



Who's Who

2024 Pierrot Chamber Music Festival 43rd Summer Season

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Jason Applebaum, 23, piano, is a recent graduate from Hofstra University with a degree in Piano Performance. He has been an avid classical music enthusiast since he was in the crib, a fact that was discovered when he was singing symphonies through his baby monitor. In addition to his love for music, he also has an interest in animation, film, and audio production. Jason has performed at numerous venues including Steinway Hall, Special Music School, Lucy Moses School, and Turtle Bay Music School, and he was selected to perform music by Philip Glass at Make Music New York with an appearance by the composer. As the winner of the Special Music School High School concerto competition, he performed the Grieg Piano Concerto with the Contemporaneous orchestra, under the direction of David Bloom, and the following year performed it with the Big Apple Music Festival Orchestra under the direction of Kyle Ritenauer. He has participated in Oberlin's Cooper Piano Festival, and in the summer of 2022 and 2023 he participated and performed multiple chamber works at the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival at Adelphi University.

David Barad, 18, Tenor voice, is a sophomore at Adelphi University. David is incredibly grateful to have received the Marina Marquez Boquiren award to participate in the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival - 43rd summer season while pursuing his major in Music with a concentration in Vocal Performance at Adelphi University. He's a versatile singer with a flare for musical theater and singing in various capacities. David is a tenor who participated in the following programs at Sanford H. Calhoun High School: Concert Choir, Pulse, On Tour Drama Company, Rock Band, NYSSMA participant 2017 - 2023, All County Vocal Jazz and Mixed Chorus participant-2023 as well as a Metropolitan Youth Orchestra (MYO)/Nassau Lower Voices member-2023. Additionally, he's a proud member of the National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, International Thespian Drama Honor Society, and overall choral excellence winner of his high school class. David also won the Bellmore/Merrick Cultural Arts Foundation Award for Vocal Music and the NMEA (Nassau Music Educators Association scholarship). In addition, David received a scholarship to attend Adelphi University and is currently on the Dean's list.

Brady Bedell, 15, bassoon. Brady Bedell will be a junior at John F. Kennedy High School in the Plainview Old Bethpage school district. Brady has been a member of MYO for 5 years, and recently won their Concerto Competition. He has been selected to the All-County Music Festival, both as an orchestral bassoonist and a jazz guitarist. Brady performed in the NYSSMA Solo Festival for seven years on both instruments. For the past three summers, Brady has attended the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival, in which he won the NMEA Award as well as the 2024 Festival Award. Brady will be participating at the Juilliard Pre-College Program in the fall. He also received his high school's Excellence Award in Music three times and is a proud member of the North Shore Symphony Orchestra.

Ellen Bennett, 16, flute and piccolo, junior at Sacred Heart Academy. Ellen has been a member of All County 2022 and 2023 and Long Island Flute Club - Honors Flute Choir 2022 and 2023. Additionally, she is active in the Sacred Heart Academy Band, Chamber Ensemble and Pit Band. Ellen has received an NMEA Scholarship for the Festival in both 2023 and 2024, and earned Scores of 98, 99, 100 on Level 6 NYSSMA on flute, piccolo and voice. She also attended All State on flute.

Angelique Brewington, 18, French horn, sophomore at Oberlin Conservatory, received the Oberlin Conservatory scholarship, performed with several ensembles, and has participated in many programs including Juilliard Prep Division for 5 years when in HS. Angelique was a student of Jeff Scott and is a Fellowship participant at this year's Pierrot Chamber Music Festival.

Josslynn Cai, 12, violin, is in 7th grade at Manhasset Secondary School. She is the COS Sinfonia Orchestra Concertmaster and a part of the COS High Orchestral Honor Roll. Josslynn has received a COS Scholarship and scored 99 on Level 5 NYSSMA. She is also a participant of All County and LISFA.

