

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ALOHA INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL SETS THE STAGE FOR LEARNING
AND FUN**

Weeklong Honolulu festival features free concerts and student competition

HONOLULU – (March 25, 2009) – The Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) today announced the splendid roster of artists for the fourth annual festival and competition beginning June 6, 2009 at the Hawaii Convention Center. Set in multi-cultural Honolulu, AIPF features concerts for the general public and master classes for aspiring young pianists. The weeklong event concludes with a piano competition. Participants range in age from five to 25 and hail from Hawaii and around the world.

The 2009 festival welcomes renowned pianists Sean Botkin, Martin Canin, Susan Duehlmeier, Bonnie Gritton, Norman Krieger, Lisa Nakamichi and Noriko Uenaka, who will teach master classes and perform concerts featuring light-hearted music in a family-friendly setting.

Unlike other festivals, the AIPF competition is optional for students. This non-traditional approach offers young pianists the chance to participate in a high-caliber festival without the pressures of competition. It is also ideal for a child who is not interested in a professional career, but wants to fine-tune their skills in master classes taught by concert pianists.

By bringing together young people and distinguished pianists, AIPF strives to inspire today's youth, both at the keyboard and at home and school. For all participants, the friendly atmosphere is a catalyst for boosting self-confidence and appreciation of music and culture.

Applications to participate in AIPF classes and workshops are now being accepted. The application deadline is April 30, 2009. For more information on tickets and applying to become an AIPF student, please visit www.lisanakamichi.com/AIPF/index.html.

Aloha International Piano Festival: Concert Schedule

Aloha International Piano Competition: Solo Division

Saturday, June 6, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center

Free Admission!

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

Free Admission!

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 (www.lisanakamichi.com).

Sean Botkin Piano Recital

Tuesday, June 9, 2009, 7:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center, Liliu Theater

Tickets: \$20

Hometown hero Sean Botkin (www.uni.edu/music/faculty/botkin.html) returns to Honolulu with a thrilling all-Rachmaninoff program featuring the First Piano Sonata.

Chamber Music with Norman Krieger and Martin Canin

Thursday, June 11, 2009, 7:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center, Liliu Theater

Tickets: \$20

Acclaimed pianists Norman Krieger (www.normankrieger.com/) and Martin Canin (www.lisanakamichi.com/AIPF/martincanin.html) join alumni of the Hawaii Youth Symphony and members of the Honolulu Symphony for an evening of chamber music.

Aloha International Piano Competition: Concerto Division

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

Free Admission!

The competition continues as the festival moves to the concerto division. 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.

Witches, Wizards and Wonders: Finale Concert

Saturday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center, Liliu Theater

Tickets: \$20

The famous duo of Susan Duehlmeier and Bonnie Gritton (www.duehlmeier-gritton.com) offers the perfect blend of music as Rachmaninoff meets Broadway. Enjoy Rachmaninoff's Suite No. 2 for Two Pianos, the Fantasy on "Wicked," "The Wizard of Oz Fantasy," and Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess Fantasy."

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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