

## Press Release

For immediate release

Contact: Adrienne Allen, Executive Director  
(785) 823-8309, [execdir@salinasymphony.org](mailto:execdir@salinasymphony.org)



### **SALINA SYMPHONY CONCERT TO FEATURE WINNER OF LONDON INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION**

Feb. 11, 2010, SALINA, KAN.—The Salina Symphony will present “Romantic Interlude” on Sunday, March 7, at 4:00 p.m. at the Stiefel Theatre, 151 S. Santa Fe. The concert will highlight music from the Romantic period and will feature Behzod Abduraimov, the 2009 King Award for Young Artists gold medalist.

The Symphony will open the concert with Wagner’s “Rienzi Overture” followed by Brahms’ “Variations on a Theme by Haydn.” Following intermission, Abduraimov will perform Tchaikovsky’s “Piano Concerto No. 1,” one of Tchaikovsky’s most popular works and among the best known of all piano concerti.

Abduraimov captured the top prize in the Salina Symphony’s King Award for Young Artists Music Competition in April of 2009. Later that same month, he was awarded the grand prize at the prestigious London International Piano Competition, where jury chair Sulamita Aronovsky described his performance as “literally breathtaking, astonishing in its vitality and tonal range.” He was the youngest first prize winner in the history of the London competition.

As a result of his success, 18-year-old Abduraimov has received great critical acclaim and has subsequently been invited to perform with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra as well as tour the Far East with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

--more--

Born in Uzbekistan, Abduraimov began playing piano at age five and gave his first solo performance with a symphony orchestra at the age of eight. He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree at the International Center for Music at Park University in Kansas City, where he studies under Van Cliburn International Piano Competition gold medalist Stanislav Ioudenitch.

Concert tickets are \$19 for adults/\$12 for students and may be purchased at the Stiefel Theatre Box Office, 151 S. Santa Fe, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, by calling 785-827-1998 or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). The box office will open at noon on concert day.

The Salina Symphony is a regional orchestra dedicated to enriching lives through artistic music performance and education. For more information, please contact Adrienne Allen at (785) 823-8309 or visit [www.salinasymphony.org](http://www.salinasymphony.org). For more information about the King Award for Young Artists National Music Competition, please visit [www.kingaward.org](http://www.kingaward.org).

###