

# The Jérôme Lohez 9/11 Scholarship Foundation

## *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert and Awards Reception*

May 1, 2018

The Consulate General of France in New York  
934 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10021



# Welcome



Dear Mme. la Consule Générale, Professor Janow,  
Distinguished Academics, Laureates and Friends,

It is a pleasure to welcome you tonight to the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert and Awards Ceremony of the Jérôme Lohez 9/11 Scholarship Foundation and I thank all who have contributed to making this evening, and our work over these 13 years, possible.

The frontiers of culture do not, in fact, coincide with national boundaries. The latter divide people according to loyalties and customs, but not according to what makes them happy, what makes one a genuine human being. Technology has made it easy to cross national frontiers physically, but there has been no invention of new mental habits to enable people to relate to others who have different world views. For that to happen, we must encourage young people to travel, to study and to live in countries different from their own. When individuals look beyond their familiar surroundings, they discover that many strangers share their emotions and interests.

Our foundation's objective is to give students opportunities to find connections between what seems to have no connection, linking applied science with culture, people and places by rendering communications, encounters and exchanges possible.

Very warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Lohez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# Program

6:30

Wine & Hors d'oeuvres

7:00

George Calhoun  
Master of Ceremonies

Remarks by the Honorable Anne-Claire Legendre  
Consul General of France in New York

Welcome

Ms. Dening Wu Lohez

7:15

Jacques Barzun Award

7:25

Scholarship Awards

7:40

Classical Chinese Renditions  
Yi Da Jeremy Ng

French Chansons and Songs from  
the Great American Songbook  
Carla Virola and Dean Tomanelli

8:25

Closing Remarks

# About the Foundation

Founded in 2005, the Jérôme Lohez 9/11 Scholarship Foundation is the only charitable organization established after the 9/11 tragedy that is dedicated specifically to promoting cultural and educational exchange among the United States, France and China. By providing scholarship awards to multinational students, enabling them to study in one another's homelands, the Foundation aims to shape the next generation of global citizens, along with a new class of international policy makers. The Foundation also seeks to develop a pool of highly-trained multicultural business leaders to serve as innovators in global commerce.

## Jacques Barzun Award

In recognition of Dr. Jacques Barzun's immense contributions to trans-cultural understanding and exchange between the United States and France, The Jérôme Lohez 9/11 Scholarship Foundation wishes to honor this great French-American scholar with the naming of **The Jacques Barzun Award for Distinguished Contributions to Trans-Cultural Scholarly Exchange**.

The Award is conferred once a year upon an individual or institution in recognition of their accomplishments or research efforts to encourage French, American and Sino educational exchange and collaboration, to foster unity and cultural understanding among these cultures.

Jacques Martin Barzun (1907-2012) was a French-born American historian of ideas and culture. He wrote on a wide range of topics but is perhaps best known as a philosopher of education, his **Teacher in America** (1945) being a strong influence on post-WWII training of schoolteachers in the United States.

# Jacques Barzun Awardee



## **Merit E. Janow**

Dean, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)  
Professor of Professional Practice in International Economic  
Law and International Affairs, Columbia University

Internationally recognized expert in international trade and investment, with extensive experience in academia, government, international organizations and business, Merit E. Janow is an expert on Asia, a region with which she has maintained a life-long involvement. Since 1995, she has taught graduate courses in international trade/WTO law, comparative antitrust law, China in the global economy, international trade and investment policy at Columbia University.

In addition to serving as Dean of SIPA, she is also Co-Director of the APEC Study Center. She has written several books, numerous articles and frequently speaks before business, policy, and academic audiences around the world.

Serving on the boards of directors of several corporations and not for profit organizations, Professor Janow became a charter member of the International Advisory Council of China's sovereign wealth fund, China Investment Corporation or CIC, in 2009.

# The Scholarships

Jérôme Lohez 9/11 Foundation applicants are screened by the Foundation's executive board of internationally qualified professionals and academics.

The Foundation provides scholarships to:

1. Americans or Chinese students pursuing a degree who wish to study in France as part of a degree program or to receive a degree from a French accredited institution;
2. French or Chinese students pursuing a degree who wish to study in the United States as part of a degree program or to receive a degree from a US accredited institution;
3. French or American students pursuing a degree who wish to study in China as part of a degree program or to receive a degree from a Chinese accredited institution.

The scholarship will be an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply.

All recipients are required to participate in the Ambassadors Program for one year.

## The Board

Dening Wu Lohez,  
Founder and President  
Dr. Ellie Abdi, Vice President  
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Sharen Glennon, Secretary  
Prof Thomas Franklin  
Lauren Mergian, Intern  
Emily Wexler

# 2018 Scholarship Recipients



Côme Lefébure – Sciences Po/Columbia University



Yi Da Jeremy Ng – Sciences Po/Columbia University



Raphael Presberg – EPITA/Stevens Institute of Technology

## About the Recipients

**Côme Lefébure** believes that solving conflicts requires an understanding of others. His experiences in China, France, and the United States fostered his belief concerning the necessity of tolerance. His desire to become a peace-maker of tomorrow brought him first to Sciences Po's Europe-Asia campus in Le Havre and now to Columbia University.

At Sciences Po, he served as the treasurer of the Sports club. In addition, he became the captain of both the soccer team and the swimming team. After completing his bachelor's degree, Côme aspires to serve at France's Foreign Affairs and work with China, a country where he spent his childhood and accomplished his first professional internships.

**Yi Da Jeremy Ng** "College, for me, served as a time to explore new interests," reflects Jeremy. "Having studied politics and social sciences at Sciences Po, I decided to take a more quantitative approach to my studies at Columbia and am now majoring in information science."

His desire to chart new waters also led Jeremy to undertake internships in France, China, Singapore, Tajikistan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, working in sectors such as finance and international development. From this experience, he developed a strong desire to leverage private capital to finance projects in the under-served, developing world, such as Central Asia.

**Raphael Presberg** After his first international experience in Tel Aviv University, where he studied electrical engineering, Raphael sought a new opportunity abroad in New York, explaining that he desired "to discover the American way of life, visit the wonderful city and live new experiences." Moreover, he strives to improve his English and attain his C2 level goal.

Last summer, he worked as a data analyst at Schneider Electric. Upon completion of his Master of Science at Stevens, he will seek new opportunities in data analysis and data science in American technology companies to develop his technical skills in an optimal environment.



# Musical Performances



Classical Chinese Renditions  
Yi Da Jeremy Ng



French Chansons and  
Songs from the Great American Songbook

**Carla Viola**, who goes by the stage name “Carla V” is a singer, songwriter SAG/AFTRA/Actors Equity actor and model. Hailing from Spanish Harlem, she was born to Puerto Rican parents, and was introduced to music at a very early age by her dad. An accomplished pianist and DJ performing original music as well as different genres at live music venues across the country and abroad, Carla is a highly sought-after musician in the New York area.

**Dean Tomanelli** began exploring the piano at age three. By high school he was directing musicals for his school and local theater groups and performing American popular song standards at a cabaret. He studied at the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music in Virginia and for the past 20 years has been a bandleader and solo pianist in the New York area at such prestigious venues as the Rainbow Room, the Plaza, Tavern on the Green, and the Waldorf Astoria.

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## 2018 Event Committee

Ellie Abdi, George Calhoun, Thomas Franklin, Sharen Glennon,  
Kelsey Holland, Yu-Chen Juang, Dening Lohez,  
Lauren Mergian and Emily Wexler



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