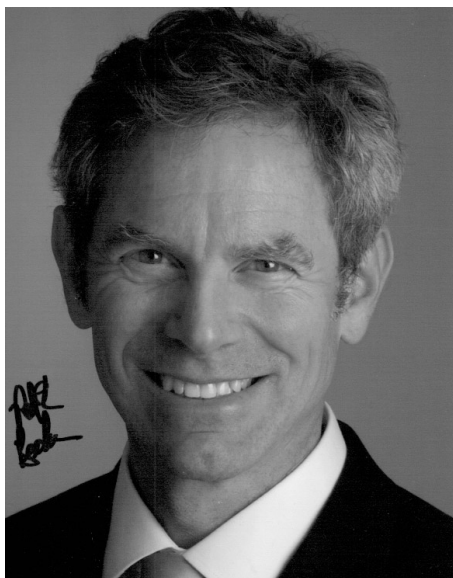


Welcome Letter



Greetings!

On behalf of Salt Lake City, I am pleased to welcome you to the Stradivarius International Violin Competition from July 5-10, 2010. We are honored to be the host city for this wonderful event, which unites competitors ages 11-17 from Taiwan, Russia, China, Canada, the United States and other parts of the world for five days of intense competition. The focus and appreciation of the arts, all genres of music, worldwide recognition and a balance of support and competition are significant values that unite all participants in this competition.

The Stradivarius International Violin Competition was established in 2006, with the first competition being held in June 2007. It is a nonprofit organization, sponsored by Charles W. Liu Fine Violins and co-sponsored by the University of Utah and the Utah Symphony. As posted on www.stradcompetition.org, the purpose of this competition is to “give the finest young players in the world a chance to visit a place that appreciates their efforts. While there are excellent prizes available, the positive experience of competing will be the greatest focus.

This year, the competition will welcome and host renowned judges Stephen Clapp, Julliard; Liang Chai, China Conservatory of Music; and Valentin Zhuk, Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam.

While you are visiting, please take advantage of the beautiful outdoors that Salt Lake City has to offer. Our world renowned snow, skiing, picturesque mountains, and Great Salt Lake, along with many other magnificent lakes, fine city parks, unique dining and local shopping are only a few of the superb attractions Salt Lake City presents.

Again, thank you for visiting Salt Lake City. I wish the Stradivarius International Violin Competition great success!

Warmest Regards,

Ralph Becker

Mayor