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GENERATIONS OF SINGERS

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## Shayna Singer Wins Florida Schmidt Vocal Competition

*Palm Beach Atlantic University hosts prestigious singing competition that presents thousands of dollars in awards each year*

**(West Palm Beach, FL) October 15, 2019** – On October 12, 2019, Palm Beach Atlantic University 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 Shayna Singer, from Delray Beach, FL, who was awarded \$2,500 for her performance of "Love's Philosophy" by Roger Quilter.

Additional winners were: Liam Anderson, Second Place; Nicole DiPasquale, Third Place; Owen Connolly, Devin Embrich, Zaryah Gourgel, Sam Hyre, Ybriana Rodriguez, and Hope Sears, finalist; Devin Embrich, Kayla Sconiers, and John Valencia, Encouragement Award; Sam Hyre, Broadway Bound; Nicole DiPasquale, Most Promising Sophomore.

"We are so proud of Shayna and the many other talented singers who participated in this year's Schmidt Vocal Competition," said Linda McAlister, Executive Director of the Schmidt Vocal Arts. "Each year the Schmidt Vocal Competition provides young singers with the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience, participate in master classes with world-renowned artists and professionals, and connect with both their peers and mentors who will help foster their continued vocal growth."

"Having the opportunity to meet so many talented individuals who share the same passion as me makes the Schmidt Vocal Competition such an amazing experience," remarks Shayna Singer. "You not only get to share your voice with others, but you receive insightful feedback on your performance from various distinguished faculty. To be selected as the winner of the competition is such an honor and an experience I will never forget. Competing helps gain confidence, grow our artistry, and create friendships with so many inspiring young singers!"

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### **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 17 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 finalist rounds.

Schmidt Vocal 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 Awards, Classical Singer, and the National Opera Association Award. The Schmidt Vocal Competition is a program from Schmidt Vocal Arts, which encourages aspiring young singers to pursue their passion in vocal arts and provides support and inspiration to future generations of singers.

### **About Shayna Singer**

Shayna Singer is a 17-year-old soprano from Delray Beach, Florida. Shayna is originally from New York City where she performed in the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus for six seasons and studied piano at the Special Music School. Shayna was a member of Palm Beach Opera Studio from 2017-2019. She is currently President of Choirs at North Broward Prep and performs in their opera every year. Shayna has attended various summer programs including Brevard Music Center and Washington National Opera Institute and will attend All-National Honor Choir this fall. She currently studies with Marilyn Mims at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

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