

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

President and Mrs. Ford have invited Eugene Fodor to entertain in the East Room of the White House following a State Dinner in honor of His Excellency Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, and Mrs. Rabin on Thursday, September 12, 1974 at 8:00 p.m.

Eugene Fodor, 24-year-old violinist from Denver, Colorado became the first American since Van Cliburn to top the field in the most prestigious musical competition in the world, The Tchaikovsky International, which is held every four years in Moscow. No Westerner has ever placed in the violin phase of the competition, in which Russians have always maintained a superiority over the rest of the world. Immediately after the announcement of his award, the Russian government invited Mr. Fodor to embark on a ten day tour of major Russian cities as the soloist with a symphony orchestra.

Eugene Fodor made his debut with the Denver Symphony at the age of 11, and won his first musical scholarship at the age of 12. He studied at New York's Juilliard School, at Indiana University and with Jascha Heifetz at the University of Southern California.

Mr. Fodor was the first American in 21 years to win First Prize in the 1972 International Paganini Competition. He has appeared in recitals throughout the United States, performing also with the Detroit Symphony and the National Symphony in Washington, D. C. , and at Wigmore Hall in London and Schubert Hall, Vienna.

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