Seohyun Kim
Violin

South Korean violinist Seohyun Kim was revealed as a rising star on the international stage when she became the youngest-ever winner of the 2023 Tibor Varga International Competition at only 14. Prior to this, she had already won first prize at the Ysaÿe International Music Competition and the Leonid Kogan International Violin Competition in 2021, as well as the Cooper International Competition in 2022, making her the youngest winner in the competition's history.

Born in 2008, Seohyun Kim garnered attention for her extraordinary performance of Sibelius’ Violin Concerto at the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra's New Year's Concert, conducted by Jaap van Zweden in 2025. Other recent performances with orchestras include the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra in Tallinn, Hungary's Pannon Philharmonic Orchestra at Müpa Budapest, Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra, Basque National Youth Orchestra, Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio, as well as several Korean orchestras (Korean National Symphony Orchestra, Kumho Young Artist Concert, Seongnam Philharmonic Orchestra, Jeonju Philharmonic Orchestra, Mokpo Philharmonic Orchestra, Daejeon International Music Festival Orchestra, and the Daegu Opera House Orchestra). In 2026, she will tour with the WDR Sinfonieorchester in Germany and Korea, playing Brahms’ Double Concerto with Daniel Müller-Schott under Andris Poga.

Kim is also quite active in the recital and chamber music scene. Recent recitals include her debuts at the Tongyeong International Music Festival, Gstaad Menuhin Festival and Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago. She has played chamber music with Gidon Kremer, Miklós Perényi, and Lawrence Power at the Kronberg Academy's Chamber Music Connects the World Series and with Julia Fischer at the Tonhalle Zurich. Upcoming chamber music performances feature collaborations with Daishin Kashimoto, Alessio Bax, and Clara-Jumi Kang.

She studied at the Seoul Central Conservatory with Sunny Lee and has been mentored by Gilbert Varga whom she has performed with on multiple stages. She was just admitted to the Kronberg Academy and will study with Mihaela Martin there from October 2025. Seohyun plays a 1753 G.B. Guadagnini violin, generously loaned by the Tibor Varga Family. Kim was also recently named a Larsen Young Artist and is receiving sponsorship for strings.