SINCE 1993,
The Richard and Brooke Kamin Rapaport Summer Music Performance Fellowship has enabled approximately 200 students to continue their musical studies in the summer, in festivals from New York to the Netherlands.

Without assistance from the Rapaport Fund, many of these young performers and conductors would be forced to end their studies at the close of the school year, something clearly detrimental for an aspiring musician. It is well-known that a chamber musician’s best experiences often come through participation in summer music festivals; many of tonight’s musicians formed deep and lasting alliances there.
The benefits of this fund can best be described in the words of some of past recipients.

Christopher Chorney, cello, CC ‘06

I received the Rapaport Prize in 2005, through which I was able to study at the Meadowmount School of Music in upstate New York. It was an invaluable experience for me. I faced many personal trials that summer, breaking off studies with my former mentor, picking up insights from a new set of teachers. I made friends from Beijing, and Prague, and was able to see how the love of music transcended many cultural differences. It drove home the notion that music is a universal experience, and despite petty differences, teachers with reproachable behavior, and the occasional UFO sighting, it really does give one hope - both for the future and for our inner strength. I certainly learned a few things about life and the difficulties of the profession that summer - and found myself a stronger person and better musician for it.

Laura Usiskin, cello, CC ‘05

The Rapaport Scholarship allowed me to have some of my most memorable and meaningful musical experiences. Most significantly was the gift allowing me to spend four weeks in France at the American Academy in Fontainebleau. I learned more in those four weeks that I did all year, and I would never have been able to afford it without the scholarship. I am forever in debt to Richard Rapaport for his amazing generosity and good will.

Jennifer Kim, violin CC ‘06

During the summer of 2004, I was invited to join the Juilliard Orchestra’s residency in Spoleto. While I was thrilled to have been invited to Spoleto, I was concerned about my ability to pay for the plane ticket to Korea where I was going to attend Great Mountains Music Festival and School. I was overjoyed when I was awarded Rapaport funds, because then I knew that I could spend all summer playing music without worrying about the money. I was able to meet so many new colleagues and teachers in the summer of 2004. I still remember playing Bartok’s Miraculous Mandarin in Spoleto, and details of lessons from a teacher from Salzburg who taught at the Great Mountains Festival. Mr. Rapaport, thank you so much for your love of music and believing in us!

For more information about the Columbia University Department of Music’s Music Performance Program, please visit music.columbia.edu/mpp
I met Mr. Rapaport in late spring of 2007 following the ceremony for scholarship recipients in Low Library. After congratulating me on my acceptance to Fontainebleau festival in France, he told me, “Peter one day I want you to also do the same in helping future generations of students.” To this day I have not forgotten what Mr. Rapaport said. His untiring generosity has aspired me to follow in his footsteps to provide others opportunities to pursue their dreams as he has so graciously done for me.

Peter Liou, piano, CC '08

I feel so indebted to the Rapaports for supporting this wonderful fellowship, which has granted me the opportunity to study at several great festivals with some of the greatest musicians I’ve ever worked with. Quite frankly, if not for the Rapaport Fellowship I would have probably never had the chance to participate in any of these festivals. As a serious young musician it’s so important to have these opportunities, especially when most of your year is spent at such an academic-minded place as Columbia University. I continue my viola studies today and hope to apply them to an arts career in the near future. Thank you so much for contributing to my musical growth.

Maryam Parhizkar, viola, CC '08

The Rapaport Fellowship enabled me to attend three music festivals: the Eastern Music Festival, Bowdoin International Music Festival, and the Banff Festival. Each program provided an incredible opportunity to study with world-class flute teachers and enabled me to completely immerse myself in music for a summer. Most importantly, these festivals introduced me to incredibly talented musicians and inspired me to pursue a masters degree in music at Manhattan School of Music. I am truly grateful for the scholarship, as it enabled me to pursue my passion for music during the summers while I focused on academic work during the year.

