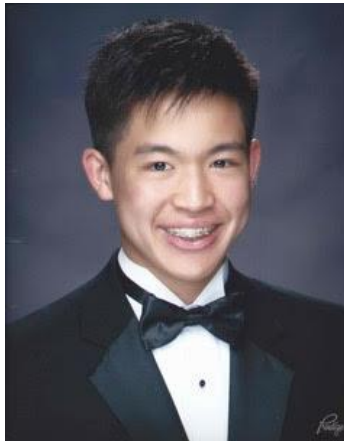


# Violin Studio of Elbert Tsai

*23rd December, 2022*

Dear Studio, Merry Christmas and happy holidays! Thank you for another year filled with laughter and success. Listed below are some of the most recent accomplishments in the studio.

**Dillon Huang** (pictured right) is a 16-year old senior at Monta Vista High School in Cupertino, CA. He was recently selected as a Finalist for NPR's "From the Top," and has also been accepted early to Northwestern's Bienen School of Music, where he will enroll in the Fall semester of 2023 to pursue a degree in Violin Performance and Financial Engineering. He previously won 1st place at the US International Open Music Competition and Gold prize at the London Young Musician Competition. Besides his passion for violin, Dillon is actively involved in his school's theater production as Lead Actor, Stage Manager, Pit Orchestra Lead, and Set Team Lead. Dillon has also played Varsity Football and Basketball, Junior Varsity Basketball and Volleyball, and competed with the MVHS DECA and FBLA business clubs which ranked 1st at State and 4th at Nationals.



Violinist **Joshua Cisneros** (pictured left), 16, is a home-schooled junior. He is the Concertmaster of the Peninsula Youth Orchestra and studies with Elbert Tsai. In 2022, he won 1st place at USOMC, Silicon Valley Competition, and International Youth Music Competition, and has previously received awards from the Junior Bach Festival, USOMC, KAMSA, and ENKOR. Joshua recently won two concerto competitions, and he will perform Prokofiev Concerto No.1 in D major with the New Millennium Chamber Orchestra and the Peninsula Youth Orchestra. In past summers, he has attended Greenwood Music Camp, Summer Music Institute at Tateuchi, Interlochen Center for the Arts, and Boston University Tanglewood Institute. He has played in masterclasses with Midori, Richard Lin, Vadim Gluzman, and the late Jorja Fleezanis. Since 2021, Joshua has been a violinist with the Pueri String Quartet as part of the Young Chamber Musicians program in Burlingame.

Four years after joining the studio in 2018, **Yuli Choi** (pictured right) moved to South Korea in September and now lives in the Seocho-Gu district of Seoul while attending the Asia Pacific International School. She is continuing her passion for music and will be participating in the KIMEA National Honors Festival in the spring of 2023.



In October, Yuli won a prestigious Merit Award from the YoungArts Foundation. She previously won 1st place at the KAMSA competition and served as concertmaster of the California All-State High School Symphony Orchestra. Her previous summer activities include attending NYO2 and Music@Menlo. Since moving to Korea, she and her dog (pictured right) have made the most of living in the snow again!



**Jenna Son** (pictured left), 14, is a freshman at the Oliver Wendell Holmes Junior High School in Davis. This fall, Jenna joined the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-college program and San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Jenna won 1st place at the 2022 CalASTA Sacramento Solo Competition Junior Division and was invited to play at the CalASTA State Solo Competition at CSUS Capistrano Hall. Jenna has also won 1st place at the 2022 California Association of Professional Music Teachers Competition (CAPMT) and 2nd place at the Solano Symphony Young Artist Competition. In

2021 and 2022, she was invited to perform solo pieces on both violin and piano at the Junior Bach Festival. Jenna started piano at age of three, and she recently performed Variations Brillantes in B-flat major, Op. 12 by Frédéric Chopin at the Harris Center in Folsom.

In the summer of 2022, Jenna attended the Heifetz International Music Institute and played in masterclasses for Shannon Lee and Luosha Fang.

**Sarah Son** (pictured right), 16, is a junior at Davis Senior High School and a pre-college student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Sarah is currently a first violinist at the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and regional director of the Back to Bach Project Davis region. Sarah recently won 2nd place at the ENKOR Int'l Music Competition and 1st place at the Solano Symphony Young Artists Competition. She will perform the first movement of the Beethoven Violin Concerto with the Solano Symphony Orchestra in February 2023. She has been concertmaster of the Sacramento Youth Symphony, KAMSA Youth Symphony, and CODA High School Honor Orchestra. In past summers, Sarah has attended 2022 the Music@Menlo Young Performers Program, Boston University Tanglewood Institute Violin Workshop, and Orford Musique.



**Sydney Li-Jenkins** (pictured left), is 12 and has been studying with Mr. Tsai at SFCM for 5 years. Sydney is the Co-Concertmaster and youngest member of the Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra. This fall, she performed the concertmaster solo from Dvorak Symphony No. 8 at the MSYO's fall concert and was selected by the Marin Symphony Orchestra to perform in a masterclass with guest soloist Simone Porter. In July, she participated in the full scholarship summer intensive Sphinx Performance Academy at the Juilliard School. She is currently a 7th grader at the Chinese American International School in San Francisco and enjoys expressing herself in anything creative such as poetry writing, drawing, painting, and singing and dancing at all hours of the day.