



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Putting a plug on summer brain drain with a multiculturalism and the arts

Though they may have left their textbooks behind when school ended, eight middle school students from Jinan, China plan to attend the Sacramento Youth Symphony's 21st Annual Summer Chamber Music Workshop as part of a cultural exchange program sponsored by the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation (JSSCC) in collaboration with the Sacramento Youth Symphony (SYS).

The Jinan students, age 13 to 16, five girls and three boys were selected by the Jinan Children's Palace, an after-school and weekend program for talented students in arts. They come from seven middle schools in Jinan and expressed their enthusiasm for visiting Sacramento and meeting their American peers. They emphasized that they'd like to "make friends with Americans" in addition to improving their music skills during their stay from July 8 -18, 2010.

The exchange is part of the 'Youth Ambassador' program that JSSCC offers to students and teachers of both Sacramento and Jinan. JSSCC pays for the students' tuition and other miscellaneous cost and SYS provides a host family for each student.

Through this program, 19 local students and teachers and their family members left for China on June 28, 2010 to attend the International Youth Festival in Jinan on July 3 - 5 and then visit Beijing and Shanghai. These students came from eight middle schools and high schools in the Greater Sacramento area including Kennedy, Johnson, Grant, Mira Loma, Galt High School, Folsom Sutter Middle School, Churchill Middle School, and Davis Harper Junior High School. This is the fifth year that JSSCC has organized the subsidized annual summer trip for local students.

SYS's Summer Chamber Music Workshop, founded in 1990 and successfully developed by Program Director Susan Lamb Cook, continues its two week instructional program and expanded Festival of Concerts during the month of July. The Workshop offers an intensive week of ensemble playing, introducing young musicians, ages 7-12 (week 1) and 11-19 (week 2), to chamber music literature and rehearsal techniques. This program offers individualized coaching with professionals in the performance field, as well as a recital including all participants at the conclusion of the workshops.

Visit www.jsscc.org for more programs of JSSCC. More information about the Summer Chamber Music Workshop and registration is online at: www.sacys.org/AboutSYS/ensembles/cmw/chamber-summer.html

21st Annual SYS Summer Chamber Music Workshop and summer concerts include:

Chamber Music Workshop Classes, Capistrano Hall, California State University, Sacramento (CSUS)

July 7, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church, free

July 9, 1:00pm Preparatory Program Concert, St. Anthony Church, free

July 14, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church, free

July 16, 3:00pm, Student Chamber Ensembles, Sac State Music Dept., free

July 17, 7:30pm, "Festival Concert", CSUS, Music Recital Hall, (suggested donation \$10 adult, \$5 students/seniors.)

July 18, 7:30pm "Concert in the Courtyard", St. Anthony Parish, 660 Florin Rd., (suggested donation \$10 adult, \$5 students/seniors.)

Does the threat of your child losing ground over the summer mean the end of summertime fun? Not necessarily. This is just one example of ways that communities across the country are trying to combat a phenomenon called "summer learning loss."

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