

## **Young Chamber Musicians**

### **Susan Bates, Founder & Director**

Founded in 2008, Young Chamber Musicians is an award-winning program offering advanced chamber music instruction and exciting performance opportunities to string players and pianists ages 14-19. YCM immerses its students in the chamber music repertoire to develop technical skill, musical imagination, and the art of working with others. Through its collaboration with Music at Kohl Mansion and Mercy High School, Burlingame, YCM fosters *learning through listening and performing*.

YCM holds Gold Medals for winning ensembles in the Galante Prize competition (2014-2019), PCM Chamber Music Competition (2019) and the 2019 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition (Junior Division). YCM faculty includes violinists Eric Chin (Telegraph Quartet), Jory Fankuchen (Chamber Society of SF), Debra Fong (Stanford University), Lisa Lee (The Lee Trio), Viola, Susan Bates, Cello Eric Gaenslen (Bella Trio), Andrew Luchansky (Sun Quartet), and Piano Jeffrey LaDeur (SF International Piano Festival), and Musicologist Kai Christiansen ([www.earsense.org](http://www.earsense.org)).

([www.youngchambermusicians.org](http://www.youngchambermusicians.org))

## **Arcturus Trio**

**Pianist Kevin Yang**, 16, is a junior at Aragon High School. He began studying piano at age 5 and has studied with Professor Sharon Mann for the past 3 years. Kevin was a finalist in the 2017 CYS Concerto Competition, and tied for 2nd place in the Pacific Musical Society Competition in 2018. This past summer, he attended the Aspen Music Festival & School, where he studied with professors Yoheved Kaplinsky and Julian Martin. Kevin is also an avid chamber musician, having participated in programs such as the Crowden Chamber Workshop and the Chamber Music Program at Aspen. He has played in master classes for distinguished artists such as Bonnie Hampton, Jon Nakamatsu, and Donald and Vivian Weilerstein. His YCM Trio Cantare won Third Prize in the Galante Prize Competition in 2018. This is Kevin's third season with Young Chamber Musicians.

**Violinist Ajay Mallya**, 16, is a junior at Bellarmine College Preparatory, and studies violin with Zhao Wei, having studied previously with Robin Sharp and Patricia Burnham. Ajay has won prizes from the Pacific Music Society, KAMSA, USOMC, Enkor, MTAC, VOCE, American Protégé and the Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto competition, performing with the orchestra. Ajay attended the Meadowmount School of Music in 2018, studying violin with Sally Thomas and chamber music with Kikuei Ikeda. In 2017, Ajay performed in Weill Recital Hall; chosen as the best individual performer at the CMEA State Festival; performed at the National Center for Performing Arts at the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation, India; and, attended the Aaron Rosand Intensive Music program at Summit Music Festival. This summer, he participated in the United States National Youth Orchestra and attended Meadowmount. This is his second season with Young Chamber Musicians.

**Cellist Catherine Choi**, 16, is currently a junior at Monta Vista High School studying with Jonathan Koh. She is an avid chamber musician and was previously the cellist in the Fantasma Piano Trio, winning the U.S. Open Music Competition. As a soloist, Catherine won awards from the Junior Bach Festival, U.S. Open Music, U. S. International, Music Teachers' Association of California, VOCE Competition, Korea Times Youth Music, and KAMSA Competitions. Catherine was a finalist of the 2018 Mondavi Center National Young Artists Competition. She has participated in the Montecito International Music Festival, Meadowmount School of Music, Center Stage Strings at University of Michigan and Aspen Music Festival & School. She attended Music@Menlo Young Performers' Program this summer. This is her second season with YCM.