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Pablo Rubin-Jurado Wins Massachusetts Schmidt Vocal Competition

*The New England Conservatory hosts prestigious singing competition
that presents thousands of dollars in awards each year*

(Boston, MA) May 31, 2019 – On May 25, the New England Conservatory hosted the Schmidt Vocal Competition, a prestigious singing competition for sophomore, junior, and senior high school singers that provides awards to more than 150 people annually. This year’s first prize winner was Pablo Rubin-Jurado, from New York, NY, who was awarded \$2,500 for his performance of “Tristezza” by Francesco Paolo Tosti.

Additional winners were: Ranna Shahbazi, Second Place; Brianna Chance, Third Place; Anne Burgett, Samuel Higgins, Lexi Lanni, Keeseok Lee, Katie Nam, finalists; Elizabeth Jantzi, Jordan Marie Lewis, Emily Steele, Kimi Sturgeon, Encouragement Awards; Brianna Chance, Broadway Bound Award; Samuel Higgins, Best Sophomore.

“Congratulations to Pablo Rubin-Jurado and the many other talented singers who participated in this year’s Schmidt Vocal Competition,” said Ben Smolder, Director of the Schmidt Vocal Competition. “These students work hard to practice and prepare for the competition. We’re committed to helping them pursue their passion. The Schmidt Vocal Competition offers students the opportunity to perform in front of live audiences, receive invaluable instruction from world-renowned artists and professionals, and connect with mentors and experienced singers to explore a career in classical singing.”

“I loved going because the Schmidt Vocal Competition is the only competition I have done that actually supports young singers,” said first prize winner, Pablo Rubin-Jurado. “They provide young singer not just with financial assistance, but also with the opportunity to form important connections with distinguished faculty from conservatories and universities across the country.”

About Schmidt Vocal Competition

The Schmidt Vocal Competition has impacted the lives of thousands of young students over the past two decades, offering awards, scholarship and educational experiences for more than 150 students annually. The Schmidt Vocal Competition is held annually in 16 locations throughout the U.S. in partnership with regional colleges and universities and is open to sophomore, junior and senior high school singers. Competitors perform in front of a live audience in two rounds and participate in educational master classes with some of today’s most renowned professionals between the preliminary and final rounds.

Schmidt Competition participants have gone on to gain entrance into the world’s finest music schools and include winners of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, the George London Competition, the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Competition, Classical Singer, and the National Opera Association Award. The Schmidt Vocal Competition is funded by the William E. Schmidt Foundation, which encourages aspiring young singers to pursue their passion in vocal arts and provides support and inspiration to future generations of singers.

About Pablo Rubin-Jurado

Pablo Rubin-Jurado was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 2001. He has been in the Juilliard Pre-College program since 2013, where he studies composition, voice, piano, and violin. He has also been in the NYYS Composition Program since 2015. As a boy soprano, he sang the roles of **Amahl** in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* by Menotti and **Miles** in *The Turn of the Screw* by Britten at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival in Kona. At the Metropolitan Opera, he was the understudy for **Real Jake** in Nico Muhly’s opera *Two Boys*. Pablo has received awards in many competitions, including the Schmidt Vocal Competition, Hal Leonard, Forte International Music, Enkor International Music, Rondo Vanguard, New York Lyric Opera, American Prize, and American Protégé competitions.

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