



Davidson Fellow Laureate Sebastian Chang

(\$50,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Sebastian Chang

Age: 14

Trabuco Canyon, California

School, College and Career Plans

Sebastian currently attends Orange County High School of the Arts. He plans to attend a college or conservatory that focuses on all areas of music, including music composition, piano performance and conducting. Sebastian hopes to broaden his musical horizons by pursuing graduate studies overseas. Like Mahler, Bernstein and Boulez, Sebastian wishes to place equal emphasis on composition, conducting and performing throughout his musical career.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Music*)

In his portfolio, *Music Composition With Performance and Improvisation*, Sebastian impressively composed and performed five innovative pieces of music filled with self-discovery, complexity and depth of emotion as orchestral, chamber and solo works. Sebastian has performed his compositions throughout the United States, Japan and Canada. His portfolio also included several live improvisation performances.

Biography

Sebastian began studying the piano when he was four-years-old and began composing a year later. Since then, Sebastian has performed throughout the United States, Japan and Canada building an impressive list of musical accomplishments as a pianist and a composer. His compositions have been broadcast on the *Hour of Power*, Japanese national television and America's National Public Radio. Both the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra and the Pacific Symphony Orchestra have played Sebastian's compositions.

Sebastian has received commissions from the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies and the National Youth Orchestral Festival, and his compositions have received the national Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), and Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) Student Composer Awards. An accomplished pianist, Sebastian has won first prize at the Southern California Junior Bach Festival, the Young Pianist competition at the Southwestern Youth Music Festival and the Los Angeles Liszt Piano Competition.

A gymnastics competition medallist, Sebastian was involved in gymnastics for eight years. Today, Sebastian is an avid golfer, plays basketball and takes a Stage Combat course at his school.

Please see next page.

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development

9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B | Reno, NV 89521 | Ph: 775-852-3483 | Fax: 775-852-2184



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(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2002 Davidson Fellow Laureate (September)
- 2002 First place in the Music Teachers Association of California (MTAC) Composers Today State Contest
- 2002, 2001 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Foundation/Morton Gould Young Composers Award, Honorable Mention, Award
- 2002, 2000 First place in the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Student Composition Competition
- 2001 Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies' (GTCYS) of Minnesota 30th Anniversary Peer-to-Peer Commissioning Project
- 2000 First place in the Biennial Los Angeles Liszt Piano Competition
- 2000 "The Amazing Audience Choice Award" NPR's *From the Top* broadcast
- Asia American Youth Honor Orchestra Outstanding Soloist Award
- Commissioned, National Youth Orchestra Festival (NYOF) of the American Symphony Orchestra League
- Gold medal, 37th Annual Southern California Junior Bach Festival Orange County High School of the Arts, DDT Award: Dedication, Drive & Talent
- Young Composers Award, National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts and the Hartt School Community Division
- Winner of the Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) 50th Annual Student Composer Awards/Carlos Surinach Prize for being the youngest winner of the competition

Community Activities

Sebastian has initiated and participated in many efforts to increase funding and awareness for classical music. He has met with his Senators and Congresswoman in Washington, D.C. to lobby for additional funding for the arts. He has also been a co-hosted for nine Beethoven concerts that were performed for 30,000 fifth graders and served as a music ambassador for the Philharmonic Society of Orange County, visiting various schools to talk about music and music appreciation.

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