

Toledo Symphony League

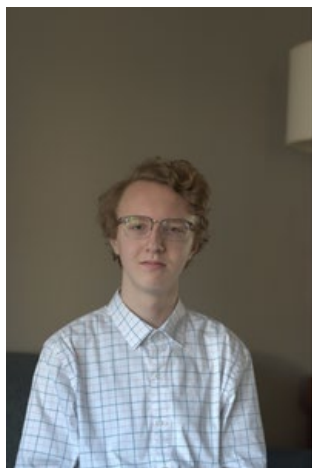
2022 Young Artist Competition Winners



Henry Shao is an 8th grader at Timberstone Junior High in Sylvania. He has studied piano with Esther Chiu for 9 years and his coach is Francis Renzi. He has performed twice as a piano soloist with the Sylvania Community Orchestra. He also accompanies his school orchestra. Henry has won several piano competitions, including first prize in the 2019 Buckeye Audition and 2021 Marilyn Walter Young Musicians Award. Aside from piano, he plays cello in the Philharmonic ensemble of the Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestra. In his free time, Henry enjoys biking, traveling, and tinkering with electronics.



Freya Klaas is 13 years old and an 8th grader at Ottawa Hills Junior High School. She began studying violin at the age of 3 and is currently a student of Anna Weller. Freya has attended several summer Suzuki institutes, including those in Ithaca, NY; Stevens Point, WI; Beaver Creek, CO and PhoenixPhest in Ypsilanti, MI. In 2016 Freya joined the Toledo Symphony Youth Orchestra's Concert Strings as its youngest member. That season she also won the TSYO solo competition. Currently she is Assistant Concertmaster in the TSYO Philharmonic Orchestra. Freya has performed as a soloist on Toledo Symphony Chamber Players concerts at the Toledo Rotary Club and at the O-I headquarters in Perrysburg. Freya also enjoys playing chamber music and has performed on Toledo Symphony Youth Ensemble and Toledo Symphony School of Music chamber concerts. Most recently, she was a featured performer in the Toledo Symphony's memorial concert for Dick Anderson at the Peristyle. In addition to playing violin, Freya plays trumpet in her school band and enjoys running cross country and Irish dancing.



Jake Weil is 17 years old and a Junior at Northview Highschool in Sylvania and is currently serving as the assistant principal Violist in the TSYO Philharmonic. He has been playing Viola for 6 years now, a majority of it being studied under the instruction of Matthew Daline. In 2019 and 2021, Jake was accepted into OMEA's Regionals Orchestra, moving further into the All-State Orchestra for 2022. He also placed 2nd in the Ohio Viola Societies' Young Violist competition in the spring of 2021. Outside of Viola, Jake is also a Guitarist, playing both Classical and Jazz genres, in which he has utilized to play in pit orchestras for Northview, the Toledo Rep, and the Crosswell Opera House, along with Northview's Jazz Cats. He is honored to be one of the winners of this competition.