Katelynn Cai, 14, viola, 9th grade at Manhasset Secondary School, is a member of the Junior String Ensemble for the Children's Orchestra Society and has been on the honor roll for two years. She received a score of 97 on NYSSMA level 6 this year. Katelynn has also participated in LISFA before and has received the NMEA Scholarship.

Emily Chang, 17, horn, is currently studying with Tim McCarthy at the prep division of the Mannes School of Music. Emily is a member of the Northwinds Symphonic Band of Long Island. She has also played in the Rockaway-Five Towns Symphony, the Long Island Festival Orchestra, and the Long Island University Orchestra. She attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute's wind quintet workshop in the summer of 2024. Emily also studies piano and composition. Her original work for flute quartet, "Quicksilver," was performed by the Emissary Quartet in April 2024. Her horn quartet "Luminary" won NYSSMA's 2021 Calls for Creators event and premiered at the NYSSMA 2021 Winter Conference.

Michelle Chang, 14, viola, is in 9th grade at Syosset High School. She was a member of both All County and LISFA for the 2023-2024 season and also participated in the Lincoln Center Young Ensembles Program. Michelle recently completed a NYSSMA Level 6 assessment and received a full score.

Theodore Chang is an eighth-grade flutist (and composer). He is currently the youngest member of the Northwinds Symphonic Band of Long Island. One of his original compositions, "Droplets" composed for solo piano, was selected for the NYSSMA Composition Competition in 2021 and performed at the Oyster Bay Music Festival in the same year. He received a score of 100 for level 6 flute NYSSMA and level 5 piano in 2024.

Julia Chu, 17, violin, 12th grade at Lindenhurst High School, has attended Pierrot since 9th grade (and loved it)! She is a soloist and concertmaster for the Lindenhurst Symphony Orchestra, which received Gold with Distinction at NYSSMA majors, as well as the Lindenhurst chamber orchestra. Julia is also the assistant principal cellist for the Lindenhurst String Orchestra and president of the Tri-M music honor society for the 2024 - 2025 school year. She has attended All-County 6 times (including the 2023 NYSCAME Festival), attended LISFA 3 times, and is a member of the MYO Suffolk Principal Orchestra. Julia also received a perfect score on NYSSMA for violin (level 6 All-State), cello, classical guitar, and has attended NYSSMA for piano and voice in the past. She applied for composition NYSSMA both this year and last year and arranged a pop song for the Lindenhurst Orchestra's pops concert. Julia plans to apply to college with a major in music in the upcoming school year.

Benjamin Ding, 13, violin, is entering the eighth grade at Jericho Middle School. He is a member of MYO and participated in All County and LISFA last year.

Michael Donatelli, 18, viola, college freshman. Having graduated from Chaminade High School this spring, he will be attending University of Dayton in the fall as a music education major with his primary instrument being viola. Michael also plays the bagpipes, piano and organ. He previously attended the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival in 2022 and 2023 and is thrilled to be back this year in 2024. In his spare time Michael likes to watch old movies, read classic books, play retro video games and is a black belt in Jujitsu.

Riley Fergus, 16, Viola, 11th grade at Half Hollow Hills High School West, is a Cross Campus Chamber Orchestra soloist, Tri-M Coffee House performer, has a score of 100 on NYSSMA All-State Level VI solo, and is the principal violist at SCMEA 2024.

Esther Fisk, age 15, is a rising sophomore at Great Neck South High School. She studies viola with Ms. Alejandra Mahave. She plays in the Great Neck South High String Orchestra. She participated in the Pierrot Chamber Festival in 2022 and 2023, and received the NMEA scholarship to attend the festival this year. She has participated in NYSSMA since 2018.

Lily Fisk, age 13, studies French Horn with Mr. David Stevens. She is a rising 8th grader at Great Neck South Middle School. She attended the Pierrot Chamber Festival last year and received the NMEA scholarship to attend Pierrot this year. Last year she played in the MYO Nassau Concert Orchestra and performed at Carnegie Hall. She participated in All County 2024.

