

Young Artist Awards, Beverly Garland Holiday Inn Hotel
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13-YEAR-OLD SOUTH KOREAN GUITARIST CAPTURES MUSICAL HONORS IN HOLLYWOOD

NORTH HOLLYWOOD - An eighth grade school student from South Korea will be honored in North Hollywood at the 31st Annual Young Artist Awards April 11. His special award for Outstanding International Instrumentalist will be presented at the event honoring dozens of child and teen actors and actresses in film, television and live theater.

Thirteen-year-old Sungha Jung has been playing acoustic finger style guitar for just three years. But in that short time he has not only appeared on stage in his native South Korea but on the TV show Star King. He even went on tour at the invitation of guitarist Trace Bundy, in the United States, appearing on stage with Bundy in a number of venues in California, Oregon and Washington. In addition, he recently returned from engagements in Finland and Germany and his first CD, "Hazy Sunshine", is due out later this year.

Sungha's music has caught the notice of music lovers around the world as he has accumulated some 18,000 fans on his Face Book page. But Sungha says he is most honored by e-mails from many prominent musicians. Then there's the comment made by Yoko Ono, widow of the late John Lennon. After viewing an internet video of Sungha playing, "All I Need Is Love," Ono said John would have been happy that he performed his song so well.

Sungha, who lives in Chung-Ju City, said he recently has taken up drums and piano but it hasn't replaced his real love. "With a guitar, I can express as much as what I feel," he said.

The non-profit Young Artist Awards will be held this year at the Beverly Garland Holiday Inn Hotel in North Hollywood. For more information go to www.youngartistawards.org

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