

# About Our Turiel Award Winner Misty Drake

May 15, 2014

May 15, 2014



Music has always been a passion for our 2014 Turiel Award Winner, Misty Drake, who feels that her early dedication to playing the violin (she began at age 3) ultimately formed the person she is today – one excited about music a vocation, whether she plays in an orchestra, chamber group or becomes a teacher. She credits her dedicated parents, caring teachers and a supportive community that embraces the arts for having shaped her, along with such invaluable opportunities as playing in recitals,

competitions and with the Artis-Naples Youth Symphonia and Youth Orchestra. Now 17-years-old and homeschooled, Misty singles out two activities that have become especially close to her heart the past few years: community service and outreach and chamber music. Through such service activities as mentoring young string players in the Youth Symphonia, she hopes she has made a difference in at least one child's life, and participating in such fund raising events as Laces of Love has made her realize how her actions can strengthen a broader community. She knows her life will always be centered around giving to others. Misty's seven years of chamber music experience, which began with her participation in the Symphonia and becoming first violin in the Anderson Quartet, has had major consequences. Most recently the quartet was selected as one of 24 ensembles across the nation to compete as quarterfinalists at the 2013 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, to



be held May 9-11 at the University in South Bend, Indiana. There are many honors, awards and achievements in music to her credit. Highlights include Naples Philharmonic Concerto Competition Winner in 2011–2013; Jillian Prescott Awards Concerto Competition First Place Strings

Category 2013; Naples Music Club Senior Strings Awards 2011–2014; Young Artists Awards First Place and Overall Event Winner 2012, Bach Festival of SWFL Youth Strings Winner 2010–2012; plus numerous chamber music awards. One item of special interest concerns Misty's musical family. Her mother had an early interest in playing the French horn, but finances were such that she was unable to pursue proper studies. She therefore was determined to provide musical opportunities to her own children starting at a young age. The result is significant! Not only is Misty a talented, dedicated musician, but her three younger sisters and one brother are all serious string players. Together they have started performing as their own family quintet!