



**Davidson Fellow  
Sarina Zhang**

(\$25,000 Scholarship Recipient)



**Personal Info**

Age: 13  
San Diego, California

**School, College and Career Plans**

During the school year, Sarina is homeschooled through the California Virtual Academy, which allows her study in the Juilliard Pre-College Division in New York as a double major in piano and cello and minor in composition.

**Davidson Fellows Submission** (*Music*)

In her portfolio, "Reaching Out to the World with the Magic of Music," Sarina strives to show the beauty and emotional value of classical music. She strives to connect with her audience, moving them with the simple truth of classical music during her performances. Since Sarina finds music so pleasurable and rewarding herself, her goal is to bring music to as many people as possible, from children to seniors. She believes that music has the ability to bring people together in peace and harmony.

**Biography**

Sarina began studying piano with her mother when she was 4 years old and took up the cello when she was 7. She has collaborated with the San Diego Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, the New City Sinfonia and the Northridge Symphony Orchestra. Most recently, she played Beethoven's *#1 Piano Concerto* with Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Civic Orchestra.

From 2004 to 2007, Sarina was the youngest member and assistant principal cellist in the San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra Symphony. In 2006 she accompanied the Civic Youth Orchestra on a European tour of Stockholm, Sweden; Helsinki, Finland; and St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia. In 2006, Sarina gave her Carnegie Hall debut.

Sarina's performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio and the PBS television show *From the Top, Live from Carnegie Hall*. Her future engagements include an appearance as a guest artist in the 2009-2010 season for the Corpus Christi Symphony and with the California Symphony in May 2010.

Sarina's hobbies include swimming, reading fantasy and mystery books and drawing.

*Please see next page.*



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(Cont.)

**Honors/Awards**

- 2009 Davidson Fellow
- 2009 New York Ensemble 212 Young Artist Competition for Violoncello, First Place
- 2009 Juilliard Pre-College Dvorak Silent Woods and Rondo Concerto Competition, First Place
- 2008 Connecticut International Young Artist Competition, First Place in Piano, Second Place in Cello
- 2008 New York Grand Prix International Piano Competition, Special Prize
- 2007 Virginia Waring International Piano Competition, Third Place
- 2007 Music Teachers Association of California Piano Solo Competition, First Place
- 2007 Los Angeles Violoncello Society Scholarship Competition, First Place
- 2007 Chinese Music Teachers Association of Northern California Youth Music Competition, First Place in cello and piano
- 2007 NPR's *From the Top*, cello performance with Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra
- 2006 American String Teachers Association (CA) Solo Competition, First Place
- 2005 International Russian Piano Music Competition, Young Musician category, First Place, Grand Public Prize and Best Performance of Russian Music
- 2005 San Diego Goodlin Scholarship Competition, First Place in piano and cello
- 2004 NPR's *From the Top*, piano performance as youngest musician ever featured

**Community Activities**

Sarina has given numerous cello and piano solo performances for senior citizens at the Poway Community Seniors Center and the Hyatt Classic Residence in San Diego, as well as numerous libraries, schools and charities.

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