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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Coastal Concerts Announces 2019 Music Scholarship Awards**

For the past 12 years, Coastal Concerts has sponsored a Music Scholarship Program for deserving high school students. This year we have expanded the program to include middle school students. Coastal Concerts is pleased to announce the winners for this year, which include three high school students and two middle school students.



## Juliana Castillo

Viola New Castle County

Juliana Castillo, age 16, is home-schooled and studies viola with Shelley Beard Santore at the Music School of Delaware. She began playing violin at age four, studying with Julianne Murphy Ruiz, and has been playing viola for three years. She is the assistant principal violist of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, a Music School of Delaware Merit Scholar, and violist of the Gabriel Braverman String Quartet. Last summer, Juliana attended the Perlman Music Program Summer Music School where she plans to return this summer, with the generous support of Coastal Concerts. Juliana received the Coastal Concerts Music Scholarship and the Elmer and Louise Menges Scholarship and has performed with the Wilmington Community Orchestra, Ambler Symphony, Newark Symphony Orchestra and numerous other organizations.

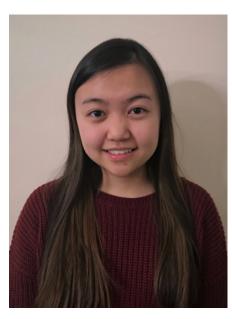


## Nicolette Sullivan-Cozza

#### Viola

## New Castle County

Nicolette Marie Sullivan-Cozza, age 16 and a student at Cab Calloway School of the Arts, studies viola with Kerri assistant principal of the Rvan. Philadelphia Orchestra, and with Peter Slowik at The Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She began studying the viola at the age of four. Nicolette is a member of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra and attends the Cab Calloway School of the Arts. She received first prize in the Delaware Concerto Competition for Young Musicians, the IU Jacobs School of Music Summer String Academy Concerto Competition, the Catholic University of America Young Artist Competition and the Coastal Concerts Scholarship Competition.

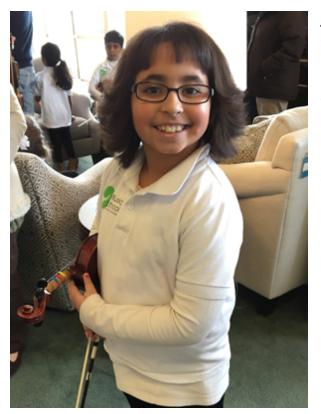


#### Jessica Yulin Zhang

Voice

Sussex County

Jessica Zhang, a recent graduate from St. Thomas More Academy, has studied classical voice for five years and has played piano for nine. Her past vocal experience includes attending the Delaware All-State Chorus, Delaware Governor's School for Excellence in music, and the National Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall. She also participated in vocal and instrumental ensembles in her school. She was recently selected to represent Delaware in the All-East Treble Choir. Jessica plans on attending college next year with a major in engineering and a minor in music.



## Aria Gill

Violin

Sussex County

Aria Gill is a 7th grader at Lighthouse Christian School. She has studied the Suzuki violin method for seven years with the Milford Branch of the Music School of Delaware. Her teacher is Jacob Colby. She also enjoys performing with the First State Fiddlers, the Milford String Orchestra, and her school praise team.



# Lillian Williams

Flute

Sussex County

Lillian has dedicated time to studying the flute, earning a seat in the Sussex County Honors Band in 7th grade in 2018. This year, 2019, she earned first chair flute in SCHB. She received the Academic Achievement Award for Band in May 2018. She studies under the direction of Mr. Robert Barbarita at Beacon Middle School and under Mrs. Leslie Munro's tutelage for private instruction. She spends part of her summers study at New England Music Camp. These awards are made possible in part through the generous support of Pete and Joanne Harrigan through the Dorothy and Elizabeth Musical Scholarship Fund established in honor of their mothers. Other scholarship donors this year include Sussex County Council and Elks Lodge #2540 in Lewes, Delaware. Since 2006, 35 students have received awards totaling \$38,500.

The annual scholarship program is just one element of Coastal Concerts' comprehensive commitment to promoting classical music appreciation. Other initiatives, in addition to our annual concert series, include school-based performances by professional concert artists; free youth and discounted student admission to concerts; free community lectures and performances; and collection of used but playable musical instruments for donation to local schools. Coastal Concerts programs are made possible in part by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency committed to promoting and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts.

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