

Today's Date: Monday, July 14, 2014

Contact:

Russ Warren, Marketing Director

russ@birchcreek.org

PO Box 230

3821 County E

Egg Harbor, WI 54209

Ph: (920) 868-3763

Lisa Oswald, PR Intern

Oswaldl0673@my.uwstout.edu

Ph: (715) 661-2466

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Birch Creek Names 2014 Burton Concerto Award Winners

Egg Harbor, Wis. – July 14, 2014 – Kayla Cabrera, viola, and Carissa McQuaid, violin, were selected as Birch Creek's 2014 Burton Concert Award winners, with Matthew Reeder earning the runner-up position, following a competition that took place on July 8. Winners were announced during the July 12 Symphony concert.

Kayla is a 15-year-old from Crete, Ill., who started playing viola in 2011 and receives private lessons from Birch Creek faculty member Matt Mantell of Orland Park, Ill. She cites Shostakovich, Haydn, Tchaikovsky and Dvorak recordings as influential to her musical interests. Kayla plays with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Suburban Youth Symphony Orchestra.

This year marks 17-year-old Carissa's fourth at Birch Creek's Symphony session. Lisa Chodorowski of Woodstock, Ill., is her private instructor. Carissa began playing violin at age three and also has three years of piano training. She is a member of Midwest Young (MYA) Artists Orchestral Program and MYA Symphony Orchestra, and she is MYA Concertmaster and Principal 2nd Violin of Concert Orchestra.

Runner-up Matthew Reeder, flute, is 15 years old and from Champaign, Ill., and has played three years. He attends University of Illinois Laboratory High School, where he studies music under Richard Murphy. Dr. Rebecca Johnson is his private instructor. Matthew is a member of East Central Illinois Youth Orchestra, St. Patrick's Youth Orchestra, Central Illinois Children's Choir, and University High School Madrigals.

Paul and Frances Burton generously fund the Burton Concerto Award Scholarship.

Birch Creek Student Awards are presented at the end of each two-week session and are based on musicianship and leadership. First-place winners are eligible for a partial tuition scholarship for the following season; in the event that a first-place winner cannot return, the runner-up is eligible for the scholarship. The two first-place winners of the Burton Concerto Award are eligible to perform one movement of a concerto on opening night of the following Symphony season; in the event that a first-place winner cannot perform, the runner-up is eligible for the honor.

The application and auditioning process for students applying to Birch Creek is challenging. Symphony applications must be submitted along with an audition recording, which is reviewed by Birch Creek faculty. All Symphony students perform concerts alongside their instructors and must possess the skills to keep up with a demanding repertoire.

Birch Creek Music Performance Center is a summer music school in Door County, WI, for advanced young musicians. With a performance emphasis, students are taught by nationally known performers and educators during the day, and perform alongside them in concerts at night. Five sessions focus on percussion and steel band, symphony, big band jazz, and vocal jazz. Applications are welcome.

2014 Season Concert Schedule
Percussion & Steel Band – Concluded
Symphony – Concluded
Big Band Jazz – July 16 – August 9
Vocal Jazz – August 12 – August 16

Photos:

Kayla Cabrera

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ba0umca3psd2vri/KaylaCabrera.jpg>

Carissa McQuaid

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/i8a2kzfg1tj97ct/CarissaMcQuaid.jpg>

Matthew Reeder

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jshdpajuyby6olz/MatthewReeder.jpg>

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