



PRATT MUSIC FOUNDATION

Promoting Classical Music In Bloomington-Normal Since 1996

No. 31 – December 2016

The **Pratt Music Foundation** identifies children in Bloomington-Normal with talent to excel and who need support in order to pursue their talent. The **Foundation** selects, nurtures, and provides scholars with music instruction from the **Illinois Wesleyan University** Music Preparatory Program.



Photo by Glenn Reeder

Left to Right (regardless of row): Arael Rodgers, Lydia Langston, Alina Jankowiak, Maura McNamara, Jasil Olabode, Sarang Hong, Joseph Aceves, Ally Edwards, Deonte Mosely, Renata Olivo, Jose Espinoza, Konnor Bouman, Ethan Schuller, Isaiah Martin, Kennede Haynes, Alyssa Sigler, Julia Hilt, Joshua Rafferty, Tysondra Calhoun, Dana Bays, Sarah Andrews, Samantha Morey, Nakiya Rice, Freyja Huffman, Mia Fullilove, Kaitlyn Stuart, Abigail Rafferty. Not pictured: Hannah Geraghty, Humberto Giles, Itzel Mendoza, McKena McClellan, and Isaiah Crews.



32 Scholars for 2016-17



15 PIANO SCHOLARSHIPS

Charles Ives Classical Music Scholar Deonte Mosely (BHS Grade 11), 5th year Piano. **Jennie and Scott King Classical Music Scholar** Nakiya Rice (BJHS Grade 7), 5th year Piano. **Elderich Family Music Scholar** Humberto Giles (BHS Grade 11), 4th year Piano. **Minor Myers, jr. Classical Music Scholar** Abigail Rafferty (Home-School Grade 8), 3rd year Piano. **Jerry Antonini Music Scholar** Ally Edwards (Lexington HS Grade 11), 2nd year Piano. **Sofie L. Eisenberg Memorial Piano Scholar** Jose Espinoza (Evans JHS Grade 7), 2nd year Piano. **Raymond Family Music Scholar** Jasil Olabode (Cornerstone Grade 10), 2nd year Piano, and **Pratt Music Foundation Scholars** Freyja Huffman (Glenn Grade 4), 2nd year Piano, Maura McNamara (Home School Grade 12), 2nd year Piano, Isaiah Martin (Oakland Grade 3), 1st year Piano, Sarang Hong (Benjamin Grade 5), 1st year Piano, Mia Fullilove (Oakdale Grade 3), 1st year Piano, Tysondra Calhoun (Sheridan 5th Grade), 1st year Piano, Joseph Aceves (Cornerstone Grade 11), 1st year Piano, and Renata Olivo (Fox Creek Grade 5), 1st Year Piano.

3 VIOLA SCHOLARSHIPS

John Borg Viola Scholar Julia Hilt (BHS Grade 11), 6th year Viola. **Hurst Strings Scholar** Alyssa Sigler (BJHS Grade 8), 3rd year Viola, and **Pratt Music Foundation Scholar** Alina Jankowiak (BHS Grade 10), 2nd year Viola.

10 VIOLIN SCHOLARSHIPS

Adolph Buchanan Classical Music Scholar Isaiah Crews (BJHS Grade 10), 5th year Violin. **Mozart Classical Music Scholar** Kennede Haynes (NCHS Grade 11), 5th year Violin. **Beth Newdome Violin Scholar** Dana Bays (NCWHS Grade 10), 4th year Violin. **Barbara Bowman and Steven P. Hill Music Scholar** McKena McClellan (UHI Grade 9), 2nd year Violin, **McCauley Classical Music Scholar** Samantha Morey (BHS Grade 9), 4th year Violin, **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Classical Music Scholar** Itzel Mendoza (BHS Grade 9), 3rd year Violin, **Joslin Family Classical Music Scholar** Hannah Geraghty (St. Mary's Grade 6), 3rd year Violin, and **Pratt Music Foundation Scholars** Lydia Langston (Central Intermediate Grade 7), 2nd year Violin, Arael Rodgers (BJHS Grade 8), 2nd year Violin, and Ethan Schuller (NCHS Grade 12), 2nd year Violin.

4 CELLO SCHOLARSHIPS

Harriet & Phares O'Daffer Classical Music Scholar Konnor Bouman (Metcalf Grade 7), 3rd year Cello. **Zuill Bailey Strings Scholar** Joshua Rafferty (Home-School Grade 12), 2nd year Cello. **Shirk Family Music Scholar** Sarah Andrews (Home-School Grade 8), 2nd Year Cello, and **Pratt Music Foundation Scholar** Kaitlyn Stuart (BJHS Grade 8), 2nd year Cello.



Photo by Glenn Reeder

Renata Olivo is in the fifth grade at Fox Creek. This is her first year as a Pratt Music Scholar.

