

IMSA
**Beyond
Knowledge**

Convocation
August 18, 2011

IMSA Convocation

Pledge of Allegiance & Welcome

Aadi Tolappa '12
Student Council President

Dr. Glenn W. "Max" McGee
IMSA President

"Creating Connections"

Dr. Eric McLaren
*IMSA Principal & Vice President
for Academic Programs*

"Beyond Knowledge"

Featured Piece

*Sonata No. 3 in F Minor, Op.14
V. Prestissimo possibile
Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)*

Dr. Jeong Hwang-Choe
IMSA Science Faculty Member

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Lillian Kao '89
*Associate Professor of Surgery
University of Texas
Health Science Center*

Closing Remarks

Dr. Eric McLaren

NOTE: Student body photograph will be taken immediately following Convocation. All students should stand on the East bleachers.

Biographies

Dr. Lillian Kao '89—IMSA Charter Class

IMSA Charter Class Graduate Dr. Lillian Kao, MD, MS, grew up in Elmhurst, Illinois, and graduated from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in 1989. She attended the combined premedical-medical program, Inteflex, at the University of Michigan and graduated from medical school in 1996. She completed her surgical residency in 2001 and subsequently fellowships in gastrointestinal surgery and critical care. She obtained a Masters degree in Clinical Research at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UT Health).

She is currently Associate Professor of Surgery at UT Health. In addition, Dr. Kao is the Vice Chief of Surgery at Lyndon Baines Johnson General Hospital, a Vice-Chair for Quality of Care for the Department of Surgery, Co-Director of the Center for Surgical Trials and Evidence-based Practice and Secretary of the Association for Academic Surgery. She divides her time between operating at the county hospital, performing clinical research focused on improving patient safety and outcomes in surgery, and teaching.

Dr. Jeong Hwang-Choe, IMSA Science Faculty

IMSA Science Faculty Member Dr. Jeong Hwang-Choe began her musical studies at the age of five in Korea. She immigrated to Australia when she was 12. In Australia, she received numerous honors for her performances in several prestigious competitions including the 1994 Australia Inner West Piano Competition, 1994 Warringai Piano Competition in NSW, Australia and the 1994 Australia Music Associate National Audition. She moved to the United States in 1994, where she continued her study with Emilio Del Rosario, Kathy Johnson and Menachem Pressler from Beaux Arts Trio and also took Master classes with Peter Oundijin (Tokyo String Quartet), Gregy Sobok, and Jano Starker at Northwestern University in 1996.

In the United States, Dr. Hwang-Choe was acclaimed in numerous competitions including: the 1996 Illinois State Music Teacher's Association/Yamaha Piano Competition, 1996 solo recital for the Steinway Concert Series in Illinois, 1997 Midwest Young Artists Concerto Competition, 1997 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, 1997 MacDowell Prize Piano Competition, East Central Division of MTNA Piano Competition, 1997 Rembrandt Player's Annual Chamber Music Competition, 1997 Trio recital for Steinway Concert Series, 1999 Indiana University Concerto Competition and the 2000 Skokie Valley Symphony Annual Young Artist Competition. In addition, she has received numerous scholarships for her musical talent including the 1998 Indiana University Emma E. Claus Scholarship, 2000 Hannack Prize Scholarship and 2000 Louis Frank Scholarship. She also has performed with the Colorado String Quartet and Vermeer String Quartet. Dr. Hwang-Choe plays the piano during her leisure time and last year, she taught the Chamber Music Intersession with Ms. McCarthy.

IMSA's Mission and Beliefs

The mission of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®, the world's leading teaching and learning laboratory for imagination and inquiry, is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition, through a system distinguished by profound questions, collaborative relationships, personalized experiential learning, global networking, generative use of technology and pioneering outreach.

Beliefs

We Believe That...

- All people have equal intrinsic worth.
- All people have choices and are responsible for their actions.
- Belonging to a community requires commitment to the common good.
- Diverse perspectives enrich understanding and inspire discovery and creativity.
- Honesty, trust and respect are vital for any relationship to thrive.
- Learning never ends.
- Meaning is constructed by the learner.
- No one's path in life is predetermined.
- The ability to discern and create connections is the essence of knowing.
- We are all stewards of our planet.

