



**Davidson Fellow
Damon Meng**

(\$25,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Damon Meng

Age: 16

Madison, New Jersey

School, College and Career Plans

Damon is a rising junior at Madison High School and studies at The Juilliard School Pre-College Division. He is still considering his college choices and plans to pursue either an academic degree or a career in music.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Music*)

In his piano portfolio, “Reviving Classical Music Through Individualism,” Damon portrayed his belief that it is his duty and privilege to contribute to the art of classical music. Through the piano, he hopes to introduce classical music to younger generations. At the age of 7, Damon was one of the youngest candidates ever accepted to Juilliard Pre-College Division, where he has gone on to win the Junior and Senior Concerto Competitions. A native of China, Damon was recognized as a 2007 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist and has performed on NPR’s “From the Top.”

Biography

Damon was born in Shanghai, China and came to the United States when he was 7, and six months later he entered The Juilliard Pre-College Division. He began playing the piano at the age of 4 and has committed himself to teaching younger generations that classical music is exciting and for the enjoyment of all.

Damon was in an accelerated academic program in Shanghai but when he came to the United States he found he had to move from one school to another to have more opportunities for growth. Damon was accepted to the Academically Talented program in his elementary school and is currently taking the most difficult courses that his high school offers.

Aside from music, Damon enjoys reading biographies and classics. Through reading biographies Damon has learned how successful figures have dealt with adversity and the classics have broadened his language skills. He also enjoys traveling and civics. Damon likes debating and developing his public speaking skills and participates in his school’s Model Congress.

Please see next page.



**Davidson Fellow
Damon Meng**

(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2007 Davidson Fellow
- 2007 Winner of the 13th Oberlin International Piano Competition
- 2007 Performed on NPR's "From The Top"
- 2007 Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award
- 2007 Winner of the Juilliard Pre-College Senior Concerto Competition
- 2007 First Prize and Honorary Awards in the Kingsville International Isabel Scionti Piano Competition
- 2007 Blount-Slawson Young Artists Competition First Prize
- 2007 New Jersey Physics Olympics Competition First Place
- 2006 Winner of the Summit Symphony Concerto Competition
- 2005 Third Place, New Jersey Science Olympiad
- 2004 Performed with the Guangxi Symphony Orchestra and Shanghai Youth Symphony Orchestra
- 2003 Winner of the Juilliard Pre-College Junior Concerto Competition
- 2003 Debut with the New York Philharmonic
- 2001 Winner of the 16th Annual International Young Artist Piano Competition

Community Activities

Damon has been a representative for his school at the Rutgers Model Congress Conference and the Harvard Model Congress Conference. He also plays the piano as an accompanist at many of his high school's community events.

###