



Flat Rock Campus

180 West Campus Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731

Transylvania Center

45 Oak Park Drive, Brevard, NC 28712

www.blueridge.edu

For Release

February 2, 2010

Ayesh to Present Faculty Recital February 28



Concert pianist and Blue Ridge Community College Music Instructor Kevin Ayesh will present a recital on Sunday, February 28 at 3:00 PM in Bo Thomas Auditorium. Dr. Ayesh will perform an all-Chopin program in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth. Featured works will include both the B-flat Minor ("Funeral March") and B Minor sonatas. Following the concert, a reception will be provided by Dan Knapp, executive chef of Lake Pointe Landing Retirement Community.

Kevin Ayesh has concertized throughout the United States. As a North Carolina Visiting Artist, he appeared before thousands across this state between 1988 and 1992, performing as many as 75 recitals in a season. During the past few seasons, Dr. Ayesh has performed and given master classes at Washington State University, Portland State University, Colorado State University, the University of Kentucky, the University of Tennessee, Eastern Michigan University, Boise State University, the University of Nebraska at Kearney, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the University of Rhode Island, St. Mary's University (MN), Point Loma Nazarene University (CA), Brevard Community College (FL), Southwestern University (TX), West Liberty University (WV), and the Elkader Opera House in Iowa.

A native of Wichita, Kansas, Ayesh was for ten years a piano student of Elinor Aiken. He received his Bachelor of Music degree with highest honors from the University of Texas, where he was a student of William Race; his master's and doctorate degrees are from the University of Maryland, where he was a student of Nelita True.

Ayesh is the recipient of many prizes, including the Naftzger Piano Award, Baltimore Music Club Award, and Winner of both the JCC Baltimore Piano Competition and the Maryland State Music Teachers' Elizabeth R. Davis Memorial Piano Competition. He has been a finalist in several national and international competitions, was awarded Second Prize at the Wideman Piano Competition, and won both Third Prize and Composer's Prize at the New Orleans International Piano Competition.

Ayesh has appeared three times as concerto soloist with the Hendersonville (NC) Symphony Orchestra; twice with the Brevard Philharmonic Orchestra, and also with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra, the Asheville Chamber Orchestra, the Wichita Community Orchestra, and the Maryland Youth Symphony Orchestra. In frequent demand as adjudicator and workshop clinician, Ayesh has judged Music Teachers National Association auditions for the Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia state conventions. He has also been a featured clinician at both the Georgia and South Carolina Music Educators Association state conventions. He has given numerous lecture/performances of the piano music of American composer Robert Starer.

Admission to the recital is free; seating is unreserved. Thomas Auditorium is located in the Sink Building on BRCC's Flat Rock campus. For more information, please contact Dr. Ayesh at 828-694-1860, or by email at kevina@blueridge.edu.

###