Maya Funatomi, 13, violin, grade 9 at Syosset High School, received a 100 on her NYSSMA level 6 solo. She also participated in All County and LISFA during the 2024 season, participated in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center ensembles concert of 2024, and was a member of her school's chamber orchestra.

Matthew Gallo, 14, piano and cello, 9th grade at Half Hollow Hills High School West, received a score of 100 on level 6 NYSSMA for both piano and cello, was awarded the Tri-M Master Musician award, participated in All County orchestras and was the second chair cellist for this year's LISFA All-county festival orchestra.

Lewis Gao, 11, Cello, 7th grade at Jericho Middle School, is currently a member of the Symphony Orchestra from Gemini Youth Orchestra and won first place in the 2024 concerto competition. He also won second place (Cello Ages 10-12) in the International Grand Music Competition in 2024.

William Goodwin, 14, double bass, is in 9th grade at Chaminade High School. He participated in All-County on the double bass in 2023 and 2024 and Long Island Strings Festival 2024; additionally, he received a score of 96 for NYSSMA Level 5. William began piano lessons at the age of 7 and still enjoys playing it. He also plays the electric bass and recently began playing the cello with the goal of completing NYSSMA Level 5. William also enjoys singing and has been doing so with the Choir of Men and Boys at St. Agnes Cathedral since he was eight years old. He spent a year working with the Children's Orchestral Society and National Children's Chorus, and the last 3 summers at Usdan Performing Arts Summer Program. He loves all things music, school, and ice hockey (where he is a goalie). He is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and just graduated from Oceanside Middle School where he worked with Megan Zarchy from 3rd grade onwards; because of her encouragement, William was able to pick up the cello. He is looking forward to beginning high school in September and joining the Chaminade Orchestra.

Samuel Greene, 16, viola, 12th grade at Sewanhaka High School, is a member of LISFA, Gemini Youth Orchestra, and the National Tri-M Honor Society.

Annie Gruman, 18, clarinet, sophomore at the University of Maryland. Annie Gruman just completed her freshman year studying clarinet performance and management at the University of Maryland studying clarinet with Robert Dilutis. In high school, she has played clarinet and bass clarinet in the Tampa Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, the Patel Conservatory Tampa repertory and pit orchestra, and the Bay Area Winds symphonic band. She has been selected to play throughout her high school career at the annual Festival of Winds hosted at the University of South Florida, as well as the World Youth Wind Symphony at the Interlochen Center for the Arts. This past year, she has played in the University of Maryland Wind Ensemble. Along with the clarinet, Annie has also received her National Guild diploma this past year for piano. Currently on the piano, she enjoys accompanying and playing chamber music. Annie is attending the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival for the first time and is attending as a Fellowship participant.

Jayden Guo, 10, oboe, 6th grade in Shelter Rock Elementary School, achieved NYSSMA oboe level 6 100, English Horn level 6 100, and bass clarinet level 4 perfect score. Jayden also joined All-County last winter, and he will join the Interlochen oboe summer program this summer, and MYO in September. Jayden was accepted by the Manhattan School of Music pre-college program for oboe major this past June and will begin his studies there in the fall of 2024.

Ava Hsiao, 13, bassoon, 9th grade at Herricks High School, is currently in Metropolitan Youth Orchestra. She also plays piano and baritone saxophone.

Amelia Hsieh, 14, oboe and flute, 9th grade at Herricks High School, is a part of the Tzi Chu Orchestra. She has also participated in All County for two years and is a member of Tri-M National Honor Society and Herrick's Wind Ensemble and Pit Orchestra.

Daniel Hsu, 16, viola and violin, 11th grade at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art & Performing Arts. Daniel participated as a violinist in the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival in 2019 and was awarded the 2022 Rex Chao Memorial Scholarship at the Waldorf School of Garden City. Daniel served as Principal Violist of the LaGuardia HS Concert Orchestra, is a member of the New York Youth Symphony's Crescendo Orchestra and received a perfect score of 100 in his NYSSMA All-State Viola audition. Daniel is a former violin student of Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck and currently studies viola with Kevin Shue. He also is a piano student of Dr. Karen Beluso. In the fall he will study viola with Dr. Liuh-Wen Ting as a student at the Mannes School of Music Preparatory Division.

