

It's more than a scholarship..

FROM THE TOP'S
JACK KENT COOKE
YOUNG ARTIST AWARD



FROM THE TOP

JACK KENT COOKE
FOUNDATION

ABOUT FROM THE TOP'S JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST AWARD

Scholarship Benefits

- \$10,000 to apply toward instrument purchases, summer camp tuition, college audition travel expenses, private lessons, or other music-related needs
- Appearance on NPR's *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley*
- Participation in From the Top's Arts Leadership Program

Who Should Apply?

We're looking for classical instrumentalists, vocalists, and composers (ages 8–18) who have not yet entered college and have an interest in performing on *From the Top*.

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Exceptional musical achievement
- Unmet financial need
- Academic achievement
- Strength of character

How to Apply

Go to www.fromthetop.org/apply for information, deadlines, and to apply online. There is no application fee.

“This award is transformative. Ten years have made it clear; The Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award is more than a scholarship. It's a game changer.”

**TIM LIENHARD, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS & ALUMNI RELATIONS,
FROM THE TOP**

For more than 15 years, From the Top has celebrated and promoted outstanding young musicians through our NPR radio show and arts leadership programs. In 2005, a partnership with the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation was born, one that would help From the Top identify deserving young musicians with financial need, and offer them a scholarship that would change their lives.

Whether it's purchasing a new instrument, traveling to college auditions, or paying for lessons, the Young Artist Award helps high-achieving young musicians get the training and resources they need to excel.

The Award is about more than money, however. It's about helping Young Artists realize their full potential, and make a difference with their music. All Young Artist Award recipients appear on our radio show, NPR's *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley*, receive arts leadership training, and many choose to give back to their communities.

In its short lifetime, From the Top's Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist scholarship program has awarded over \$2,000,000 in scholarships to more than 220 outstanding young musicians.

For me it means

Leadership



"I truly believe that music makes people better. The Young Artist Award inspired me; it made me realize I could do more for the next generation. I enjoy promoting classical music to children because I believe they will continue the tradition and bridge the past with the future."

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
MASHA LAKISOVA, AGE 13

Masha Lakisova was only 13 when she appeared on NPR's *From the Top* and participated in our arts leadership workshop. She was inspired to perform outreach concerts at multiple schools in her home state of Illinois.



Go to www.fromthetop.org to listen to Masha on NPR's *From the Top* with Host Christopher O'Riley: **Show 295**.

For me it means

Confidence



“At a time when I doubted myself, the Young Artist Award validated all the hours spent in rehearsals and practice rooms.”

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
RICARDO ZAPATA, AGE 18

Trumpet player Ricardo Zapata received the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award in conjunction with his appearance on NPR's *From the Top* in February of 2015. The award helped him purchase several trumpets and travel to college auditions in New York City. He will attend Manhattan School of Music in the fall of 2015.



Go to www.fromthetop.org to listen to Ricardo on NPR's *From the Top* with Host Christopher O'Riley: **Show 300**.

For me it means

Freedom

Mira Williams was 16 years old when she appeared on *From the Top* in Miami, Florida, and will soon be continuing her viola studies at New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts.



“My mother has supported me by herself since I was born, and this award changed both of our lives. Without an instrument, I was in the paralyzing position of having to incur more debt, or put my passion for music on the back burner. With the Young Artist Award, I was able to purchase a beautiful viola that I can call my own. The freedom that comes with entering college debt-free and owning my own instrument is incredible – for that, I am truly grateful.”

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
MIRA WILLIAMS, AGE 16



Go to www.fromthetop.org to listen to Mira on NPR's *From the Top* with Host Christopher O'Riley: **Show 287**.



“I remember the morning my mom told me I had received the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. I was so happy! I knew my mom struggled to pay for my musical training, so it was a huge relief for my family and me.”

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
OSCAR PAZ-SUAZNABAR, AGE 9



“When I learned I had been selected as a Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist I was speechless. I would no longer have to worry about being able to afford to stay at my school (Interlochen Arts Academy) and I could finally focus on upcoming college auditions. Thanks to the Young Artist Award, I was able to receive the training I needed to be accepted into the Eastman School of Music – my dream college!”

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
KENNEDY WALLACE, AGE 18



“Being on the show and receiving this award affirmed my decision that music is something I want to continue doing for the rest of my life. It also inspired me to improve and grow as an artist in ways that nothing has ever done before.”

JACK KENT COOKE YOUNG ARTIST
RUJIA TENG, AGE 18

ABOUT FROM THE TOP

From the Top is America's largest national platform dedicated to celebrating the stories, talents, and character of classically-trained young musicians. Through live events, NPR and YouTube broadcasts, scholarships, and leadership programs, we empower these extraordinary young people to engage and inspire music lovers of all ages. Listen to our radio show on your local NPR station or download our podcast at www.fromthetop.org.

ABOUT THE JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is a private, independent foundation dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. The Foundation supports exceptional students from elementary school to graduate school through scholarships, grants, direct service, and knowledge creation and dissemination. Learn more about the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation at www.jkcf.org.

**Apply for From the Top's
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and learn more at
www.fromthetop.org/apply**

**Meet all of our Young Artists at
www.fromthetop.org/youngartists**

FROM THE TOP

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