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Lamorinda Idol finals showcase young vocal talent

By Sora O'Doherty



K-2 solo winner Riyana Habarakada

Photos Sora O'Doherty

Sunday night's high-energy annual performance event featured young talent from across Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda who vied for votes from audience members and a panel of musically experienced judges, and eagerly waited to learn who would be crowned 2018 Lamorinda Idols.

Performers ranging from kindergarten through 12th grade competed for top slots Aug. 19 during the 13th annual Lamorinda Idol singing competition at the Orinda Theatre. Produced by the Lamorinda Arts Council this competition gives children living or attending school in Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga the opportunity to shine on stage.

"Lamorinda Idol is magical to me," shared Lamorinda Idol chairman Steve Hardwood. "I love seeing young people who are passionate about singing receive the unwavering support of their parents

as well as our Idol judges, volunteers, sponsors, and audience members as they strive to nurture their artistic talents."

Longtime Lamorinda Idol auditions judge Pam Whitman said, "I continue to be amazed at the depth of singing talent in Lamorinda. I admire the willingness of young children and teens to take the stage and give performing their all in public forums."

In addition to Lamorinda Idol, notable LAC programs include the High School Visual Arts Competition, Lamorinda ShortDocs Film Fest, Art in Public Places, and curation of the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library, and the annual fundraiser, The Art of Mixology. LAC has also been designated by the cities of Lafayette and Orinda to manage and support the activities of the Poet Laureate Program. Visit www.lamorindaarts.org for more information.

And the winners are ...

K-2 Solo: Riyana Habarakada

3-5 Solo: Svea Peterson

K-5 Group: Blending Bellas (Sadie Poole and Svea Peterson)

6-8 Group: Rainbow Harmony (Amelia Chen and Kaitlyn Roach)

9-12 Group: Quarter to Five (Elizabeth Becker, Lily Butler, Jenni Coletta, Isabella Nazzari, Lily O'Toole, Aislinn Welch)

6-8 Solo: Kalyani Srikanth

9-12 Solo: Jen McFarlane

Audience Award: Sadie Poole



Amelia Chen and Kaitlyn Roach, 6-8 group winners (Rainbow Harmony)



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