

# VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Young Musical Talent Flourishes in BC



For Immediate Release – April 14, 2008

**(Vancouver, BC)** – The Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) continues its long-held commitment to seeking out and promoting exceptional young local musicians with its **Young Masters Project**, which takes place on Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 7:30pm in the Telus Studio Theatre at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. Hosted by pianist and Burnaby native, Ian Parker, the interactive concert will combine performances interspersed with Question & Answer segments. In the spotlight, meet this year's Young Masters: Jackson Chu, erhu; Esther Hwang, violin; and Max Wei, piano.

#### **Jackson Chu, erhu**

Jackson was born in 1991 in Taipei. He started his learning of erhu at the age of 9. Since immigrating to Vancouver five years ago, he continued his study with Mr. Zhong-Cai Yang and participated in various performances and competitions. He was invited twice as soloist for the BC Chinese Orchestra. In 2006, he received a \$2000 prize as the top prize winner of the Surrey City Jam Music Contest. The following year, he was awarded the Grand Champion of the Chinese Ethnic Instrumental Classes in the 2007 Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival and later on participated in the Gala Showcase Concert, winning the 2nd prize scholarship.

#### **Esther Hwang, violin**

Esther is a grade 7 honour roll student at the Pacific Academy. She began her violin studies at age 3 in Korea, immigrated to Canada at the age of five, and presently studies under Lawrie Hill at the Vancouver Academy of Music. Esther won the CDMK Ellen Tso Award for the most promising string player under the age of 12. She performed at the VRS' co-presentation with the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad concert in February 2008 at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver.

#### **Max Wei, piano**

Max was born in Singapore and began his piano studies at the age of three. He immigrated to Canada with his family in 2004 and continued his studies with Anna-Maria Csapo, and Edward Parker. Currently, Max is a piano student at the Vancouver Academy of Music, studying with Rebecca Kelly. He is working towards his grade 10 RCM piano examination. He has distinguished himself in many local festivals including the BCRMTA performers' guild and the Burnaby Clef Society festival. Recently, Max received the Edith Lando Gifted Youth Scholarship at the VAM. Max is a grade five student at Inman Elementary school in Burnaby.

Admission Free – contact the VRS for tickets 604-602-0363.

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*Additional media resources & high resolution images are available at [www.vanrecital.com/press](http://www.vanrecital.com/press)*

**The Vancouver Recital Society's 2007/2008 Season is generously sponsored by HSBC Securities**

This concert is a co-presentation with the **Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC** and is made possible by contributions from the **Chan Endowment Fund**