

For Immediate Release, November 3, 2022

Violin Society of America to Hold Convention & Competition in Anaheim

Event will be the 48th Annual Convention and the 24th International Competition spotlighting contemporary makers of string instruments and their bows

Hyatt Regency Orange County, CA - Over 350 attendees, 26 speakers, and 60 vendors and sponsors will convene Nov. 13-18 for a week of programming to celebrate string instrument and bow making. This is the first live event of its kind by the Violin Society of America since 2018.

The event culminates the evening of Nov. 17 with the announcement of winners in the new instrument making competition. The VSA administers the contest with strict judging standards to identify excellence in artisanship and tone. Over 400 violins, violas, cellos and their bows have been entered by amateur and professional makers, the most in The VSA's history. A panel of internationally recognized experts will spend four days studying each entry to determine Gold Medal, Silver Medal and Certificates of Merit awards. The awards ceremony will be live-streamed via Instagram and Facebook, followed by a public viewing of the competition instruments on Nov. 18 at the hotel.

"This is one of the most consequential events for violins today" says Bill Scott, VSA President. "The VSA Competition confirms a new standard in contemporary violin and bowmaking."

Other programming themes include:

- *Innovation & Sustainability* - highlighted with presentations on the future of pernambuco & other endangered tonewoods and their emerging alternatives
- *Diversity, Equity & Inclusion* - featuring a Women's Luncheon honoring the achievements of female members, and a Diversity Mixer celebrating the recent expansion of the organization's charter with stronger non-discrimination policies to protect VSA membership and enjoyment for everyone
- Acoustics, varnish, historical instruments & bows and more

Admission is open to the public for \$300 for the week plus VSA membership or \$115/day. Musicians interested in viewing instruments and bows from the Competition can do so for free with a VSA Musician's Pass.

Founded in 1974, The Violin Society of America is a non-profit organization that promotes the art and science of making, repairing and preserving stringed musical instruments and their bows. The VSA holds events, publishes journals, and awards scholarships and grants to expand the field of lutherie. Membership is open to all and includes over 1,000 makers, dealers, players and enthusiasts. Visit vsaweb.org for more information.

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