

Where are they now? 10 years of young composers

The Contest is open to high school students in New Jersey. Not surprisingly, that Harmonium first prize figures as a prominent starting point in their CV's. What is surprising is that every one of the winners has retained some connection to music, and several still call themselves composers. This strongly suggests that the early recognition reinforced a desire that might otherwise have fallen by the wayside. Here are some quotes taken off the Winners' websites:

- 1998 Winner **Brian Driscoll** is a composer of secular and sacred choral works for ensembles of all sizes and levels of ability. Driscoll's works have been published by Amber Waves Music Publishing and Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., and have been performed throughout North America and Europe. Brian has affiliations with ASCAP, NACUSA, and Chorus America, and he is also a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America.
- 1999 Winner **Daniel Adamczyk** is Director of Music at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church in Cranford, New Jersey.
- 2000 Winner **Stefan Swanson** is listed on the Sibelius website as a freelance film and media composer in the New York/New Jersey area, specializing in orchestral music (both small-scale and large-scale) for any film genre. He has worked on dramas, comedies, horror films, adventures, and documentaries. He is also experienced in concert music.
- 2001 Winner **Chris Giarmo** is a dancer with Big Dance Theater's *The Other Here*, where East meets West through visual design, dance, storytelling and music -- including both ancient and pop Okinawan forms.
- 2002 Winner **Kevin Clark** is currently a double-degree student at the Peabody Institute and the Johns Hopkins University. He has studied composition with Christopher Theofanidis, Michael Hersch, and Robert Sirota. At Peabody, Clark's music is routinely performed by his friends and collaborators in the group No Signal, including sopranos Elisabeth Halliday and Caitlin Donovan, saxophonist Zachary Herchen, cellist Rachel Gawell, and percussionist Michael Compitello, among others.
- 2003 Winner **Heidi Lam** is currently a Ph.D. student in computer science at the University of British Columbia. She helped write a music database management program called **MusicLand: Exploratory Browsing in Music Space (2005)**, a first attempt to look at search behavior where the target is not precisely defined. The data used are annotated music files.
- 2004 Winner **Kyle Boatwright** recently wrote the sound score for *Fiber*, a multimedia performance piece exploring relationship, memory and creation through fiber arts, performed at the Five Colleges in Massachusetts.

- 2005 Winner **Dale Trumbore**, of Chatham, New Jersey, studies music at Ithaca College. She went on last year to be one of the winners of Chanticleer's third biennial Student Composer Competition, encouraging composition students to write works for high school-level choirs.
- 2006 winner Johnathan MacMillan also won in 2007, the first-ever two-time grand prize winner. He will be a senior at Vernon Township High School.
- Runner-Up Composers have also had their works performed. 1999's winner, **Daniel Adamcyck** was 1998's runner-up. 1998's honorable mention **Ben Schroeder** was a high school bass singing in Harmonium. He still sings in Harmonium, including the Chamber Singers, and works as a Science book editor at Enslow Publishers, and will be arranging a finale for our Halloween Concert next year. **Melinda Riley**, 1999's runner up is pursuing graduate studies in viola at Butler University. **Yui Kitamura**, runner-up from 2001 recently gave a composition recital at Juilliard. **Christine Webb Woodbury** (2004) is a violist and violinist majoring in music at Smith College. 2007 runner-up **Thomas Barth** will attend Boston University in the fall of 2007 on a music scholarship.

(You can download or listen to files of all the Grand Prize winning compositions at <http://www.gcast.com/u/jabez/Harmonium.xml> .)