

# Honors Recital and Awards Presentation 3:00 PM May 17, 2026—Nelson Music Room, Duke University

*Welcome to the Performance Festival Recital! Today we will hear the first-place winners and selected recitalists from yesterday's festival. Congratulations to all winners and to all students who participated! Many of our awards were donated by specific sponsors; others are in honor or in memory of DMTA members or their family. If you know any of these generous people, please thank them personally. DMTA also wishes to thank Duke University for the use of its facilities for this Performance Festival.*

## Recitalists

Piano 5-8	Hannah Liu	Robie
Elementary Duo	Alissa Liu & Kasi Lin	Smirnov
Piano 9-11	Alissa Liu	Smirnov
Piano 9-11	Kasi Lin	Smirnov

## Solos Ages 12-13

PIANO	1 <sup>st</sup>	Wilson Zhang	Jokubaviciute
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forest Heffner	Smirnov
STRINGS	1 <sup>st</sup>	Marcus Chang	Chapman
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Aki Ertz	Yang

## Solo Ages 14-15

PIANO	1 <sup>st</sup>	Zhe (Scottie) Yang	Ray
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jasmine Elkotaney	Yamazaki
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jemma Lee	Kirk
STRINGS	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bix Overath-Pierce	Okada
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yuna Ertz	Chapman

## Duo

Junior Duo-Piano	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rebecca Lam & Talya Ziya	Smirnov
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Zhi (Michael) Yang & Zhe (Scottie) Yang	Ray
Junior Duo-Strings	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dai Youmans & Adsila Getz	Dunlap-Grube & Rice
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	David Garrett Vera & Victoria Garrett Vera	Okada

## Young Artist 13-15

1 <sup>st</sup>	Zhi (Michael) Yang	Ray
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rebecca Lam	Smirnov

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## Book Awards (sponsored by Allen Herther)

**Elementary Duo:** Deniz Emir & Stoney Zhang (Smirnov), Ryan Lee & Sophie Lee (Smirnov)

**Piano 9-11:** Amra Ameer (Breeze), Meryem Ates (Pavlenko), Evelyn Day (Perry),  
Miriam Dong (Smirnov), Deniz Emir (Smirnov), Avi Ganesh (Knezevic), Henry Hemelt (Weisert),  
Eliana Nguyen (Pittman), Rose Robinson (Pittman), Evelyn Shi (Jokubaviciute),  
Stoney Zhang (Smirnov)

**Piano Older Beginner:** William Rowan (Knezevic)

**Strings 9-11:** Angelo Menolascino (Chapman), Alexandra Shakhmaykina (Corona),  
Teruah Yoon (Okada)

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## Honorable Mention

**Piano 9-11:** Serena Cotton (Yee), Ryan Lee (Smirnov), Sophie Lee (Smirnov),  
Caroline Purvis (Smirnov), David Shao (Ho), Roland Wallach (Constantinou), Anthony Yang (O'Brien),  
Rick Yang (Yee), Allison Zawko (Knezevic), Sylvia Zawko (Knezevic)

**Piano Older Beginner:** James Rowan (Knezevic)

**Piano 12-13:** Blake Pham (Kleiankina), Rex Robinson (Pittman)

**Piano 14-15:** Max Kimbark (Pavlenko), Hallett Ray (Yee)

**Piano 16+:** Eleanor Nicholas (Uden)

**Elementary Duo:** Ethan Lam & Joanna Yao (Smirnov)

**Junior Duo:** Jemma Lee & Raymond Shen (Kirk)

**Strings 9-11:** Liana Jiang (S. Livingston)

**Strings 12-13:** David Garrett Vera (Okada)

**Voice Musical Theatre 16+:** Weston Powell (Powell)

**Young Artist 13-15:** Xinyin Zhang (Shirts)

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## Trophy Winners

**Third Year:** Stephen Alston, Josephine Avery, Jack Berenfield, Serena Cotton, Emily Diao, Jesse Fang, Avi Ganesh, Milan Ganesh, Andrew Ghoddoussi, Susan Hurt, Callan Irons, Rose Jones, Anya Jose, Andrei Kinev, Ryan Lee, Sophie Lee, Kasi Lin, Jayanth Mettu, Kalyani Mettu, Akemi Misumi, Naina Nagendra, Michael North, Caitlyn Park, Cora Park, Blake Pham, Rose Robinson, Raymond Shen, Isaac Smith, Elizaveta Sorokina, Djina Alicante-Stuesse, Lucia Suarez, Zoe Sylvia, Leo Weisert, Matt Yeatman, Vanessa Yu, Allison Zawko, Sylvia Zawko

