

2024 VAA Report

In brief, we are happy to report that we had 9 teachers and 37 students this year, a great improvement over last year's 6 teachers and 27 students! We had two judges who did an excellent job. The venue was free, so we had \$750 in judges' costs, \$1250 in prizes awarded, and we took in \$1480 at a loss of \$520.

The VAA took place at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Annandale on Saturday, March 16, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. It was an excellent venue for a voice competition. The acoustics and piano were both excellent.

A more detailed report follows.

Nine teachers participated: Tim Chang (1 student), Melissa Chavez (3 students), Marcia Espenschied (6 students), Christiane Huff (2 students), Lani Jacobson (5 students), Alina Kirshon-Goldman (2 students), Peggy McNulty (8 students), Nancy MacArthur Smith (7 students), and Baharti Soman (3 students). Tim Chang and Christiane Huff were new to the competition and said they plan to enter students next year. Each teacher had a least one "win", including HMs.

Division 1 (Ages 13-15): 12 students, (one student was Comment Only)

Division 2 (ages 16 & 17): 9 students

Comment Only: 5 adults

Division 3 (Adults): 11 adults

37 students total

Judges were Joan Jurenas and Gregory Stuart. Lisa Bloy was the pianist, but some teachers brought their own.

Teachers entered their comments in a spreadsheet instead of with pencil and paper. This was new this year and allowed the judges to write faster. And of course, it made the comments easier to read.

Division 1

1st place: Madeleine Scheurman, student of Christiane Huff

2nd place: Heidi Hager, student of Tim Chang

3rd place: Langlan Heisman, student of Lani Jacobson

Honorable Mention:

Elise Erbrecht, student of Nancy MacArthur Smith

Jack Abidin, student of Nancy MacArthur Smith

Aline Todd, student of Christiane Huff

Division 2

1st place: Sophia Rader, student of Peggy McNulty

2nd place: Rachel Rock, student of Nancy MacArthur Smith

3rd place: Allison Perez Clemente, student of Marcia Espensheid

Honorable Mention:

Michaela Pierce, student of Peggy McNulty

Autumn Frank, student of Lani Jacobson

Division 3

1st place: Pam Gordet, student of Nancy MacArthur Smith

2nd place: Danielle Bendjy, student of Melissa Chavez

3rd place: Katherine Love, student of Alina Kirshon-Goldman

Honorable Mention:

Fox Desrosiers, student of Melissa Chavez

Melodie Dum, student of Bharati Soman

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy MacArthur Smith, Chair

Peggy McNulty, Co-chair