Anne Kelly, 14, cello, will be entering 9th grade at North Shore High School. Anne received a score of 100 on NYSSMA Level 5 in 7th grade and a 98 on Level 6 this past year, she also participated in the Long Island String Festival (LISFA) this year and received the Director's Award for Orchestra at her school.

Nichole Ki, 11, violin, is an incoming seventh grade student studying at Jericho Middle School. She began to explore her musical world at age 4; received piano Merit from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Level 5; NYSSMA level 5 received outstanding; Merit in ABRSM Music Theory Level 5; Violin NYSSMA Level 6 received Outstanding; Violin ABRSM level 5 Merit; Flute NYSSMA level 5 outstanding; Vocal Solo NYSSMA level 3 outstanding, participates NYSSAM Ensemble George A Jackson Elementary School Chorus Concert Performance received Gold; she had received Jericho District Music Award. She is an active member in Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York (MYO) Nassau String Orchestra Violin (performed in Carnegie Hall, Adelphi University); performed in All-County Music Festival in 2023, performed in Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA) in 2023; she participated in Jericho Middle School Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Chorus, she also performed in All-County Music Festival in 2024. She participated in the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival of 2023 and received a NMEA Scholarship to participate this year.

Ryan Kim, 16, Viola, 11th grade at Half Hollow Hills High School West, has scored 100 on All State. Additionally, he has been a member of LISFA and SCMEA from sixth grade to the present day.

Sharon Kim, 17, bassoon, will be entering the 12th grade at The Bronx High School of Science. Sharon is also a member of the Juilliard Pre-College Orchestra and NYSSMA All-State Band.

Stephen Kim, 19, flute, sophomore at Ithaca College. Stephen is described as "one of the flute players of all time". A student of Dr. Wendy Mehne, he is a recipient of the John Phillips Sousa Band Award as well as a Fellowship Award in the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival.

Annabelle King, 19, clarinet, sophomore at Furman University. She has received a Presidential Music Scholarship; Annabelle is also the principal clarinetist in Furman Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra and studies under Dr. Anastasia Christofakis. She is a recipient of a Fellowship at the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival.

Isabella Law, 15, piano and violin, 10th grade at Kellenberg Memorial High School. Isabella has received the NMEA Music Educators Scholarship, a score of 99 on Violin NYSSMA Level 5, and a score of 99 on Piano NYSSMA Level 6. During the year, she is a member of the Children's Orchestra Society as a violinist, where she has served as concertmistress. She won the Golden Key Music Festival Gold Level for Piano Performance in 2021, Cambridge International Music Competition Gold Award for Romantic Style- Under 17 in 2022 and completed level 8 for piano performance with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. She performed at Carnegie Hall on Friday July 7th, 2023 as concertmistress for COS in a world premiere with the International Children's Choir and participated in the Island Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition in January 2024. Isabella is currently under the tutelage of both Ms. Elena Belli (piano) and Mr. Christopher Nam (violin).

Timothy Lee, 18, was the principal cellist of the Long Island Youth Orchestra in 2022-24. In LIYO, he was one of the three concerto competition winners and performed Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations. Timothy participated in the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival in 2019 and 2023 and has won several Outstanding Ensemble Awards. In High School, he was the co-president of the Tri-M Music Honor Society, the principal cellist of the symphonic orchestra, played timpani, percussion, and tuba in the symphonic band, sang in the mixed choir, and was acknowledged with numerous music honors upon graduating. He has attended All-County and LISFA for several years and was selected as an alternate for All-State. Additionally, he has performed with NSSO and worked at ACO. Timothy will be attending Penn State University this fall.

