

LOUISIANA INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION – FINAL UPDATE

Well, the competition came to a close with a spectacular finish: three world class pianists with 2 phenomenal concerti. The finalists performed to a packed house, and even though the audience heard Tchaikovski's Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor twice, they still rose to their feet at the conclusion of each masterful performance. But all good things must come to an end, but no competition can finish without some awards.

The junior level competitors, who performed at Louisiana College in the Weathersby Fine Arts Center, were presented to the audience at the Coughlin-Saunders Performing Arts Center. 2 honorable mentions went to 8-year-old Cynthia Soto of Costa Rica, and 12-year-old Chaeyoung park of Kansas. Third prize went to Fantee Jones of California, and second went to Lin Peng, who also appeared in the artist level competition. First prize went to Kate Liu of Illinois, who was invited to perform while the judges deliberated on the 3 finalists of the artist-level competition. After a beautiful interpretation of Ravel's Ondine from *Gaspard de la Nuit*, the judges returned with the results of the final round. Third prize went to Kun Yao of Canada. Second went to John Fisher of Australia. And the first went to Daniil Tsvetkov. The 3 finalists will perform at Carnegie Hall in January, and Tsvetkov will perform with the St. Petersburg orchestra next summer. Look for Tsvetkov's CD at the next Louisiana International Piano Competition in 2011. See you there!