Alicia Kravitz, flute, CC ’06

I am extremely grateful for the support I received from the Rapaports which enabled me to attend the International Vocal Arts Workshop in 2007 and 2008. My experience at the program encouraged my interest in material theater (I recently designed and constructed shadow puppets for the off-Broadway play “A Map of Lost Things” by Darragh Martin), and introduced me to my primary teacher, Jane McMahan.

Kate Smith, voice, CC ’08
PROGRAM

Welcome by Music Performance Program Director:
Professor Deborah Bradley-Kramer
And Dean of Columbia College:
Dean Michele Moodly-Adams

Deh vieni, non tardar from Le Nozze di Figaro (1785)………W.A. Mozart
  Julie Rachel Schoonover, soprano
  Kirstin Tarquini, piano

“Ombra Mai Fu” from Xerxes (1738)………………..George Handel
  Kurt Kanazawa, baritone

Untitled: Piano Prelude #1 (2010)……………………..Steph Chou
  Steph Chou, piano

Sarabande from 3rd Cello Suite (1717-23)………………..J.S. Bach
  Maryam Parhizkar, viola

Polonaise in A flat major, Op. 53 (1842)………………..Frédéric Chopin
  Wei Sim, piano

Cello Sonata No. 5 in D Major, Op. 102 No. 2 (1815)………L. Beethoven
  I. Allegro con brio
    Elizabeth Lyon, cello
    Larry Weng, piano

Intermission

Welcome by Chairman of the Department of Music:
Professor Aaron Fox

HYUNG-MIN SUH, piano
Winner of 2001 New York Philharmonic Young Artists Audition at the age of eleven, Hyung-Min Suh subsequently performed the Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major under the baton of Maestro Kurt Masur with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra Avery Fisher Hall. In 2004, he gave a performance at Merkin Hall presented by the New York Chamber Music Initiative. In 2005, Hyung-Min was the youngest prize-winner Korea International Music Foundation. He won the Jacob Flier International Piano Competition, and in 2006, performed the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 in b flat minor with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Orchestra under Maestro Vladimir Feltman. He repeated this repertoire with the Mannes Philharmonic Orchestra in 2007 with Maestro Michael Adelson. On the 21st and the 22nd of February 2008, Hyung-Min Suh has performed Beethoven’s first Piano Concerto in Seoul, Korea with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra. Hyung-Min is currently a John Jay Scholar at Columbia University, where he is studying history. He is also an exchange student at Juilliard School of Music under the tutelage of Mr. Emanuel Ax and Dr. Matti Raekallio.

TAVI UNGERLEIDER, cello
Tavi Ungerleider, a celebrated young cellist known for his pure musicianship and beautiful tone, has performed in concert halls across the U.S., Asia, Europe, and South America. Ungerleider has appeared three times on NPR’s ‘From the Top’, performing in collaboration with Grammy Award winner, Bela Fleck. As a featured performer at the 2009 Aspen Music Festival, he performed the Judas Maccabeus Beethoven Variations in Harris Hall. He also recently collaborated with Michael Tilson Thomas for a performance of Schubert’s “Arpeggione Sonata” to be aired 6/18/10 on HBO television series “Masterclass.” He is the recipient of the Harvard Musical Association Achievement Award and the National Federation of Music Clubs Award, and first prize winner of the New England Conservatory Preparatory School Concerto Competition, the International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition of New England, and the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts National Competition. Ungerleider has performed the Schumann
Kate considers herself first and foremost a classical singer; she performed and soloed with Bach Society and Collegium Musicum, and was president of Worldmuse Ensemble. In 2008 she sang the role of Mary Meyer at the New York showcase of the new opera, Psyche and Delia, composed by Mark Moebius, libretto by Gerd Stern and Ed Rosenfeld. She was the soprano soloist for the Barnard Columbia Chorus’ April 2009 performance of Stravinsky’s Les Noces in Miller Theatre, as well as for composer Ursula Kwong-Brown’s First of Love concert, also in Miller Theatre. After graduation Kate worked as a film producer/account manager and as a proofreader and translator of Chinese articles. Since Kate intends to move to China in a year, she is currently focusing entirely on her singing. She is a member of Cantori New York, which recently performed at Carnegie Hall, and is working on expanding her repertoire and developing several performances, including a cabaret act. She is highly interested in folk music and learning to play the accordion; in the summer of 2008 she interned at the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library in London. Over the past year Kate has been operating as the Workshop’s administrator and is pleased to be attending again this summer in her new role.