Vivian Leung, viola, 11th grade at Paul D. Schreiber HS. This is her 4th year at the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival. She is the Associate Principal Violist of the Long Island Youth Orchestra; additionally, Vivian participated in the Young Symphonic Ensemble at the Children's Orchestra Society, All County in 2019, 2020, and 2024, and the Long Island String Festival in 2020, 2023, and 2024. She has received the NMEA Award, as well as a score of 100 on her NYSSMA All State Audition. Vivian is a member of Tri-M National Honor Society and tutors on the Do Re Mi Project. She also plays violin, erhu, and piano. At last year's Pierrot Chamber Music Festival, Vivian was awarded the Lillian Fuchs Memorial Award.

Javan Lin, 11, French Horn, is entering seventh grade at Herricks Middle School. He has received a score of 100 on NYSSMA and has participated in All-County from the years 2023-2024.

Aithan Liu, 12, piano and violin, is entering eighth grade. Aithan started learning piano at age 5 and violin at age 7 after his mom discovered that he had a knack for naming pitches and playing tunes he would hear on the whim. He became concert master at his school's orchestra by 5th grade, won a scholarship from NMEA the same year, participated in All County while at public school and LISFA Festivals the last two years. Aithan received perfect NYSSMA scores the past few years from Level IV to Level VI. He participated in The Artist's Program Chamber Festival the last three years and performs with The Artist Program String Quartet of Suzuki on the Island. Aithan started composing short musical pieces at a young age, winning the 2023 PTA Reflections Contest for musical composition. Aithan has also won a number of music competitions for violin and piano in the 2024 Baroque Music Competition and World Music Competition hosted by the Charleston International Music Competition. Aithan is an active member of the Long Island Youth Orchestra (LIYO) and just returned from touring the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary, performing at the Prague Conservatory and the Andrassy Universitat Budapest.

Akira Lo, 14, cello, ninth grade Mount Sinai High School, received a score of 100 on Nyssma Level 6.

Esther Loring, 19, oboe and English horn, Junior at Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. Esther is an alumna of the Long Island Youth Orchestra, winner of the 2022 Long Island Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition, and recipient of the 2022 Friends of Oheka Otto Khan Award. She is a Fellowship participant this year at the Pierrot Festival.

Tamar Mataraso, 15, oboe, and a sophomore at Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School, has been in multiple musical groups: the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, Gemini Youth Orchestra, and the Long Island Youth Orchestra. Tamar has demonstrated her musicianship at the NYSSMA Festival, receiving perfect scores on level 6 oboe and English horn performances. Furthermore, she has been Principal Oboe and first oboe of the NYSSMA All County Band twice. Tamar has received multiple awards, including the Plainview Director's Award for Band and the music department's Excellence in Music Award.

Lauren McBride, 11, piano, grade seven at Holy Child Academy. Currently, Lauren is in the special chorus at Holy Child Academy and has received perfect scores in NYSSMA for voice and piano over the past three years. She is also part of a select dance troupe on Long Island and enjoys everything musical.

Annabel Miranda, 14, cello, 10th grade at Hicksville High School, received a 100 on NYSSMA this year. She performed Borodin String Quartet No.2 with a quartet at her high school and is currently working on Dvorak's American String Quartet with a group from her high school. Annabel was in the MYO String Orchestra from 2021-2023.

Taehoon Shin, 13, violin, is entering ninth grade at Roslyn High School. He is a participant in MYO and has previously been in All County and LISFA.

Madeline Shingleton, 17, plays the cello and will be attending Colgate University this fall. She graduated third in her class, and was the president of the Amityville Tri-M chapter, and the president of the Amityville Chamber Orchestra. She was the principal cellist of the Gemini Youth Orchestra for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 season. She has attended the LISFA and SCMEA/NYSCAME festivals several times.

DeAndre Simmons, 16, violin, grade 12 at Huntington High School. He is in the Gemini Youth Orchestra, was in LISFA, and received a 98 and level VI All-State.

