

Musical Arts International, Inc

Presents

A season of Celebration

Matthew Chang, Calvin Kotrba, piano. May 3rd, 2026, at 3:00PM

www.musicalartsinternational.org

Calvary Lutheran Church, 9545 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (between 495 & GA ave.)
Q&A, Reception follows.



Matthew Chang, seventeen years old, is mainly studying under the guidance of Dr. Martin Labazevitch. He has won first prizes at International Young Artist Piano Competition twice. In 2024-2025, Matthew received the silver prize and the special award for the best performance of a Chopin piece at the national final round of the MTNA senior solo piano competition, as well as the silver medal and the special award for the best performance of a Chopin Mazurka in the 31st International Chopin Piano Competition in Szafarnia, Poland. He has also received numerous accolades, including winning the National Young Arts with Distinction award, the Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition, the Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition for Young Pianists, and he has won twice at International Young Artist Piano Competition in

Washington DC. Matthew gave his first livestream solo recital at eleven years old. He gave a second during the Covid-19 pandemic, at the Polish ambassador's residence at twelve years old. Since then, he has performed in venues across the world, including appearances in Puerto Rico, Spain, Austria, Hungary, South Korea, and more. Matthew has also been featured with the Sinfonia da Camera orchestra under the baton of maestro Ian Hobson in Illinois and appeared on NPR's From the Top. Recently, he was selected to be a third-year Chopin national scholarship recipient.

"He projected the life of each distinct phrase with a joyful and intense involvement. His rhythm was not merely solid, but also full of dance-like energy." - NY Concert Review



Calvin Kotrba is from Minnesota and currently studies with Dr. Andrew Staupe at the University of Houston. He began lessons at the age of three with his mother, Sara Kotrba, and later with Dr. Paul Wirth. He earned degrees in piano performance and mathematics with highest honors as a student of Dr. Ksenia Nosikova at the University of Iowa. He earned his master's degree in piano performance under Prof. Gila Goldstein at the Longy School of Music, where he was the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship and the Longy Leadership Award. He was the first-prize winner of the 2025 International Young Artist Piano Competition in Washington, D.C. as well as the 2024 Thomas F. Hulbert International Piano Competition. He represented the state of Massachusetts in the 2023 and 2024 MTNA Competitions. His recent festival appearances include studies with Alexander Shtarkman and Gila Goldstein, MA, with

John O'Connor, Vermont, and with Ksenia Nosikova, Austria. He is the first American to professionally record Charles Alkan's *Scherzo Focoso, Op. 34*, available on streaming services worldwide. In Houston he teaches music theory, accompanying, serving as the organist at St. Mark Lutheran Church, and studying conducting with Dr. Anthony Maglione. A great lover of collaborative playing, his coaches are Renana Gutman, Elizabeth Oakes and Réne Lecuona, also coaching from members of the Brentano, Miró, Harlem, Castalian, Dali, and JACK quartets. Calvin is also a composer and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His love of music is sustained and enriched by his Christian faith. Besides playing the piano, he also enjoys traveling long distances by train, eating steak, and organizing his schedule.

Program: Beethoven Sonata No. 21 in C Major; Chopin Variation no 2 on Mozart Aria from Don Giovanni. Schubert Sonata in D Major; Berg Sonata op 1; Alkan Scherzo Focoso. Impromptus by Li-Ly Chang

Tickets: regular \$25, student \$15. **Eventbrite** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrating-the-season-tickets-1980417019617?aff=oddtcreator>, or mail a check to MAI, PO Box 2284, Silver Spring, 20915 or call 301-933-3715

Musical Arts International, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Donation is accepted and greatly appreciated.