

# GHHS student to work with Russian pianist

Sat, May 2, 2009

Six West Michigan piano students will participate in a master class hosted by internationally acclaimed Russian pianist Yuri Rozum on Tuesday.

The event, which is open to the public, will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 508 Franklin Ave.

The day-long workshop, which is being coordinated by the West Shore Symphony Orchestra's education and outreach program, will give the advanced students the opportunity to study with and perform before the world-renowned Rozum.

It's part of the symphony's 2009 Russian Festival and Gala.

Students taking part in the master class include:

— James Schippers, a junior at Grand Haven High School. Schippers is currently a student of Le's as well. He was the winner of the 2009 Norbert Mueller Concerto Competition, sponsored by the Holland Symphony Orchestra. Schippers will perform "Two Poems, Op. 32," by Alexander Scriabin.

— John Donkersloot, a sophomore at Hope College. Donkersloot is currently studying with Dr. Andre Le, piano professor at Hope, and has performed with the Hope College Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony Orchestra. He will perform Rachmaninoff's "Prelude in B Flat Major, Op. 32, No. 2."

— Sally VanderPloeg, a piano performance major at Hope College. VanderPloeg is also a student of Le's and will study with Antoinette Perry at this summer's Aspen Music Festival. VanderPloeg has performed solo concertos with the Holland Symphony Orchestra and the Hope College Orchestra. She will perform Rachmaninoff's "Etude-Tableaux in E Flat Minor, Op. 39, No. 5."

— Jenna Leffring, a home-schooled 10th-grader. Leffring has studied under Wilma Jeanne Swartz since the age of 5. She was the winner of the Greater Muskegon Music Teachers Association's Awards Recital in 2007 and again this year. She also plays viola with the Holland Area Youth Orchestra and the West Shore Youth Symphony. Leffring will perform McDowell's "Improvisation, Op. 46, No. 4."

— Rachel McHenry, a senior at Mona Shores High School. McHenry currently studies under Susan Tindall. She will perform Tchaikovsky's "February Carnival" from "The Seasons."

— David Boyer, a junior at Mona Shores High School. Boyer has also studied under Susan Tindall since the age of 6. He will perform Tchaikovsky's "September Hunting Song" from "The Seasons."

**On the Net:**