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## **Schmidt Vocal Arts Announces Winners of its Northern California Regional Competition on March 15**



*(L-R) Brooks Liang (2<sup>nd</sup>), Jane Hasty (1<sup>st</sup>), Auralia Manís (3<sup>rd</sup>)*

### *Three Prizewinners Advance to National Competition in May*

**[Covington, KY, March 17, 2026]**—[Schmidt Vocal Arts](https://www.schmidtarts.com) (SVA), a national organization for pre-professional classical singers, is pleased to announce the winners of its 2025-26 Northern California Regional Competition, held at San Francisco Conservatory of Music on Sunday, March 15, 2026.

First Place  
Second Place  
Third Place

**Jane Hasty**, Burbank, CA  
**Brooks Liang**, Campbell, CA  
**Auralia Manís**, Winston-Salem, NC

Twenty-seven talented high school singers from California, North Carolina, and Florida competed for cash prizes and the opportunity to advance to Schmidt Vocal Arts' National Competition in May 2026.

Sunday's jury—tenor Richard Cox, Executive Chair and Professor of Voice at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music; baritone Gordon Hawkins, Professor of Voice at Arizona State University; and soprano Dr. Monica Williams-McCullough, Assistant Professor in Residence and Coordinator of Voice Division at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas—selected ten singers for the final round, each of whom received a \$250 award for advancing.

Three singers were selected for participation in a master class prior to the final round of competition, and four cash prizes of \$100 were awarded for Encouragement and Most Promising Sophomore.

### **FINALISTS**

<b>Victoria Chen</b>	La Jolla Country Day School, San Diego, CA
<b>Kochavia Glaubach</b>	San Domenico High School, Mill Valley, CA
<b>Jane Hasty</b>	Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, Burbank, CA
<b>Brooks Liang</b>	Archbishop Mitty High School, Campbell, CA
<b>Auralia Manis</b>	University of North Carolina School of the Arts (H.S. Program), Winston-Salem, NC
<b>Anastasia Miin</b>	Pacific Collegiate School, Saratoga, CA
<b>Isabelle Prats</b>	New World School of the Arts, Miami, FL
<b>Israel Rangel-Mejia</b>	Castro Valley High School, Hayward, CA
<b>Liam Swinnerton-Davis</b>	Palo Alto Preparatory, Los Gatos, CA
<b>Sierra Vidnovic</b>	Livermore High School, Livermore, CA

### **ADDITIONAL PRIZES**

Encouragement Award	<b>Samsara Dluzak</b> , Ruth Asawa School of The Arts, San Francisco, CA
Encouragement Award	<b>Luna Kup</b> , North Hollywood High School, Pacific Palisades, CA
Encouragement Award	<b>Sierra Vidnovic</b> , Livermore High School, Livermore, CA
Most Promising Sophomore	<b>Brooks Liang</b> , Archbishop Mitty High School, Campbell, CA

The three top prizewinners from each regional now advance to the National Competition in May 2026, and received awards of \$2,500, \$2,000, and \$1,500. They are now also eligible



to apply for college scholarships from Schmidt Vocal Arts, which awards more than \$500,000 each year to its applicants to support their higher education.

Three more [regional competitions](#), as well as one online, for high school students take place across the country throughout the 2025-26 season prior to the National Competition in May at Sarasota Opera.

All Schmidt Vocal Arts programs are funded by the **William E. Schmidt Foundation**. Since debuting in 1997, the Schmidt Vocal Competitions have touched the lives of more than 6,500 developing singers, this year awarding a total of \$650,000 in cash prizes and scholarships in pursuit of Schmidt Vocal Arts' mission to foster a passion in young artists for classical singing and create opportunities to propel them on their journey toward a career in the arts.

## **ABOUT SCHMIDT VOCAL ARTS**

Funded by the William E. Schmidt Foundation, Schmidt Vocal Arts is committed to fostering a passion for classical singing and to creating opportunities for young singers. Led by Executive Director Linda McAlister, Schmidt Vocal Arts boasts many accomplished alumni who have gone on to pursue music degrees and enjoy successful careers in the arts. The Schmidt Vocal Competitions—the oldest of the Foundation's programs—have touched the lives of more than 5,000 developing high school and undergraduate singers, awarding a total of over \$2 million in cash awards and scholarships since its debut in 1997. Other Schmidt Vocal Arts programs include:

- Schmidt Vocal Institute, a two-week intensive summer residential program where singers learn from world-renowned artists, participate in workshops and master classes, and perform with other talented musicians;
- Schmidt Vocal Education, offering regional and online programs for singers and teachers to learn, challenge themselves, and participate in performance experiences; and
- Schmidt Vocal Scholarships, a program that provides need-based support for talented singers continuing their professional vocal education.

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