YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION 2025-26 WINNERS

Eddie Kruse - Cello

Eddie Kruse has studied the cello for four years under the instruction of Toledo Symphony cellist Damon Coleman. He is also the finalist of the 2026 Sylvania Community Orchestra Competition and is a recipient of various other awards. Other than cello, Eddie has been self-studying piano for two years, as well as being a vocalist in Northview's most advanced vocal ensemble, Harmony Roadshow. This year, he is the President of Northview's Tri-M Honors Society. He also enjoys performing as a cast member in theatre productions/musicals, as well as being a pit orchestra musician. Throughout his high school career, Eddie has been selected for advanced festivals and ensembles, such as OMEA Northwest Region Orchestra, District 1 Honors Orchestra, and TSYO Philharmonic Orchestra, where this year he has held positions as Principal Cellist for every ensemble. He also has been selected for OMEA's All-State Orchestra, two consecutive years. Eddie is a Senior at Northview High School.

Isabella Wang - Piano

Pianist, Isabella Wang, is a 15-year-old sophomore at Sylvania Northview High School. She began her piano studies at the age of seven and continues to learn under the guidance of Esther Chiu. Her proficiency and dedication to piano are evident, as she is an active member of the Junior Monday Musicale and has earned numerous scholarships to reward her extraordinary talent. In addition, she has won multiple competitions, such as the Gene Marcus Competition, Marilyn Walter Young Musicians Piano Competition, and the Pre-College State Buckeye Competition, and is also a cellist for the Northview Academy Orchestra. She started her cello journey at the age of 11, with Anna Davis being her main instructor. Outside of her musical performance, Bella enjoys playing tennis and caddying at the Inverness Golf Club in the summer.

Esther Sohn - Cello

Esther Sohn is a junior at Notre Dame Academy and has been playing cello for nine years. She currently studies with Amy Chang and previously studied with Aaron Keaster. Esther is a fifth-year member of the Toledo Symphony Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and has been a recipient of the Toledo Symphony League Remembrance Fund Scholarships. Outside of music, she enjoys running, cross-country, and track.