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Cal State San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus Hosts Virginia Waring International Piano Competition

PALM DESERT, Calif. (March 18, 2009)- The Virginia Waring International Piano Competition will return to the Palm Desert Campus of California State University, San Bernardino from March 29 through April 4, 2009.

All events (except for the Solo Finals on Friday, April 3) are free and open to the public. Parking is free.

"We are so happy to return to the beautiful Palm Desert Campus of California State University, San Bernardino on Cook Street," stated Peggy Cravens, President of the non-profit Virginia Waring International Piano Competition. "The Indian Wells Theater has great acoustics and is the perfect venue for the solo and concerto rounds with the 2nd piano," she continued. "The volunteers and staff loved being there in 2007 and the campus staff is terrific."

The event is viewed as an important springboard for the future stars of the solo, chamber and orchestral piano concert arena. This year's contestants come from 12 countries and are between the ages of 23 and 35.

New this year will be a chamber music round with the exciting Del Sol String Quartet, one of the premiere new chamber music ensembles currently touring. The Chamber Music Rounds are on Monday and Wednesday night, March 30 and April 1, at 7 p.m. in the Indian Wells Theater.

Major support for the VWIPC comes from the Annenberg Foundation and the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation. This year's Presenting Sponsor will be the City of Palm Desert and the Platinum Sponsor will be the City of Indian Wells.

Tickets to the Solo Finals Round on Friday night, April 3, are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. For more information, call (760) 773-2575 or visit www.vwipc.org.