The **Pratt Music Foundation** Scholarship class of 2016-17 includes 24 students from Bloomington, 6 from Normal, and one each from Lexington and Washington.

Fifteen students study piano, 10 study violin, three study viola, and four pursue the cello. Thirteen students attend District 87 schools, eight attend Unit 5 schools, four are home-schooled, three attend private schools, two attend the University Lab schools, one attends CUSD 51, and one attends CUSD 7.

The thirty-two **Pratt Music Foundation** Scholars for 2016-17 represent an investment of over \$40,000 in the next generation of music in our community.



[Music] takes us out of the actual and whispers to us dim secrets that startle our wonder as to who we are, and for what, whence, and whereto." –Ralph Waldo Emerson, Journals, November 8, 1838



Appreciation From Our Scholars

Every year, **Pratt Music Foundation** scholars write to tell us of their appreciation for their scholarships:

♪♪ *Being able to be in this foundation is expanding my imagination of what I can do in the world. —Alyssa*

♪♪ *Playing the piano has also helped me learn the alto saxophone. I love music and playing these instruments. I'm very grateful for this program. —Nakiya*

♪♪ *This year, I can't wait to get better. I can't wait to do another recital. —Hannah*

♪♪ *I loved my lessons last year, and I am so excited for another year with a teacher whom loves music just as much as I do. —McKena*

♪♪ *Ever since I can remember, music has played a major part in my life. —Ally*

♪♪ *Thank you for giving me this amazing scholarship. — Jose*

♪♪ *I can truly say that I have been blessed through this program. During the past four years, my family, church, instructor, choir teacher, and I have seen tremendous growth in my skills on the piano. —Deonte*

♪♪ *Thank you so much for the opportunity to participate in this program. It is nice to have a one on one format where I can work on my problem areas and grow as a musician. —Dana*

♪♪ *Thank you so much for giving me the gift of music that will last a lifetime. —Samantha*

♪♪ *This scholarship has helped me expand my music education. It taught me that no matter how much it has challenged me, practice will always solve it. I can't wait to start another year. —Itzel*

♪♪ *Music is the one way I can express myself. Music is the best thing in my life. —Kennede*

♪♪ *Thank you so much. I will continue to work hard to make you proud. —Lydia*

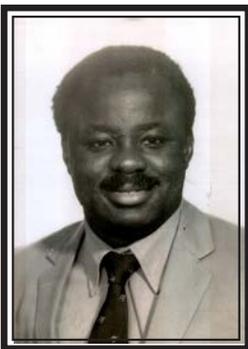


In Memory of Dr. T. A. E. C. Pratt

Ted (as many of us came to call him) was born in 1936 in Freetown, Sierra Leone; he was christened Theodore Allantantu Emmanuel Cyril Pratt. His parents, Elizabeth Jane Horton Pratt and Daniel Gershon Pratt, were traders; Ted spent most of his early childhood with his mother's extended family while his parents were "up country" operating their business. While living with the Hortons, Ted learned to love sacred and classical music; the girls in the family were taught piano and the boys were taught organ. In addition to learning music, he also learned soccer and taught himself tennis.

Because his parents valued education, they sought out the best schools in Sierra Leone for their bright son. He received pre-college education at the prestigious Prince of Wales School in Freetown with an emphasis on the teaching of science, followed by time at Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone. He then pursued higher education in Europe and North America: Durham University in Britain, and Hampton Institute in Virginia. Ultimately, he received his Ph. D. in Nuclear Physics at Carnegie-Mellon Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh and was admitted to the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society. He was the first person from Sierra Leone to earn a Ph. D. in Nuclear Physics.

Dr. Pratt died October 30, 1996 in Normal, Illinois, but his memory and his love of classical music live on through the **Pratt Music Foundation**.



Pratt Family photograph

Thank you for giving me a chance to learn music. I will practice hard and won't let you down. Thank you, Isaiah Martin

AN APPRECIATION NOTE FOR PRATT MUSIC FOUNDATION

Dear Pratt music foundation I feel very rejuvenated and honored because I have been waiting so long for this opportunity and I thank God for this cause now I get to do the things I have always wanted to do since I was 9 years old was to play the piano. I am so, so honored and rejuvenated, thank you very much and I appreciate it!

THANK YOU PRATT MUSIC FOUNDATION!!

Sincerely, Tsondra Calhoun

PRATT MUSIC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Pratt Music Foundation** supports music education in Bloomington-Normal through classical music scholarships in strings and piano. Pratt scholarships are awarded annually (in July) to talented youth in both elementary and high school.

Classroom or music teachers aware of a child with talent and financial need who could benefit from a **Pratt Music Foundation** Scholarship may request an application by calling 309-827-5534, or email:

PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com

♪ **100%** ♪
of your support goes to our endowment; earnings are used only for music scholarships.