
MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

MMTA Pre-College Finals

Mississippi College, Clinton • May 14, 2011

Outstanding Pre-College Student Achievement Award Winners

These outstanding students have achieved eight years of eligibility for the Pre-College Finals, five of which must be in Solo Performance.



Mary McRae

Age 16, 11th grade

From Dennis

Student of Janet Gray

Daughter of Kirby and
Pamela McRae



John Baxter

Age 16, 10th grade

From Hattiesburg

Student of Dr. Laura
Broughton

Son of Mrs. Anne Baxter



Lauren Gregory

Age 17, 11th grade

From Brandon

Student of Brenda
Sullivan

Daughter of Todd and
Karen Gregory



Mary Marino

Age 16, 11th grade

From Corinth

Student of Janet Gray

Daughter of Frank and
Andrea Marino

Mary McRae has taken classical piano lessons from Janet D. Gray since 2002. She was in band at Tishomingo Middle School from 2005 to 2008, and played the clarinet. She also taught herself guitar and voice, as well as writing many songs. She was in the Tishomingo County High School Chorus from 2008-2009. Mary has been on the All-A's honor roll since the first grade. She placed third at the local science fair, first place at the regional science fair, and fifth at the state science fair in 2011. She received the American Physiological Award, the U.S. Army for Excellence in Science Award, and the Exceptional Genius Award for her project. Mary has been a T.C.H.S. Varsity Cheerleader for four years, as well as an MHSAA Cheerleading State Champion in 2010. She is an active member of the T.C.H.S. Student council, Beta Club, Anchor Club, Crown Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Yearbook Staff, and Bravada Drama Team. She has been class Vice-President during her freshman, sophomore, and junior years, and she is Student Council President-Elect this year. She served as a junior page for Senator J.P. Wilemon during March of her sophomore year, and she was elected onto the T.C.H.S. homecoming court in 2010. Mary was Student of the Month in September 2008. She plans on attending Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where she will major in pre-medicine before attending medical school.

John O'Bannon Baxter is the son of Anne Baxter of Hattiesburg. He is a student of Dr. Laura Broughton, with whom he has studied piano for eight and a half years. His piano achievements include nine years of participation in the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival for District III and eight years of participation in the MMTA Pre-College State Special Recognition Recitals and Finals. With his ensemble partner, he has won first place in their ensemble division the past two years. He has also won scholarships to attend the summer Music Camp at Mississippi College. Last year, John won both 1st and 2nd place awards in different categories for his original compositions in the Junior Composers Contest of the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs.

John is currently a sophomore at Oak Grove High School, where he is a member of the Warrior football team. He is also on the Robotics Team and a performer with CenterStage, a competitive Show Choir team. He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta mathematics honor society and the Beta Club. He will begin work on a Distinguished Scholar Project next year in which he will rescore a film. He has been on the All-A Honor Roll throughout his years at Oak Grove.

Besides composing and performing music, John enjoys acting and stage performance. He has been in several Hattiesburg Civic Light Opera productions, and he is presently working as the stage tech for the Oak Grove Drama Team. John recently learned that he was chosen to attend the 2011 session of the Mississippi Governor's School. A Duke TIP participant, John won a state recognition medal for his performance on the ACT. He is also a Davidson Scholar. John is a member of River of Life Church. On Sunday evenings, he volunteers his time to play the piano for the residents of Emeritus Senior Living facility.

Mary Marino, an honor student with Eagle Home Schools, has studied classical piano with Janet D. Gray for nine years, participating successfully in all available local, district and national piano events. In 2011 she earned her large Gold Cup at Piano Festival, sponsored by Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs. She was chosen twice to play at the Link Center program featuring outstanding Northeast Mississippi Piano students. This spring she will complete her ninth year of National membership (10 piece program) for the American College of Musicians. Next year, she plans to earn her High School Diploma in Piano and present a senior recital. Together with another student, she has presented a program of music for Corinth Music Clubs.

Mary is a member of Oakland Baptist Church, where she is active in Youth Choir and puppet Ministry; she also serves in areas of nursery, Library and Vacation Bible School.