MADHAVEN SOMANATHAN, guitar
Madhavan Somanathan started playing the guitar at the age of 8 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He moved to Delhi 2 years later where he took lessons with Jaspal Singh for several years at the Delhi School of Music. In February 2006, at the age of 14, he won first prize at the National Classical Guitar Competition in Panaji which was organized by the Guitar Guild Goa. A few months later, he gave his first solo recital in Goa and, in 2007, placed first in the Under-18 guitar competition organized by the Spanish Embassy in Delhi. Somanathan has taken masterclasses with several leading performers including Jason Vieaux and Michael Chapdelaine. He spends his summers recording, studying and performing with his teacher Roger Zimmermann in Germany where he has given two public performances. He has also performed as a duo with Roger Zimmermann both in Germany and in India. He is currently enrolled in his first year at Columbia University in New York City where he is pursuing music among other subjects.
Biographies of the Musicians

THEO DI CASTRI, piano
Theo Di Castri was born in raised in St. Albert, a small city in the northwest of Canada. He began playing piano at the age of 4 following the Suzuki method. At the age of 15 he received a scholarship that allowed him to move to India to complete his last two years of high school at the Mahindra United World College of India. After completing his studies in India, Theo studied for a year under Stephen Perry as a guest student the Hochschule fur Musik Detmold, Germany. Theo is currently in his sophomore year at Columbia College studying neuroscience and comparative literature. Thanks to the generous support of Richard Rapaport, he was able to attend the Conservatoire Américain de Fontainebleau in the summer of 2009.

STEPHANIE CHOU, piano
This is Stephanie Chou’s first work for solo piano. Her intriguing modern compositions combine elements from classical and Chinese music with jazz harmonies. Her warm alto saxophone sound is rich with influences from many styles of music. The multi-faceted Chou majored in mathematics at Columbia University and is an avid pianist, vocalist, and skier. The Steph Chou Project is off to a strong start with performances at many of New York City’s prominent jazz venues, including B.B. King’s, Cleopatra’s Needle, The Cutting Room, The Garage, and The Knitting Factory. Steph has also led groups in performances at Carnegie Hall and Jazz at Lincoln Center. She has shared the stage with jazz greats such as Bobby Watson and Steve Wilson. Steph has been an active member of the jazz community on the Columbia campus and continues to perform classical saxophone. In 2008 and 2009, Steph was awarded Columbia’s Rapaport Prize for summer music study to attend the Berklee College of Music. Steph is currently an artist assistant at Jazz at Lincoln Center and a math tutor at Bespoke Education. Her group, the Steph Chou Project, has just recorded her first full-length album. See stephchou.com for more details!

ASSOCIATION OF TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITION STARS

WEI SIM, piano
Wei Sim is currently a sophomore in Columbia College majoring in music and premedical studies. As a pianist from Ottawa, Canada, he has enjoyed performing in various concerts and competitions. Most recently, he placed 2nd in the 2008 Canadian Music Competitions National Finals and was a semifinalist in the Tenth Eastman Young Artists International Piano Competition. In the past few years, Wei has also had the opportunity to perform in masterclasses with distinguished artists including Louis Lortie, André Laplante, Maneli Pirzadeh, Richard Raymond, and Jacques Rouvier. Wei is currently a student of Reiko Uchida in the Columbia Music Performance Program.

