

## Andrew Zhao

22-year-old pianist Andrew Zhao began his major public performances at the age of eleven performing the first movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Ken-David Masur. His recent accomplishments include winning first place at the 2017 Yamaha USASU International Competition for Young Pianists, as well as the Fenstermaker Scholar distinction and Conrad Bruderer First Prize in Piano presented by the Musical Merit Foundation of Greater San Diego. Andrew also won the silver medal at the 2015 Virginia Waring International Piano Competition and was selected as one of the 22 official competitors of the quadrennial Gina Bachauer International Young Artists Competition in 2016. He has won top prizes at other competitions, including second place and best *etude* prize at the 2012 Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, along with third place at the 2013 San Jose International Piano Competition, first place in the 2012 San Diego Symphony Young Artist Competition, first place at the 2012 Music Teacher's Association of California Concerto Competition, and first place at the 2014 Glendale Piano Competition.

In addition to his competition accomplishments, Andrew's public solo appearances include performances in Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall in New York City; the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles, CA; Le Petit Trianon Theater in San Jose, CA; Center for the Performing Arts in Poway, CA; Copley Symphony Hall at the Jacobs Music Center, Shiley Theatre and Qualcomm Q Auditorium in San Diego, CA.

Andrew is a graduate of Pomona College, where he studied piano with Genevieve Lee and was twice awarded the Barbara Sanford Allen Prize, given each year to an outstanding student in the Department of Music. He will be entering the Royal Academy of Music in September 2023 for a Master of Arts degree, studying with Rustem Hayroudinoff. In San Diego, Andrew studied with Mrs. Inessa Litvin for six years, and is grateful to Mrs. Litvin for establishing his musical foundations and his love for piano playing. Andrew also studied at the Colburn Music Academy, an intensive pre-college division of the Colburn School in Los Angeles, from 2013 to 2016. In addition, he has participated in masterclasses with artists including Robert McDonald, Arthur Greene, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Jerome Lowenthal, John O'Connor, and Mikhail Petukhov.