Ashley Simons, 13, cello and alto saxophone, is in 9th grade in Herricks High School. She is a member in the Elite String Ensemble and the Young Symphonic Ensemble for cello and part of the majors program in Children's Orchestra Society. Additionally, Ashley was awarded 2nd Alto Sax in 2023 and 1st Alto Sax in 2024 for All-County Jazz.

Audrey Simons, 12, violin, 7th grade at Herricks Middle School, was awarded the Nassau Music Educators Association scholarship in 2023 and a LISFA scholarship in 2023. She also qualified for first trombone in All-County Jazz Band in 2024.

Marisa Stoneking, 12, violin, seventh grade at Manhasset Middle School. Marisa is a member of the NYSSMA Majors and has previously been a part of All County. She earned Gold with Distinction in 2023 and 2024 as well as a score of 27/28 on NYSSMA Level 4.

Everett Sumersille, 13, cello, and entering eighth grade at Grand Avenue Middle School. He was accepted into the Gemini Youth Orchestra Symphony as well as MYO and LIYO.

Aaron Turbek, 14, clarinet, sophomore at Long Beach High School, received a quarterly Performing Arts Award this past semester. He has participated in the Nassau Suffolk Wind Symphony since 2021 and played in the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra for 2 years. Aaron also participated in All-County Band and Orchestra starting in 5th grade. He performed at Master classes at Adelphi University and Five Towns College. Along with clarinet, Aaron plays tenor sax in his school's jazz band.

Alexander Valder, 16, piano and 11th grade at Bayport Blue Point High School, has received three NYSSMA Level 6 perfect scores.

Elizabeth Vitale, 14, viola, is in 10th grade at Garden City High School. They have attended chamber groups and orchestras every weekend at the Children's Orchestra Society from 2019-2024.

Joshua Webster, 14, violin, sophomore at George School. Joshua was a concertmaster of the Multicultural Music's Orchestra. Additionally, he is the principal second violinist of my current school's orchestra and string ensemble.

Coraline Wong, 14, violin, is entering grade 10 at Schreiber High School.

Lucas Wu, 11, viola and piano, 7th grade at Grand Avenue Middle School, has earned a NYSSMA Level 6 score of 100, For both viola and piano. He was also the Gemini Youth Orchestra Repertory Orchestra concerto competition winner and later played the Telemann Viola Concerto with the ensemble at the Adelphi Performing Arts Center.

Jeffrey Xu, 14, piano and violin, is in 9th grade at The Waldorf School of Garden City. Jeffrey received a score of 98 on NYSSMA level 6 Piano, a score of 100 on NYSSMA level 5 Violin and a score of 100 on level 5 Viola. He has participated as violinist and violist in All-County and Long Island String Festival. Recently, Jeffrey has become interested in classic piano music composing and has been writing his own work. Jeffrey is also a vivid reader, a LOTR movie fan and a pastel artist.

Vivian Zheng, 13, Viola, will be entering 9th grade at Lindenhurst High School. She received the 2024 SCMEA Scholarship, received the 2024 LISFA Scholarship, obtained a score of 100 on NYSSMA Level 5 for viola, obtained a score of 28 on NYSSMA Level 4 for piano, obtained a score of 28 on String Trio Level 3, was a member of Gemini Youth Orchestra, member of her school's Jazz Band, is a pit member of the Lindenhurst Marching Band, lead violist of her school's orchestra, member of the High School's Symphony Orchestra, has attended all SCMEA Festivals since 2022, attended LISFA in 2024, and recently learned how to play the cello.

In addition, we would like to congratulate those participants who have received awards and special recognition prior to the beginning of the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival.

NMEA Awards	Fellowship Awards
Ellen Bennett Katelynn Cai Michelle Chang Esther Fisk Lily Fisk Nichole Ki Isabella Law Vivian Leung	Angelique Brewington Annie Gruman Esther Loring Stephen Kim Annabelle King

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