Lauren Gregory, student of Brenda Sullivan, was also an Eight-year Achievement Award Winner but no biographical information was submitted for publication.

Congratulations to these students!



PRE-COLLEGE FINALS WINNERS - 2011

Piano Performance Level 3 and below

Gold Medal: Edward Hu (Ian Hominick)

2nd Place: Ben Yang (Adrienne Park)

3rd Place: Michelle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

4th Place: Sam Powell (Laura Broughton)

Honorable Mention:

Gracie Bassett (Ruth Keyes)

Jackson Creel (Laura Broughton)

Molly Grondin (Jacquelyn Thornell)

Hannah JeeSoo Kim (Dixie Clark)

Dora Lee (Ruth Keyes)

Todd Lee (Harold Thompson)

Dakota Ooten (Marilyn Huff)

Derick Taylor (Elsie Barnes)

Matthew Yin (Karen Laubengayer)

Piano Performance Level 4

Gold Medal: Caleb Owens (Jung-Won Shin)

2nd Place: Victoria Gong (Judith Allen)

Gloria Zhang (Edna Mae McCoy)

3rd Place: John Rhys Plumlee (Janice Mesrobian)

4th Place: Meagan Green (Nan Porter)

Piano Performance Level 4 (continued)

Peter Liang (Janice Mesrobian)

Honorable Mention: Kristy Campbell (Elsie Barnes)

Timothy Lewis (Tae Young Hong)

Catherine Liu (Izabella Ivshin)

Indu Nandula (Karen Fosheim)

Amy Pang (Izabella Ivshin)

Soul Hwansoul Park (Dixie Clark)

Abigail Strickland (Ricki Prewitt)

Piano Performance Level 5

Gold Medal: Tracey Singer (Edna Mae McCoy)

2nd Place: Jane Fan (Edna Mae McCoy)

3rd Place: Angela Tang (Ricki Prewitt)

4th Place: Graham Roberson (Annette Joe)

Honorable Mention: Joanna Bu (Adrienne Park)

Honorable Mention: Hayden Williamson (Laura Broughton)

Maggie Cayson (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Will Gatewood (Linda Carnes)

Maggie Jordan (Brenda Sullivan)

Logan Knight (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Joshua Moffett (Ellen Y. Gunn)

Nathan Moore (Melinda Porter)

Carrie Shi (Edna Mae McCoy)

Alice Wang (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Performance Level 6

Gold Medal: Lewis Park (Karen Fosheim)

2nd Place: Allen Huang (Janice Mesrobian)

3rd Place: Anna Reed Hairston (Edna Mae McCoy)

Carlisle Washburne (Janice Mesrobian)

William Yingst (Edna Mae McCoy)

4th Place: Micah Foster (Dixie Clark)

Nicholas Gagliano (Laura Broughton)

Calvin Hu (Edna Mae McCoy)

Jesse Li (Izabella Ivshin)

Nathan Yin (Karen Laubengayer)

Honorable Mention: Tessa Crane (Joyce Tillery)

Lydia Glover (Annette Joe)

Molly Graef (Jacquelyn Thornell)

Logan Halbert (Ruth Keyes)

Rhyan Plumlee (Janice Mesrobian)

Kayla Shelby (Elsie Barnes)

Piano Performance Level 7

Gold Medal: James Zhou (Karen Laubengayer)

2nd Place: Ashley Chang (Izabella Ivshin)

Sadie Henderson (Ellen Price Elder)

Ben Wiggins (Ellen Y. Gunn)

3rd Place: Haley Knight (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Caroline Rhett (Ellen Price Elder)

Cici Zhang (Harold Thompson)

4th Place: Laura Ann Kelley (Debbie Barnes)

Piano Performance Level 7 (continued)

Michelle Li (Ricki Prewitt)

Marina Zhou (Izabella Ivshin)

Honorable Mention: Anna Grace Kelley (Debbie Barnes)

Katelyn Lott (Brenda Sullivan)

