



VANCOUVER VIOLIST TAKES \$8,000 TOP PRIZE

Edmonton, AB – On **Friday, May 20, 2011** – after two days of amazing and very high calibre competition – violist **Eleanor Kendra James** (23 years old), from Vancouver, BC, was awarded the **\$8,000 top prize** in **The Shean Strings Competition**. She has also won the opportunity to play with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra at a future date. Miss James was one of 6 finalists chosen from the 20 submitted entries to compete in the 2011 Shean Strings Competition on May 19 and 20.

The complete results of the Competition were as follows:

- First Place and \$8,000 – Eleanor Kendra James, viola (Vancouver, BC)
- Second Place and \$5,000 – Bénédicte Lauzière, violin (Montréal, QC)
- Third Place and \$4,000 – Esther Hwang, violin (Vancouver, BC)
- Fourth Place and \$3,000 – Meghan Nenniger, violin (Calgary, AB)
- (Tie) Fifth Place and \$2,000 each – Joshua Peters, violin (Winnipeg, MB) and Christopher Whitley (Toronto, ON)

Bénédicte Lauzière also won **\$1,000 Paul J. Bourret Prize for Best Performance of the Test Piece** – *Valse-scherzo in C Major, Op. 34* by Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky.

The adjudicators for this year's Competition were **David Hoyt**, Chair; **Moshe Hammer** (violin) and **Colin Ryan** (violoncello).

The 2012 Shean Piano Competition takes place May 17 and 28, 2012 in Edmonton with an \$8,000 Top Prize and the opportunity to perform with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. The \$1,000 Paul J. Bourret Prize for Best Performance of the Test Piece will also be awarded.

www.sheancompetition.com

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