

Local youth wins 3rd in 'Quest' competition

By Avigdor Zaromp
special writer

The Quest for Excellence series completed its second annual cycle with the Grand Final contest at Orchestra Hall last month.

The series sponsored by the Macebees Mutual Life Insurance company, gives young musicians exposure and provides a chance for them to win scholarships.

The series consisted of 13 weekly contests, the weekly winners take part in the final contest.

There was a respectable turnout for the final event, which was free to the public. Judging such a contest is never simple and easy. In this situation, things were even more complicated because several different instruments were involved.

Since all 13 contestants demonstrated ability, they deserve to be mentioned. The following is the list, sorted by instruments and order of appearance:

Violin — Kevin Case and Elizabeth Rowlin; bass trombone — Anthony Gilles; piano — Damon Gatewood, Kurt Kunz, Lourdes Santiago and Julianne Markavitch; cello — Alicia Stieglitz; alto saxophone — Andrew Dahlke and Kevin Stewart; marimba — Todd Alan Johnson; flute — Mark Estes; horn — Katherine Canfield.

Three of the more fortunate contestants won the

top prizes, totaling \$10,000, which must be used as scholarships.

THE TOP PRIZE went to alto saxophone player Kevin Stewart, who played a portion of the Concertino da Camera by Ibert. Stewart reached the final stage last season as well, but didn't win a top prize on that occasion. This is an example of the principle that persistence pays, at least occasionally.

Second-prize winner was cellist Alicia Stieglitz, who played three movements from a Hindemith cello sonata.

Third prize went to violinist Kevin Case, who played the first movement from the Symphonie Espagnole by Lalo. These selections present an idea

of the total program, in which most of the items were outside the familiar repertoire.

The selection of winners isn't a scientific process and many people in the audience had their own ideas about the best players. Two of my own selections coincided with the ones chosen, but it would be inappropriate to state which ones.

THE PIANO, which was represented by the largest group of four contestants, failed to win any of the top prizes. It was evident that a great effort was made to base the judgment on the quality of the performance and have it detached from the popularity of the instrument.

It is nevertheless my opinion that such contests

should be made within the same instrument category, choosing a winner in each. Many exotic instruments could still be lumped into one category, but a comparison in each category would make more sense.

We wish all of these contestants success and satisfaction in their musical careers. For those who did not win this time, there are going to be other occasions. Hopefully, genuine talent will always be in demand.

Editors note: Third-prize winner, Kevin Chase is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Chase of Bloomfield Hills, attends Lahser High School. He previously won first place in the Ionia Youth Symphony Concert Competition.



Avigdor
Zaromp

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(The figures shown above are estimates.)

*All of the annual percentage rates in the above example are estimated based on a \$50,000.00 loan with a down payment of at least 20%. The term of the loan and all of the normal prepaid finance charges (including a 2% loan discount fee) were taken into consideration in calculating these annual percentage rates.

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Through the years I have spent a great deal of time "hanging" around Greenfield Village and the beautiful Henry Ford Museum. It is a wonderful place to visit in the wintertime. Be prepared to take a buggy ride so you will want to be sure to wear warm clothing. There are places on the grounds to eat if your visit comes during mealtime.

You may also like the grounds by foot and some of the buildings are open. If you stop in the tavern while walking you can get cozy and warm.

WHEN YOU make your visit, if the weather is very cold, you may wish to spend all your time in the museum. There you will see exhibits with choice materials from the early days of our country's history, showing the cycles of inventions of many of the products we use today.

I always have to go on the immense locomotive because in my childhood when I visited my grandparents "The Flyer" tooted and whizzed through the village on its way to a big city. The conductor rolled up "the funnies" which he threw to the small town children to enjoy.

Greenfield Village has something for everybody, the exhibits of planes fascinate the men folk, there are exhibits of machinery, home appliances and autos to quicken the memories of the visitor. There are many exhibits of furnishings to help you recall the decorative splendor of our yesterday.

Those who cherish fine china and glassware will have a feast studying this art form.

There were more than a million visitors at Greenfield Village last year. There are many benches for resting and lots of opportunities for filling away in your mind the history of household living, the transportation as expressed by motor cars, airplanes and locomotion, plus home furnishings and the development of machines to bring us up to 1986.

If your travel time won't allow you a trip to Dearborn you will enjoy visiting the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association at 1516 S. Cranbrook. No admission is charged and there you will see the work of our local artists and those working on an active program.

There will be opening of a new exhibit 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 11. This art center offers classes in many types of art for those who aspire to sharpen their skills.

Do encourage newcomers of all ages with an interest in art to become students at this fine facility. It has assisted many a newcomer to meet a fine bevy of friends and enjoy new experiences — and sometimes find an exciting, profitable career in the arts.

Happy New Year my good readers and let's enjoy 1986 as we open our minds to the opportunities already knocking at our doors and make this new year one to remember. BEST WISHES.

Planning 2nd antique show

Preparations are under way for the second Village Antiques Show, May 16-18 at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

The show is organized and sponsored by the President's Society of The Edison Institute for the benefit of the 254-acre Dearborn historical complex.

The three-day show will include a special preview and a lecture by Dr. Robert Bishop, director of the Museum of American Folk Art of New York City.

All proceeds will go to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village annual campaign fund and will be eligible against the matching requirements of a National Endowment for the Humanities \$1-million challenge grant. Last year's show earned more than \$20,000.

J. Jordan Humberstone is the show manager and Mr. and Mrs. William S. Mullen and Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Randau are chairpersons.

Antique dealers and collectors who wish further information about the show may contact Mr. and Mrs. Mullen, 138 Linden, Birmingham, 48009, 646-2996 or Humberstone, 2995 Iroquois, Detroit 48214, 571-0452.

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