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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 4, 2009

The Mondavi Center Presents Annual Young Artists Competition Showcase

Davis, Calif.—Resident pianist **Lara Downes** against hosts a **special concert** featuring the winners of the fourth annual Mondavi Center **Young Artists Competition**. Remarkable young California musicians ages 10 to 17 perform solo and chamber works for piano, strings and voice in this showcase on **Sunday, March 29, at 2 p.m.** in the **Studio Theatre** of the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts**, UC Davis.

Says **Don Roth**, Mondavi Center executive director, "We are proud to sponsor the Young Artists Competition and to support its gifted young participants. Nurturing the talent of the future is one very important part of our Mondavi Center educational mission. The quality of talent that the Competition attracts continues to amaze."

Pricing is \$20 for regular tickets and \$10 for students and children. Purchase tickets online at MondaviArts.org, through the Mondavi Center box office at 530-754-2787 or 866-754-2787 (toll-free), or at the door. Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request.

The fourth annual Mondavi Center **Young Artists Competition** received applications from more than 100 talented young California musicians. In January, 55 finalists selected from a preliminary recorded audition round competed live for scholarships and performance and study opportunities. The jury included **Sheri Greenawald**, director of the San Francisco Opera Center; **Timm Rolek**, artistic director of the Sacramento Opera; and the members of the **Cypress String Quartet**, one of the most acclaimed young chamber groups working in the country today.

In the **senior division** (grades 9–12), the grand prize went to **Kevin Sun**, a 15-year-old pianist from Sacramento, who took the junior grand prize in the 2007 competition. Other prizes in the senior division were awarded to **Weston Mizumoto** (piano), **Rieko Tsuchida** (piano), **Evin Blomberg** (violin), **Duo Doori-Moa** (violin/cello ensemble) and **Yelena Dyachek** (voice).

In the **junior division** (grades 4–8), the grand prize was awarded to **Alex Chien**, a 10-year-old pianist from San Jose. Other prizes in the division went to **Hugo Kitano** (piano), **Eunice Kim** (cello), and the **Veligan/Arai/Safonov/-Lee-Sumner/Okhovat Piano Quintet** (ensemble). Read more at MondaviArts.org.

- **Young Artists Competition Showcase**
- **Sun., March 29, 2 p.m.**
- **Mondavi Center, Studio Theatre**
- **9399 Old Davis Road, Davis, CA 95616 (GPS)**
- **\$20 regular; \$10 students, children**
- **530-754-2787**
866-754-2787 (toll-free)
530-754-5402 (TDD)
MondaviArts.org