

**CLARA-JUMI KANG**, a German of Korean origin, was born in Mannheim in 1987. In September 2010, she captured the Gold Medal of the eighth Quadrennial International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, where she also won five additional special prizes and the use of the 1683 ex-Gingold Stradivari for four years.

Highlights for the 2011–12 season include solo engagements with the Indianapolis, Santa Fe and Richmond (Indiana) Symphonies; New Jersey, Hiroshima and Kyushu Symphony Orchestras; Sendai and Nagoya Philharmonics; Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa; Nihon Century Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra in Taipei. She will perform multiple recital tours throughout Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and the United States, including her Carnegie Hall debut in Stern Auditorium in May 2012.

Kang started violin and piano lessons at the age of 3 and entered the Mannheim Musikhochschule at 4, studying with Valerie Gradov. The following year, she moved to Lubeck to study under Zakhar Bron and gave her debut with the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra. At age 7, she was accepted as a full scholarship student at The Juilliard School and studied with renowned pedagogue Dorothy DeLay and Hyo Kang. Kang gave her debut in Korea at age 8, performing with the Korean Chamber Ensemble at the Seoul Arts Center.

Her numerous international competition awards include First Prize at both the 2010 Sendai International Violin Competition and 2009 Seoul International Violin Competition, as well as Second Prize at the 2009 Hannover International Violin Competition.