

Press Release – TALENTED WINNERS IN “SPOTLIGHT” COMPETITION
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2022 SPOTLIGHT ON TALENT WINNERS

MATINEE SHOW

CATEGORY 1

- 1st - Naomi Reed - piano
- 2nd - Kaiya Bistany-Charles -vocal
- 3rd - Amber Luu- piano
- 4th - Berkley Hopper- vocal
- 5th - Chloe Adams - modern/acro dance

CATEGORY 2

- 1st - Alexander Butts - contemporary dance
- 2nd - Nikki Lang - piano
- 3rd - Camila Trejos - vocal
- 4th - Kat Baudoin - vocal/electric guitar
- 5th - Abbey Yokum - contemporary dance

CATEGORY 3

- 1st - Kendall Hill - vocal
- 2nd - Rio Ricardo - musical theater
- 3rd - Tavin Groomes - musical theater

GROUPS

- 1st - Camila Arguello and Linley Bishop - jazz dance
- 2nd - Stagelights PAC - contemporary dance

EVENING SHOW

CATEGORY 1

- 1st - Shreyashi Bodaka - piano
- 2nd - Maelee Scaglione - contemporary dance
- 3rd - Maris Willers - ballet dance
- 4th - Sofia Acosta - musical theater

CATEGORY 2

- 1st - Samuel Wu - piano
- 2nd - Larkin Mainwaring - vocal
- 3rd - Brooke Tudor - ballet dance
- 4th - Jasmine Crew - modern dance
- 5th - Katie Young - vocal
- 6th - Julianne Henderson - vocal

CATEGORY 3

- 1st - Ezekiel Richards - tap dance
- 2nd - Faith Phaller - ballet/point dance
- 3rd - Sailor Wade - ballet dance
- 4th - Jayden Parsons - vocal
- 5th - Michaela Mezzei - lyrical dance

GROUPS

- 1st - Kasey Lang and Conner Harrie - piano duet
- 2nd - Star Company - dance

PASCO HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Faith Phaller – ballet/pointe dance

Above are the winners named at the 39th annual "Spotlight on Talent" Performing Arts Competition, held recently (March 12) at the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel High. This contest has become so popular that we now have 2 final shows. The Matinee (younger students and groups) was at 12 noon, and the Evening Show (older students and groups) was at 7:00 p.m. Each of these outstanding talented young people very much deserves recognition in our area newspapers! A special feature article we definitely feel is called for. Please go to our web site at www.heritagearts.org, to pull up some excellent digital photos, all labeled and ready to go.

Here are some additional facts we'd like you to use. Over 109 contestants were given the opportunity to perform onstage at this first-rate facility in front of 2 enthusiastic crowds and 2 panels of professional judges. The non-profit Heritage Arts Center Assoc. is the organization that produces this show each year. A 15 member Board of Directors worked for 3 months, and the final production team included 14 additional community friends who gave of their time. Exec. Producer was Barbara Friedman, and Asst. Producers were Laretta Brown, Michael Roberts, Michelle Twitmyer and Laurel Weightman. 37 different corporate/community sponsors generously donated toward the over \$4,000 cash prizes, trophies and ribbons that were distributed, and to cover the over \$16,000 cost of the shows. Our Masters of Ceremonies were David West, Rotarian and pastor, and Clint Roberson, lawyer. The two final shows were dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Jack McTague, Board Member of H.A.C.A.

These were spectacular shows, and the crowds of hundreds had a great time cheering these amazing talents. A wonderful variety of many types of talent was presented, including vocal, piano, dance, musical theater, electric, rock and classical guitar, and spoken poetry. One exciting announcement was the climax of the evening show, the naming of our 10th Pasco Heritage Scholarship recipient! The \$1,000 award went to dancer Faith Phaller, who was the Pasco County graduating senior with the highest solo scores from the finals judges as well as the audition judges.

It was a very full day, showcasing the amazing talents of 109 young people. But hard work, discipline, great instruction and sacrificial parenting paid off with a demonstration of the wonderful and inspiring gifts that the performing and visual arts can be to our lives. The audiences of family and community friends were completely entertained and charmed.

Please put in as much as you can, and please call me if you need any other information.