# Steinway Society of Greater Princeton Scholarship Competition 2012 Preliminary Judges

#### **SOHYUN AHN**

Pianist Sohyun Ahn has performed in the United States, Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Iceland, Japan, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Korea. Sohyun has appeared with the Royal Scottish Academy Orchestra, the New Jersey Baroque Orchestra, the Korean Symphony Orchestra, the Seoul Tutti Orchestra and the Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra. She has been a prizewinner in many piano competitions, including the New York Trinity Church Concert One Audition, and she has earned Best Performer of the Year from Eumak-Chunchu, which is Korea's leading music critic magazine.

Sohyun is a dedicated educator, having held teaching positions at Rutgers University in New Jersey and the University of Texas at Austin. She has been invited to give masterclasses at University College of Sedaya International, Trinity College London and the Gloville Conservatory, Seoul, Korea. She holds degrees from several institutions, including Yonsei University, the Royal Scottish Academy in Music and Drama, Tokyo National University in Music and Arts, and the Manhattan School of Music. She currently serves as adjunct faculty at Rutgers.

## JIWON LEE

Jiwon Lee has been steadily establishing her place among the new generation of pianists both as a soloist and a chamber artist, garnering her artistry with praises from critics and audiences alike. Ms. Lee has performed throughout the United States, Canada, England and South Korea playing at prestigious concert venues. As a recipient of the Special Presentation Award from Artists International, her New York debut took place at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. The concert was praised by the New York Concert Review saying that she "showed lyrical qualities and some particularly lovely coloring... it was clear she could produce powerful basses and clean, pearling treble runs." In more recent seasons, Ms. Lee appeared as a soloist with the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra Concerto in the series of Evenings of Piano Concerti Season III, presented by New York Concert Artists & Associates. She is a graduate of Eastman School of Music (Bachelor of Music, Master of Music) and will receive her Doctorate of Musical Arts from Rutgers University this May.

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#### DAVID LEIFER

David Leifer completed his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance in 2011 from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance, where he studied with Dr. John Ellis. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano and a Master of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where he studied with Lillian Livingston and Ingrid Clarfield. While at Westminster, he was the winner of the 2004 Annual Westminster Piano Awards Competition, and had the honor of performing in the Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall in 2007.

Dr. Leifer is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music by the Music Teachers National Association. Recently, Dr. Leifer joined the piano faculty of Westminster College of the Arts. He is also a faculty member at the Hunterdon Academy of the Arts of Flemington, New Jersey and the Westminster Conservatory in Princeton, New Jersey.

### ISAAC PARK

Isaac Park is currently pursuing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance at Rutgers University. He received his Master of Music and Bachelor of Science degrees, as well as a Professional Studies Diploma, from Mannes College of Music. He has won several awards including the Korean Chamber Orchestra of New York Concerto Competition, Artists International, and the South Orange Symphony Concerto Competition, as well as several chamber music competitions. He has also participated in many music events which led him to perform on various professional stages, including New York City's Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, and Steinway Hall; as well as in New Jersey and abroad in Russia, Italy, and Paris. He is currently studying with Daniel Epstein, and is active as a solo performer, teacher, accompanist, and orchestra arranger.