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## Participants and Jury Announced for the 12<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Indianapolis Violin Competition

INDIANAPOLIS – The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) is pleased to announce the 40 violinists who have been invited to participate in the 12th Quadrennial Violin Competition, as well as the nine members of the jury. The participants will attend Opening Ceremonies on Thursday, September 17, 2026, followed by 16 days of Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, a Classical Finals round with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra, and a Finals round (underwritten by Eli Lilly and Company) with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Leonard Slatkin.

### PRIZES

The participants will compete for a prize package valued at over \$350,000. Included are several awards for the Gold Medalist: a cash prize of \$75,000, a Carnegie Hall recital debut, a CD recording contract, and website development and maintenance for four years following the Competition. The Gold, Silver and Bronze Medalists receive the invaluable prize of career management and international concert engagements for four years. All six Laureates receive cash prizes and the opportunity to use one of several concert instruments in the IVCI collection, including the 1683 “ex-Gingold” Stradivari violin, until the next Quadrennial Competition in 2030.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

To ensure the highest caliber of applicants, each violinist was required to record and submit an extensive and broad range of repertoire in an IVCI screening round: two contrasting solo Bach Sonata or Partita movements, one Paganini caprice, the first movement of a Mozart concerto, and a full concerto from the Romantic or Post-Romantic period. Each submitted video recording was reviewed by a three-member screening panel: Jaime Laredo, IVCI Jury President and Artistic Director; Malcolm Lowe (former Concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra); and Stephen Rose (Principal Second Violin of The Cleveland Orchestra).

### JURY

The 12<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Competition will consist of nine jury members, presided by IVCI Artistic Director and Jury President **Jaime Laredo**. Jury members are **David Chan** (1994 Bronze Medalist), **Jinjoo Cho** (2014 Gold Medalist), **Pamela Frank**, **Yuzuko Horigome**, **Bella Hristova** (2006 Laureate), **Dong-Suk Kang**, **Cho-Liang Lin**, and **Svetlin Roussev** (1998 Laureate).

### PARTICIPANTS

For the 2026 Competition, the IVCI received 167 applications from 30 countries. Individuals selected for the Competition represent 10 countries across three continents, and range from ages 16 to 27. Most participants come from South Korea (11), followed by the United States (10), followed by China (8).

The participants are listed here in alphabetical order, including their nationality and age at the start of the Competition:

<b>Leah Amory</b> (22), USA	<b>Alice Lee</b> (26), Canada
<b>Zachary Brandon</b> (27), USA	<b>Chaeyeon Lee</b> (22), South Korea
<b>Anton Carus</b> (18), USA	<b>Jiyoony Lee</b> (27), South Korea
<b>Yige Chen</b> (26), China	<b>Yesong Sophie Lee</b> (22), USA
<b>Zekai Chen</b> (16), China	<b>Yoonseo Lee</b> (24), South Korea
<b>Karisa Chiu</b> (27), USA	<b>Yun Lee</b> (25), Taiwan
<b>Sungmin Cho</b> (25), South Korea	<b>Hairui Lei</b> (21), China
<b>Elli Choi</b> (25), USA	<b>Dongmin Lim</b> (25), South Korea
<b>Bade Daştan</b> (19), Turkey / Belgium	<b>Haewon Lim</b> (22), South Korea
<b>Corina Deng</b> (18), Canada	<b>Chaowen Luo</b> (25), China
<b>Hawijch Elders</b> (27), Netherlands	<b>Lina Nakano</b> (21), Japan
<b>Elina He</b> (17), Hong Kong, China	<b>Christina Nam</b> (23), USA
<b>Ria Honda</b> (26), USA / Japan	<b>Audrey Park</b> (23), USA
<b>Semi Hong</b> (26), South Korea	<b>Maria Sotriffer</b> (26), Austria
<b>Seonglan Hong</b> (25), South Korea	<b>Julian Walder</b> (25), Austria
<b>Miray Ito</b> (23), USA	<b>Sophie Wang</b> (26), Taiwan
<b>Wenlan Jackson</b> (24), USA	<b>Sara Watanabe</b> (21), Japan
<b>Yeyeong (Jenny) Jin</b> (23), South Korea	<b>Aozhe Zhang</b> (18), China
<b>Donghyun Kim</b> (27), South Korea	<b>Jingzhi Zhang</b> (25), China
<b>Hyunseo Kim</b> (16), South Korea	<b>Xunyue Zhang</b> (22), China

To learn more about the 12th Quadrennial Competition, visit [www.violin.org/competition](http://www.violin.org/competition).

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The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) recognizes, rewards and promotes the world’s finest young classical violinists and encourages understanding, appreciation and support of the violin repertoire by a large and diverse audience. The IVCI utilizes its world prominence to bring international attention to Indianapolis and maintains its efforts to be a visible and collaborative member of the arts communities in Indianapolis and Indiana.

For information about the IVCI, visit [www.violin.org](http://www.violin.org).

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