

June 2, 2005

Our Deborah Beene Music Award winners

by **JUDY GOLDIE**

June 19 Fuller Lodge again will resonate with music when the winners of the 2005 Deborah Beene Music Award competition perform for the public. Admission is free.

Beginning at 1:30, the afternoon will be filled with a variety of musical offerings. First-place winner Nathan Salazar earned his \$1,000 award by demonstrating his piano mastery by playing Alberto Ginastera's Sonta No. 1, Opus 22, Allegro Marcato.

Salazar, 17, is homeschooled in La Mesilla and has studied with Charlene Cox-Clifton in Los Alamos. The holder of myriad competition titles, he attended the International Institute of Young Musicians at the University of Kansas last summer. In addition to his studies on the piano, he is a tenor and has sung with the Los Alamos Choral Society, is an organist at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church and extends his interests to Scottish country dancing and swimming. Though undecided about a college major, Salazar said studying "music is the sure thing!"

Graduating Los Alamos High School senior Kristen Sussman credits the late Karolyn Coulter not only with teaching her how to sing, but exposing her to the "raw truth behind music. She transformed my soul, making it absolutely yearn for music." Sussman won second place in this



Nathan Salazar

year's competition with her outstanding performance of "Just Spring" by John Duke and "Gretchen am Spinnrade" by Franz Schubert. Sussman has captured singing roles in Los Alamos Light Opera productions and sings in her church choir as well as playing in its bell choir. Sussman also is interesting in advancing her guitar skills this summer. In recent months, Sussman had studied voice with Candance Magner.

Renee Hemsing, displayed her winning form on the violin by performing "Symphonie Espagnole" and "Intermezzo" by Edouard Lab to earn the third-place prize. Renee 16, is a sophomore at Los Alamos High School has been studying violin for seven years, starting under the tutelage of her grandmother. Currently, she studies with Kay Newnam. One of

Hemsing's musical goals is to be accepted into Interlochen School, Michigan, for the summer 2006.

The Deborah Beene Music Scholarship is awarded annually by the Rotary Club of Los Alamos following a performance by high school-aged students who have been selected from those who have submitted performance tapes.

In addition to this year's winners, the recital will feature past years' winners: Andrew Steward, a 2004 winner, on the flute; Dan Nebel, a winner in both 2003 and 2004, on the French Horn; and French Chen a 2003 winner on the piano.

The Rotary Club of Los Alamos sponsors both the Deborah Beene competition and a subsequent recital that features current and past winners. The scholarship was established by former Rotarian Don Beene and his wife Sara in memory of their daughter Deborah, a budding musical talent, who died in her early teens. Rotarians, Los Alamos National Bank, community members and the Beene family endowment comprise each year's scholarships.

For more information the Deborah Beene scholarship, contact Ed Van Eeckhout at 662-5445 or Brian Newnam at 662-9679. See also the Rotary Club of Los Alamos Web site: <http://www.los-alamos.org/rotary/>.



Rotary Club of Los Alamos

Chartered Aug. 19, 1966

CLUB WEB SITE: <http://www.losalamos.org/rotary/>

Region 1, District 5520, Club 1312

Clubs for Makeups

Española: Tues., noon,
La Tacqaria (old La Cocina)
Santa Fe (First): Thurs., 11:45 a.m.,
Inn at Loretto
Santa Fe Centro: Tues., 7 a.m.,
Hotel St. Francis

Santa Fe del Sur: Wed., noon,
Santa Fe Country Club
Taos Milagro: Wed., 7:20 a.m., Ramada Inn
Chama Valley: Wed., noon,
High Country Restaurant
Rio Rancho: Tues., noon,
Hilton Garden Inn