Aylin Memili (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Performance Level 8

Gold Medal: Elizabeth Liu (Rachel Heard)

2nd Place: Sammira Rais-Rohani (Edna Mae McCoy)

Helen Shi (Edna Mae McCoy)

3rd Place: Nick Kaltchenko (Peggy Oakes)

Piano Performance Level 9

Gold Medal: Rachel Runnels (Susan Gambrell)

2nd Place: Joelle Young (Adrienne Park)

3rd Place: Rebecca Franklin (Debbie Barnes)

4th Place: Austin Li (Karen Fosheim)

Samantha Ong (Rachel Heard)

Casey Park (Karen Fosheim)

Honorable Mention: Mary Margaret Hyer (Laura Broughton)

Piano Performance Level 10

Gold Medal: Taide Ding (Ian Hominick)

2nd Place: Rosalie Doerkson (Ian Hominick)

3rd Place: Christina Vilar (Cristina Moreland)

4th Place: Jordan Broughton (Janice Mesrobian)

Honorable Mention: John Baxter (Laura Broughton)

Emily Damm (Dixie Clark)

Caleb Foster (Dixie Clark)

Callie Shirley (Ruth Keyes)

Benny Zhang (Cristina Moreland)

Piano Performance Level 11

Gold Medal: Joshua Banks (Edna Mae McCoy)

2nd Place: Brian Xu (Dixie Clark)

3rd Place: Catherine Feng (Edna Mae McCoy)

4th Place: Tiara Walls (Sandra Polanski)

Honorable Mention: Ariel Cheng (Rachel Heard)

Lauren Gregory (Brenda Sullivan)

Mary McRae (Janet Gray)

Piano Performance Level 12

Gold Medal: Katharine Crandall (Edna Mae McCoy)

John Mark Dodd (Janet Gray)

Dorothy Claire Glover (Annette Joe)

Piano Ensemble Division A

Gold Medal: Adisyn Gainey and Charity Miller (Janine Beasley)

2nd Place: Kira Finkley and Alana Wallace (Ouida Thomas)

Piano Ensemble Division B

Gold Medal: Nicholas Gagliano and Allen Huang (Laura Broughton and Janice Mesrobian)

2nd Place: Peter Liang and Michelle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

3rd Place: Anna Reed Hairston and William Yingst (Edna Mae McCoy)

Rhyan Plumlee and Carlisle Washburne (Janice Mesrobian)

4th Place: Jane Fan, Carrie Shi, Tracey Singer (Edna Mae McCoy)

Honorable Mention: Carrie Shi and Gloria Zhang (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Ensemble Division C

Gold Medal: Elizabeth Liu and Samantha Ong (Rachel Heard)

2nd Place: Tristan Crockett and Genesis Lewis (Ouida Thomas)

Aylin Memili and Sammira Rais-Rohani (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Ensemble Division D

Gold Medal: John Baxter and Mary Margaret Hyer (Laura Broughton)

Piano Ensemble Division E

Gold Medal: Caleb Foster and Brian Xu (Dixie Clark)

2nd Place: Joshua Banks and Catherine Feng (Edna Mae McCoy)

Sonata/Sonatina Division A

Gold Medal: Ben Yang (Adrienne Park)

2nd Place: Michelle Sun (Izabella Ivshin)

3rd Place: Victoria Wang (Janice Mesrobian)

Sonata/Sonatina Division B

Gold Medal: Jessi Li (Izabella Ivshin)

2nd Place: Joanna Bu (Jeanne Evans)

3rd Place: Jane Fan (Edna Mae McCoy)

Victoria Gong (Judith Allen)

Lewis Park (Karen Fosheim)

Elizabeth Wang (Izabella Ivshin)

4th Place: Peter Liang (Janice Mesrobian)

Tracey Singer (Edna Mae McCoy)

Honorable Mention: Maggie Jordan (Brenda Sullivan)

Angela Tang (Ricki Prewitt)

Sonata/Sonatina Division C

Gold Medal: Ben Wiggins (Ellen Y. Gunn)

