



INSPIRING FUTURE
GENERATIONS OF SINGERS

PRESS CONTACT:

Linda McAlister, Executive Director
Linda@schmidtvocalarts.org

Jordan Twadell Wins Illinois Schmidt Vocal Competition

Modified "virtual" competition model gives high school singers the opportunity to still win cash awards and potential scholarships

(Chicago, IL) May 23, 2020 – On May 23, 2020 the Schmidt Vocal Competition, in conjunction with its Illinois cohort host, Roosevelt University announced winners of its modified virtual singing competition for sophomore, junior, and senior high school singers. This year's first prize winner was Jordan Twadell, from Gurnee, IL who was awarded \$2,500 for her performance of " Ah, mai non cessate" by Stefano Donaudy.

Additional winners were: Luke Dailey, Second Place; Arielle Pedersen, Third Place; Alanna Beilke, Daniel Dunlap, Saige Hoffman, Cody Horne, Corin Staggs, Finalist; Bella Carrasquillo, Benjamin Farlow, Isabel Hernandez, Encouragement Award; Grace Costello, Broadway Bound Award; Arielle Pedersen, Most Promising Sophomore.

Due to the closing of college and university campuses and the stay-at-home orders in place across the country, Schmidt Vocal Arts quickly pivoted in March to create a modified "virtual submission" model for its Spring 2020 Schmidt Vocal Competitions. Several signature elements traditionally associated with the Schmidt Vocal Competition were not possible in the virtual model – such as in-person, on-stage live performances, master classes led by renown members of the Schmidt Vocal Artist Network between the two rounds of competition, and connecting with fellow competitors throughout the day. However, competitors in the virtual cohort were able to showcase their talent as well as come together to hear from judges and celebrate the winners in a Facebook LIVE awards ceremony.

"We are so proud of Jordan Twadell and the many other talented singers who participated in this year's virtual Schmidt Vocal Competition," said Linda McAlister, Executive Director of Schmidt Vocal Arts. "Many of our competitors work hard all year to compete in this prestigious competition. We wanted to ensure they still had the chance to compete, earn cash awards, and become eligible for scholarship opportunities. In times of uncertainty, experiences like this are more important than ever."

A Schmidt Vocal Arts
6 East 5th Street, Suite 406
Covington, KY 41011

T (513) 783-2583
E info@schmidtvocalarts.org
W www.schmidtvocalarts.org



INSPIRING FUTURE
GENERATIONS OF SINGERS

“After competing for the previous two years in the Schmidt Competition, and watching so many talented vocalists, it was a pleasure to compete for a third year,” remarks Jordan Twadell. “I am honored to have been awarded first place, and would like to thank all of those who have supported me.”

Schmidt Vocal Competition plans to return to its live, in-person competition model on the campus of Roosevelt University next Spring. For more information, visit www.schmidtvocalarts.org.

About Schmidt Vocal Competition

The Schmidt Vocal Competition has impacted the lives of thousands of young students over the past two decades, offering awards, scholarships, 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 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 Jordan Twadell

Based in the Chicagoland area, Jordan Twadell is a dramatic soprano who strives to bring virtuosity and emotion into all of her performances. A recent grad from Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, where she studied with Dr. Laura Osgood Brown, she plans to attend Oberlin Conservatory in the fall and continue her studies in voice with Salvatore Champagne. She has appeared on the Interlochen Public Radio four times in the last year. Jordan enjoys performing in opera scenes as well as solo performances. She considers a performance successful when she elicits an emotional response from her audience.

A Schmidt Vocal Arts
6 East 5th Street, Suite 406
Covington, KY 41011

T (513) 783-2583
E info@schmidtvocalarts.org
W www.schmidtvocalarts.org

