

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HONOLULU COMPETITION DRAWS ASPIRING PIANISTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Aloha International Piano Festival invites applications for June competition

HONOLULU – (April 20, 2009) – The Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) invites piano students from around the world to apply to compete in its annual competition in Honolulu, Hawaii on Saturday, June 6 and Saturday, June 13, 2009.

AIPF offers aspiring pianists the opportunity to share their talents at a prestigious event that fosters a spirit of healthy competition. AIPF participants range in age from five to 25, and compete in five separate age categories in either the solo or concerto divisions. Admission is free for both events and the public is encouraged to attend.

The select first prize winner in the solo division will perform at a free community concert to opens the annual festival on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at the Hawaii Convention Center. The concert features acclaimed pianist Lisa Nakamichi, who is also the Festival director.

First place winners of each concerto division level will earn the opportunity to appear as soloist with the Hawaii Youth Symphony in upcoming concerts, as well as scholarships to attend the 2010 Festival.

For all AIPF participants, the friendly atmosphere and welcoming Hawaiian audience can be a catalyst for boosting self-confidence. Throughout the Festival week, young people enjoy celebrating the success of their peers while developing their appreciation of music and culture.

Pianists do not have to register for the full Festival in order to enter the competition. In addition, the competition phase is optional for Festival participants. The application deadline for the AIPF competition is April 30, 2009.

For more information on applying to the AIPF competition, please visit www.lisanakamichi.com/AIPF/index.html.

The 2009 Festival welcomes concert pianists Sean Botkin, Martin Canin, Susan Duehlmeier, Bonnie Gritton, Norman Krieger and Noriko Uenaka. These celebrated artists will teach master classes and perform in the evening recital series throughout the weeklong event.

AIPF FREE EVENTS

Aloha International Piano Competition: Solo Division
Saturday, June 6, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center

The community is invited to enjoy AIPF's solo division competition, featuring works from the Baroque to contemporary periods. Come and hear aspiring young musicians as they compete for festival honors.

Free Concert: Opening Day with Lisa Nakamichi

Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center, Liliu Theater
The winner of the piano competition performs his or her winning music! This free concert also features Evan Lin, who won the AIPF competition in the high school division at age 13. The evening concludes with local star and founding artistic director of AIPF, Lisa Nakamichi.

Aloha International Piano Competition: Concerto Division

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center

The community is invited to enjoy AIPF's concerto division competition. First place winners of each level will earn the opportunity to appear as soloist with the Hawaii Youth Symphony in their winter and spring concerts.

About the Aloha International Piano Festival

Founded in 2006 by pianist Lisa Nakamichi, the Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) offers Hawaii's local piano students, as well as visiting international students, opportunities to learn from world-class pianists in a nurturing environment. The AIPF also enriches the greater community with opportunities to enjoy free and low-cost concerts performed by acclaimed artists. Each year, AIPF strives to elevate the awareness of classical music while offering people of all ages the opportunity to experience music in a relaxed setting. Visit www.lisanakamichi.com for more information.

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