

# AJCongress - Pepsi Cola Name Winners Of Music Competition



1983 Competition Winners Erica Keisewetter, Paul Shaw, Kerry McDermott and Grand Prize Winner David Buechner.

Four performers have been named winners of the third annual Young Musicians Competition sponsored by the American Jewish Congress and the Pepsi-Cola Company.

The competition, which began in 1981, is designed to support the musical arts in the metropolitan area. Open to musicians between the ages of 17 and 26, the Competition's dual purpose is to provide gifted young artists with professional performance experience and enable audiences in the tri-state area to attend classical performances of professional calibre at synagogues and community centers in their own neighborhoods.

This year's awards were given for violin and piano. Future competitions will be held for other instruments.

Winners in the piano category were Paul Shawa, 26, of Mt. Vernon, and David Buechner, 24, of New York City. Kerry C. McDermott, 21, and Erica Kiesewetter, 25, both of New York City, received prizes for their work in violin.

Mr. Buechner, selected as the Grand Prize winner, has appeared with orchestras in the United States and Europe. Among his awards, a fourth prize in the International Beethoven Competition in Vienna and a first prize as a Xerox Affiliate Resident. He is currently working for his doctorate at Juilliard. He will be presented by the Competition in his New York recital debut at the 92nd Street Y on April 1, 1984.

Paul Shaw, born in Jamaica, attending the Jamaica School of Music in Kingston. He was the first recipient of the Howard Cooke Award for Excellence in Music. He represented Jamaica at the 30th Annual Kiwanis Music Festival in Toronto, Canada. Mr. Shaw has appeared as a solo artist with the Juilliard Symphony. He received his bachelor of music degree from Juilliard and is currently working for his masters in music at that institution.

At the age of 17, Kerry McDermott was the youngest winner in the history of Artists International Annual Auditions and was presented in a solo debut recital at Carnegie Hall. In June, 1982, she was a finalist in the 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, where she was the recipient of a special award for artistic interpretation.

Erica Kiesewetter was first violinist of the Colorado String Quartet when it won the 1981 International Competition for String Quartets in Evian, France. She has been concert master of the Dakota Symphony and associate concert

master of the Filarmonica de las Americas in Mexico City.

Winners in the final round were chosen in live performance in the Kaufmann Auditorium of the 92nd Street "Y" by a panel of judges which included violinists Isidore Cohen and Daniel Heifetz; pianists Constance Keene and Jerome Lowenthal; Omus Hirshbein, director of performing arts of the "Y"; and Susan Wadsworth, director of young Concert Artists.

The four winners will be presented at the "Y" at a Gala Concert and Reception on Saturday evening, November 19th at 8:00 P.M. Reserved tickets are free on a first come, first served basis. Tickets can be reserved by writing or calling Mrs. Alix Barthelmes, Competition Administrator, American Jewish Congress, 15 East 84th Street, New York, N.Y. 10028, 212-879-8610.

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