2nd Place: Elizabeth Liu (Rachel Heard)

3rd Place: Ashley Cheng (Izabella Ivshin)

4th Place: Helen Shi (Edna Mae McCoy)

Marina Zhou (Izabella Ivshin)

Honorable Mention: Chelsea Musgrove (Marilyn Huff)

Melinda Xu (Dixie Clark)

Sonata/Sonatina Division D

Gold Medal: Taide Ding (Ian Hominick)

2nd Place: Rosalie Doerksen (Ian Hominick)

3rd Place: Samantha Ong (Rachel Heard)

4th Place: Benny Zhang (Cristina Moreland)

Honorable Mention: Lara Lamanilao (Jeanne Evans)

Sonata/Sonatina Division E

Gold Medal: Dorothy Claire Glover (Annette Joe)

2nd Place: John Dodd (Janet Gray)

Theme and Variations Division B

Gold Medal: Carlisle Washburne (Janice Mesrobian)

2nd Place: Allen Huang (Janice Mesrobian)

Theme and Variations Division C

Gold Medal: Helen Shi (Edna Mae McCoy)

Theme and Variations Division D

Gold Medal: Caleb Foster (Dixie Clark)

Theme and Variations Division E

Gold Medal: Ariel Cheng (Rachel Heard)

Brian Xu (Dixie Clark)

Vocal Performance Level 9

Gold Medal: Morgan Woodard (Barbara Stephenson)

2nd Place: Cierra McCaleb (Shawn Morgan)

Vocal Performance Level 10

Gold Medal: Meagan Beech (Janine Beasley)

2nd Place: Hosea Griffith (Shawn Morgan)

3rd Place: Camille Myrick (Barbara Stephenson)

4th Place: Jaylon Moore (Shawn Morgan)

Vocal Performance Level 11

Gold Medal: John McCann (Yvonne Young-McGrath)

2nd Place: Elise Seale (Barbara Stephenson)

3rd Place: McKenzie Pollock (Jeanne Evans)

4th Place: Deja Moore (Shawn Morgan)

Vocal Performance Level 12

Gold Medal: Brianna Barbour (Shawn Morgan)

Vocal Ensemble, Division E

Gold Medal: Kristen Miller and McKenzie Pollock (Jeanne Evans)

Strings Solo Division A

Gold Medal: Ella Wu (Gail Fox)

Strings Solo Division B

Gold Medal: Bailey Ann Neal (Gail Fox)

Strings Solo Division C

Gold Medal: Daniel Jones (Shandy Phillips)

Strings Solo Division D

Gold Medal: Zachary-Scott Neal (Gail Fox)

Strings Solo Division E

Gold Medal: Nathan Lin (Mariana Aldana)

2nd Place: Alex Fan (Gail Fox)

High Composite Score Winners

Piano Lv. 3 and below tie = Davis Pool (300) and Michelle Sun (300)

Piano Lv. 4 tie = Victoria Gong (397) and Catherine Liu (397)

Piano Lv. 5 = Tracey Singer (399)

Piano Lv. 6 = Rhyan Plumlee (397)

Piano Lv. 7 = James Zhou (394)

Piano Lv. 8 = Helen Shi (398)

Piano Lv. 9 = Austin Li (394)

Piano Lv. 10 = Benny Zhang (398)

Piano Lv. 11 = Mary Marino (396)

Piano Lv. 12 = Emily Williams (390)

Violin Division C = Daniel Jones (398)

Eight-Year Achievement Award Winners

John Baxter - student of Dr. Laura Broughton

Lauren Gregory - student of Brenda Sullivan

Mary Marino - student of Janet Gray

Mary McRae - student of Janet Gray



Level 3 Piano Performance



Level 4 Piano Performance

Level 5 Piano Performance



Level 6 Piano Performance

Level 7 Piano Performance



Level 8 Piano Performance



Level 9 Piano Performance



Level 10 Piano Performance





Level 11 Piano Performance



Level 12 Piano Performance



Levels 9 & 10 Vocal Performance