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PRESS RELEASE March 13, 2016

The Williamsburg Music Club has awarded \$6,950 to sixteen winners at the 2016 Grants Auditions held on March 12th at Ewell Hall on the campus of William and Mary. The Music Club's annual auditions support young musicians in their studies and are open to fifth through twelfth grade music students in the greater Williamsburg area and to students of teachers who reside or teach in the greater Williamsburg area.

SENIOR DIVISION

First Prize Outstanding Performance Award of \$1,000:

Haidar Barbarji, trumpet, Williamsburg, student of David Vonderheide

Second Prize Musical Achievement Award of \$750: 2 performers tied

Tara Davy, soprano, Williamsburg, student of Chris Mooney

Sarah Heifetz, violin, Tabb, student of Arkady Heifetz

Honorable Mention and Encouragement Awards of \$300: (in alphabetical order)

Annie Cao, piano, student, Yorktown, of Jolanta Szewczyk

Claire Du, piano, Yorktown, student of Teresa Falk

Eliza Geer, oboe, Williamsburg, student of James Hester

Haley Griffith, soprano, Williamsburg, student of Phaedra McNorton

Anni Wang, piano, Yorktown, student of Jolanta Szewczyk

JUNIOR DIVISION

First Prize Outstanding Performance Award of \$750:

Kyle Hu, piano, Yorktown, student of Maria Yefimova

Second Prize Musical Achievement Award of \$500:

Edward Rickenbacker, cello, Chesapeake, student of Susan Hines

Honorable Mention and Encouragement Awards of \$200: (in alphabetical order)

Brandon Deleon, piano, Yorktown, student of Teresa Falk
Brelan Jenkins, cello, Newport News, student of Susan Hines
Judy Liu, piano, student, Yorktown, of Shuyao Caroline Hsu
Caleb Song, violin, Williamsburg, student of Arkady Heifetz
Eric Song, piano, student, Yorktown, of Jolanta Szewczyk

Kathy Exton Prize of \$500 is awarded to an outstanding high school senior who will study music at the college level:

Haidar Barbarji, trumpet, Williamsburg, and student of David Vonderheide.

Our judges for this year's audition: Rami Bar-Niv, Carol Thomas Downing, and Olivia Guttoff.

The Williamsburg Music Club is supported by grants from the Williamsburg Community Foundation, the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission, the Williamsburg Area Music Teachers and the York County Arts Commission as well as the generous gifts from members and contributing friends of the WMC.

The Williamsburg Music Club is a not-for-profit organization with tax-exempt status under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Club has established both the Grants in-Aid Fund and the WMC Endowment Fund for contributions at any time.