KATE SMITH, soprano
Kate Smith is a 2009 graduate from Columbia College with a degree in Film Studies and Chinese. As an undergraduate, Kate was active in Columbia’s theater community, environmental activism, and improvisational comedy troupes, including the musical improv troupe Alfred, which she co-founded her senior year. Although she picked up musical theater along the way,
JULIE SCHOONOVER, voice
Born in Paris, France, Julie Schoonover is a junior, class of 2011, at Columbia College majoring in Comparative Literature and Society, with a focus on Italian and French literature and music. At Columbia, Julie continues to cultivate her life-long passion for music through study of violin with Richard Rood, voice with Patrick Calleo, and participation in performances with the Music Performance Program. Julie has been accepted into the highly selective Humanities and Medicine program at Mount Sinai School of Medicine where she will begin her medical studies in the fall of 2011. She just came back from a semester abroad at the University of Bologna, Italy, where she focused on her music and studies of Dante. Julie has performed in The Beggar’s Opera, Carmen, Così fan Tutte (Despina), L’Elisir d’Amore, Oklahoma!, Oliver, and often sings with the choir of St Michael’s parish. In 2009, she was a recipient of the Rapaport Prize for Summer Music Study to study opera in Italy with the Italian Operatic Experience.

ERIC SILBERGER, violin
Virtuoso violinist Eric Silberger has emerged as one of the most amazing young talents of his generation, playing with “astonishing virtuosity,” according to Nuvo; he is “bold, technically solid, charismatic” writes the Indianapolis Star. Eric has performed throughout the US and around the world, including solo performances with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, among others. He has appeared at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Louvre, The Moscow International House of Music, Shanghai Grand Theatre, the National Arts Centre in Canada and more. Eric was featured on Radio France, STV in China, KBS in Korea, and WQXR, and WBAL-FM in the US, and has appeared in “Live from Lincoln Center,” the “Perlman in Shanghai” telecast on PBS, and the “Kennedy Center Honors” on CBS. Eric has won the Violin Concerto Competition at Juilliard and the Toyota Award from the

CHRIS CHORNEY, cello
Chris Chorney (CC ’06) has remained firm friends with his cello through many years and many ups and downs. Since graduating from Columbia College with a degree in Philosophy and Screenwriting, he has braved the songwriter’s open-mic circuit in New York City, formed a rock band, worked for renowned composer/choreographer Meredith Monk, and currently works at a sushi restaurant and as an assistant at a world-class recording studio in Honolulu, Hawaii - his home town. He can’t imagine what’s in store for him next. He is very grateful to the opportunities afforded to him by Mr. Rappaport - whose scholarship he received in 2005. His summer of music study at the Meadowmount Academy was life changing in many ways.

KURT KANAZAWA, baritone
Baritone Kanazawa, 20, is a Junior at Columbia University, where he studies voice with Spiro Malas. He has performed the title role in Mendelssohn’s “Elijah” with the Barnard-Columbia Chorus in the Fall, and recently appeared as Jesus/Bass Soloist in Bach’s “St. John Passion” in the Spring. Through the generous support of the Rapaport Prize, he looks forward to attending the Chautauqua Summer Music Festival Voice Program for his second summer, where he will continue studies in opera and song literature with Marlena Malas and Mikael Eliasen. Originally from Los Angeles, Kurt Kanazawa is also pursuing his BA in Visual Arts, where he specializes in photography and film under the guidance of Thomas Roma.

ALICIA KRAVITZ, flute
Alicia Kravitz graduated from Columbia University with a double major in Music and American History. She then completed a Master of Music Degree at the Manhattan School of Music. A winner of the Artists International Music Competition, Ms. Kravitz gave a professional debut recital at Carnegie Hall in 2007. Artists International recently named her an “Outstanding Alumni Winner” after her successful Carnegie Hall debut. She has won prizes in several other music competitions including the Trinity
Church “Concerts at One” Competition, the Artur Balsam Duo Competition, the Friday Woodmere Music Club Competition, the Yonkers Philharmonic Concerto Competition, and the Great Neck Young Musicians Competition. Ms. Kravitz is an accomplished orchestral flutist, serving as principal flutist of the Kurt Masur Conducting Institute in New York City and the Deutsch-Skandinavische Jugend-Philharmonie in Berlin, Germany. Through the generous support of the Rapaport Fellowship, she has attended the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Eastern Music Festival, and Banff Arts Centre Master Class Program. Ms. Kravitz is a member of the Sheba Ensemble, an all-female Jewish chamber music group, and performs regularly with the Park Avenue Chamber Symphony and Camerata Notturna Orchestra. She is currently a second year law student at Fordham University School of Law.

