



THE HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION

MEDIA RELEASE

EIGHT YOUNG PERFORMING ARTISTS AWARDED \$10,000 GRANTS

OTTAWA, September 27, 2011 – Eight young performing artists will receive grants of \$10,000 each from The Hnatyshyn Foundation to pursue their studies from September 2011. Over the past seven years \$540,000 has been awarded in university-level scholarships to worthy recipients across Canada by the foundation, based in our national capital. The grant winners were adjudicated anonymously by expert juries from among applicants nominated by educational and training institutions across Canada.

In announcing the winners of the 2011 Developing Artists Grants adjudication in Ottawa today, Gerda Hnatyshyn, C.C., President and Chair of the Board of The Hnatyshyn Foundation, said: “The nominees for 2011 represent the depth of talent and perseverance that can be found in Canada’s young performing artists. The Hnatyshyn Foundation is privileged to celebrate their accomplishments by awarding these grants, investing in and supporting, at the most fundamental level, the development of world-class artists of tomorrow.”

Heemin Choi, of Halifax, NS, receives the classical music grant for orchestral instrument (strings). An 18-year-old violinist, he is commencing the first year of a Bachelor of Music degree at Dalhousie University.

The classical piano grant is awarded to 16-year-old Jan Lisiecki of Calgary, AB. He enters the first year of a Bachelor of Music Degree at Royal Conservatory, Glenn Gould School in Toronto this fall.

The winner of the Oscar Peterson Grant for Jazz Performance is Matthew Chalmers of Toronto, ON, a 17-year-old drummer and vibraphonist in his first year of the Music Jazz Studies degree program at Humber College in Toronto.

The classical ballet grant recipient is 18-year-old Larissa Khotchenkova of Toronto, ON. A graduate of Canada’s National Ballet School, she is currently undertaking a full-time apprenticeship program with The National Ballet of Canada in Toronto.

The graduate grant for classical vocal performance is awarded to Emily Duncan-Brown, a 25-year-old soprano, originally from Mississauga, ON. Studying under renowned voice teacher, Ruth Falcon, Emily resides in New York and is a graduate of McGill University in Montréal.

The French theatre acting grant goes to Marie-Anick Blais, a 23-year-old student from Québec. She is currently studying at the Conservatoire d'art dramatique in Montréal, enrolled in her final year of the three-year acting program.

Lisa Truong, age 21, of Edmonton, AB receives the Developing Artist Grant for English theatre acting. She began her final year of the Acting Program at the National Theatre School in Montréal this fall.

The recipient for contemporary dance is 19-year-old Alexandre Morin of St-Colomban, QC. He begins his second year of the Professional Training Program at LADMMI (l'École de danse contemporaine de Montréal).

The Hnatyshyn Foundation is a private charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General. Its programs are funded by donations from government, foundations, corporations and individuals. The Department of Canadian Heritage has provided nearly \$2.4 million in matching funds to the Foundation.

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For further information: www.rjhf.com

Contact:
Dawn Firestone
Executive Director
The Hnatyshyn Foundation

(613) 233-0108