**Sixth Year:** William Clough, Olivia Lee, Caroline Purvis, Hallett Ray, David Alexander Garrett Vera

**Ninth Year:** Casey Brekke, Ava Jonson, Angela Li, Karen Lin, Margot Vaughan-Wilson

**Twelfth Year:** Yash Mehta, Emma Vanmoerkerque

# Honors Recital and Awards Presentation 4:30 PM

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### Recitalists

Strings 5-8		Keegan Song	Shirts
Strings 9-11		Andrew Ghoddoussi	Corona
Composition 9-11		Eliana Nguyen	Pittman

### Solo Ages 14-15

COMPOSITION	1 <sup>st</sup>	Hallett Ray	Yee
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### Solo Ages 16+

PIANO	1 <sup>st</sup>	Margot Vaughan-Wilson	O'Brien
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Maya Slaughter	Robie
STRINGS	1 <sup>st</sup>	Maya Liu	Pritchard
VOICE- Classical	1 <sup>st</sup>	Manasi Prasad	Sullivan
VOICE-Musical Theatre	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Naina Nagendra	Szymanski

### Duo/Ensemble

Senior Duo-Piano	1 <sup>st</sup>	Karen Lin & Alwin Liu	Smirnov
Senior Duo-Strings	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ananya Mettu & Djina Alicante-Stuesse	S. Livingston
Junior Ensemble	1 <sup>st</sup>	Malcolm Goldstein, Keegan Song, Elliot Montsko, Sunny Cao	Chapman
Senior Ensemble	1 <sup>st</sup>	Maya Liu, Olivia Lee, Zane Kalmus-Kunde, Gwyneth Bernhardt	Chapman

### Young Artist 16+

	1 <sup>st</sup>	Olivia Lee	Shirts
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brianna Hu	O'Brien

## 2026 Adjudication Panelists — Thank you!

Dr. Yong Im Lee Federle, NCTM; Dr. Douglas Jurs; David Lane; Dr. Kent Lyman, NCTM;  
Tasi Matthews; Dr. Lawrence Quinnett; Rob Rempher; Sarai Schweers; Sheryl Tjon;  
Dr. Christy Wisuthseriwong

## 2026 Participating Teachers

Cheryl Breeze, Isoa Chapman, Peter Constantinou, Natalia Corona, Derison Duarte, Emma Dunlap-Grube,  
Jennifer Hancock, Chuyen Ho, Ieva Jokubaviciute, Tonya Kirk, Olga Kleiankina, Viktorija Knezevic, Ian Livingston,  
Shelley Livingston, Meg O'Brien, Nonoko Okada, Bridget O'Leary, Natalya Pavlenko, Jan Perry, Frank Pittman,  
Emilee Powell, Eric Pritchard, Blake Ray, Teddy Robie, Erica Shirts, Tanya Smirnov, Arisa Sullivan, Sharon  
Szymanski, Mary Turner, Christina Uden, Tugba Weisert, Akiko Yamazaki, Clara Yang, Connie Yee

## 2026 Volunteers—Thank you to all student and adult volunteers that helped on the day of the festival.

Riya Anumakonda, Audrey Awich, Diana DeVeough-Geiss, Dr. Gilbert Flores, Maxwell Guo, Dr. Susan Hurt,  
Rishab Sarath, Dr. Roel Schaaper, Maya Slaughter, Dr. Richard Smith, Stacy Swinney, Hallett Ray

## 2026 Donors — Thank you!

### BUSINESS DONORS

Allen Herther Music; Montgomery Violins; Piano Academy of North Carolina, LLC™; Ruggero Piano;  
Triangle Music School

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Jennifer Hancock, Tonya Kirk, Meg O'Brien, Jan Perry, Frank Pittman, Tanya Smirnov, Sharon Szymanski,  
Connie Yee

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### **Please donate to the DMTA Scholarship Fund**

DMTA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.  
The scholarship fund is used to help subsidize music lessons for students  
whose families are facing financial hardships. Please give generously.

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