music Teacher Association in 2012. She has performed at Raritan Valley



8-year-old Sarah Ouyang of the Basking Ridge section of Bernards will be performing at the Le Petit Orchestre in New Brunswick on April 14.

PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUNG PIANIST COMPETITION OF NEW JERSEY



9-year-old Alexandra Xu of Scotch Plains will be performing at the Le Petit Orchestre.

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Community College, Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall and Steinway Hall in New York City.

Sarah Ouyang, an 8-year-old pianist from the Basking Ridge section of Bernards, has studied piano for three years. Currently, she is studying with Yelena Ivanov. She participated in numerous competitions and has been a winner at the Talented young Musician Association's Russian Music Festival Competition (2009, 2011, 2012), the MAMTG Spring Festival in 2011, Little Mozart's Music Competition where she was a first-place winner in 2011, the Cecilian Music Club's Young Artist Competition where she was also a first-place winner in 2011. Sarah performed at the 2012 New Jersey Music Teacher's Association Spring Piano Festival and has appeared at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall in 2011.

James You, a 9-year-old pianist from Basking Ridge, showed a strong interest in music at an early age and has been a winner in numerous piano competitions. He has performed at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, Kirkpatrick Chapel at Rutgers University, Gill Chapel at Rider's University and in concerts at the Bedminster School. His competition accomplishments include: winner of Russian Music Festival Competi-



9-year-old James You of the Basking Ridge section of Bernards will be performing at the Le Petit Orchestre. PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUNG PIANIST COMPETITION OF NEW JERSEY

tion in 2012, winner of the 2012 Young Pianist Competition of New Jersey, winner of the Le Petit Orchestre Competition in 2012, winner of the New Jersey Music Educator Association Honors Recital Competition in 2011. He also received honorable mention in the 2011 MEA annual piano competition. James has been studying the piano for four years and has been a student of Yelena Ivanov since 2011.

Tickets for the event are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. For more information on the Young Pianist Competition, visit www.youngpianist.org.