



Davidson Fellow Laureate
Rachel Naomi Kudo
(\$50,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Rachel Naomi Kudo
Age: 17
Northbrook, IL

School, College and Career Plans

Currently a junior at Glenbrook North High School, Rachel continues her studies with Emilio del Rosario at the Music Institute of Chicago, as well as with Kum-Sing Lee of the Vancouver Music Academy. Rachel hopes to major in piano performance at the Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute of Music, or the Vancouver Academy of Music. She hopes to be a concert pianist, chamber musician, and a teacher and mentor.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Music*)

Rachel Naomi Kudo realized early on that her music had the ability to touch people in ways words could not. In her portfolio "For the Love of Music", she performed classic works by master composers Bach, Haydn, Chopin and Liszt, among others. Her portfolio demonstrates her strong technical facility, her artistic maturity and the imagination required to convey the composers' true messages to the audience.

Biography

Born in Washington, D.C., Rachel began the piano at the age of four. At the age of 16, she performed Tchaikovsky's Concerto No.1 with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and made her debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall playing Falla's *Nights in the Gardens of Spain*.

When Rachel was 14, she was the youngest artist at the 2001 56th International Chopin Festival in Duzniki-Zdroj, Poland, where she performed a recital that included 12 Chopin Etudes of Op.10. Other highlights include performances at the 2001 International Nagoya Youth Music Festival, the 2001 "New Names of the 21st Century" Music Festival in Russia, Chopin's birth house "Zelazowa Wola," the Steinway Society of Chicago, the Stradivarius Museum in Cremona, the Schubert Club in Minneapolis, and the 2003 Opening Night Gala Celebration for the Music Institute of Chicago honoring world-renowned conductor Sir Andrew Davis.

Rachel has been heard on WFMT Chicago's "Impromptu" and WQXR radio's "Young Artists Showcase" programs, and is also a three-time scholarship recipient of the Chopin Foundation of the United States.

Please see next page.



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(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2004 Davidson Fellow Laureate
- 2003 I.M.A. Music Award of Japan
- 2003 9th Oberlin International Piano Competition, First Place
- 2003 Chicago Symphony Orchestra Joseph and Bessie Feinberg Youth Auditions, Winner
- 2003 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, Silver Medal
- 2000 Czerny-Stefanska International Piano Competition, First Place
- 2000 Czerny-Stefanska International Piano Competition, Stefanska Award
- 1999 53rd All Japan Student Music Concours, First Place
- 1999 53rd All Japan Student Music Concours, Nomura Award
- 1999 53rd All Japan Student Music Concours, Tsuzuki Award

Community Activities

Rachel has performed educational and benefit concerts within her community.

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