ELIZABETH LYON, cello
Elizabeth began studying the cello at the age of five with her mother and has been playing for sixteen years. Elizabeth has performed as principal cellist of the 2002 Viva-Vivaldi All Girl Orchestra at the Kennedy Center as well as the 2006 Pennsylvania All State Orchestra. Elizabeth has been a student at the Festival de la Orquesta Sinfonica Juvenil de las Americas, the Meadowmont School of Music, Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Quartet Program, Rencontres Musicales Internationales des Graves, Kneisel Hall, and through the support of the Rapaport Fellowship, the Fontainebleau School. Elizabeth has soloed with the Altoona Symphony Orchestra, The Central Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra, The Nittany Valley Symphony, The Columbia University Orchestra, and from 2005-2007 served as Assistant Principal of the Pennsylvania Centre Orchestra. In 2007, Elizabeth participated as a finalist in ARTS week, of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. As a student in the Columbia-Juilliard Program, Elizabeth is a Classical Studies Major at Columbia University and a member of Bonnie Hampton’s Studio at The Juilliard.

MARYAM PARHIZKAR, viola
Violist Maryam Parhizkar (Houston, TX) graduated from Columbia College in 2009 as a John C. Kluge Scholar with a B.A. in English. She is indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Rapaport for her fellowships, which sponsored her summer studies at the ENCORE School for Strings, Orford Arts Centre and Fontainebleau American Conservatory. She continues her studies with Victoria Voronyansky and has studied/mentored with Sarah Adams, Becca Albers, Wayne Brooks, Heidi Castiean, David Holland, Stanley Konopka and Richard Wolfe. Maryam currently works as a program assistant at Turtle Bay Music School, a non-profit community school in east midtown Manhattan. Additionally, she is the grants intern at the Foundation for Contemporary Arts and keeps her Columbia connection as founding director of the ensemble fourbythree. Maryam hopes to someday work in a way that combines her interests in music performance, the contemporary arts, writing and education.

PETER LIOU, piano
Peter Liou is currently finishing his second year at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. Since his enrollment into Columbia College in 2004, Peter has been actively involved with the musical scene on campus. In the summer of 2007, Peter traveled to France on a Richard Rapaport scholarship to attend the Conservatoire Américain, studying and performing chamber music in the Chateaux of Fontainebleau.

In addition to his busy life as a medical student, Peter maintains his musical career serving as president of the Physicians and Surgeons Musicians’ Guild, where he performs every month in concerts at the medical center. Last spring, he raised $40,000 to restore a Steinway concert grand piano at the medical school once owned by Sergei Rachmaninoff. When he is not studying or performing, Peter enjoys traveling and exploring new cultures. The summer of 2009 he went to Tanzania to work with infants exposed to HIV. This summer he hopes to travel to China, to help children with various orthopedic conditions. Peter also enjoys attending operas at the Met, learning new languages, and Chinese Calligraphy.

MARYAM PARHIZKAR, viola
Violist Maryam Parhizkar (Houston, TX) graduated from Columbia College in 2009 as a John C. Kluge Scholar with a B.A. in English. She is indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Rapaport for her fellowships, which sponsored her summer studies at the ENCORE School for Strings, Orford Arts Centre and Fontainebleau American Conservatory. She continues her studies with Victoria Voronyansky and has studied/mentored with Sarah Adams, Becca Albers, Wayne Brooks, Heidi Castiean, David Holland, Stanley Konopka and Richard Wolfe. Maryam currently works as a program assistant at Turtle Bay Music School, a non-profit community school in east midtown Manhattan. Additionally, she is the grants intern at the Foundation for Contemporary Arts and keeps her Columbia connection as founding director of the ensemble fourbythree. Maryam hopes to someday work in a way that combines her interests in music performance, the contemporary arts, writing and education.