



## Zawinul Foundation For Achievement Successfully Launches New International Exchange Program between US and Austria in 2014

*"Music may not change the world, but may inspire people to change the world."*

*-Joe Zawinul*

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Speaking before the Consul General of Austria in Los Angeles, Tony Zawinul, son of the world renowned Austrian musician, Josef Zawinul, declared that the *Zawinul Foundation for Achievement* had reached its goal of identifying and awarding three promising young musicians who represented the values of the iconic jazzman himself: a commitment to craft, to creative integrity, and to collaboration. "It was my father's dream that his legacy of a life committed to the pursuit of musical excellence be forwarded, and I cannot think of a better means than the establishment of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century conservatory; old school hard work married to new technologies that connect everyone with smart ears."

Pointing out the significance of international exchange programs - "a moment that can influence and determine the musical career of a young person" - Zawinul, President and Founder of the Non-Profit Foundation, made clear that the enthusiastic response he's received encourages him to expand the aims and reach of the organization's programs in the year ahead. Participant's submissions will be accepted in 2015 from all over Austria, said Zawinul, while 2014 submissions were focused only on the area of Lower Austria. The Joe Zawinul "Z" Award Recipient in Austria can expect to win a 10-day all-expenses-paid musical and cultural experience in Los Angeles, CA and the Joe Zawinul "International Music" Award Recipient can look forward to a 10-day all-expenses-paid musical and cultural experience in Vienna, Austria.

Zawinul thanked the Consul General of Austria in Los Angeles, Ulrike Ritzinger, for organizing a special concert evening for about 50 selected guests at her residence, who enjoyed listening to the Consul General, an accomplished concert pianist herself as well as the winners of the 2014 "Z" Award, Philip Woloch from Austria and the 2014 Joe Zawinul "International Music" Award Recipient, Jamael Dean, who impressed with his sensitive, yet powerful improvisations on the piano.

“Z” Award winner, 14 year old Philip Woloch, a student of classical piano with ambitions to write and sing his original compositions, demonstrated excellence in five judged categories: performance, presence, originality, interpretation, and musicianship. His reward was the opportunity to participate in the Student Music Exchange Program, a 10-day all-expenses-paid musical and cultural study in Los Angeles, California

Interview: <http://zawinulfoundation.org/news/philip-woloch-interview/>

**T**he winner of the 2014 Spirit Award was a European Union student who exhibited an all-consuming passion for music. This year's award went to 19 year old, Renan Spörk, who displayed both a technical command of his instrument – the guitar - and an infectious joyfulness which distinguished him as a worthy recipient. Renan is currently traveling throughout California to enrich his musical knowledge as well as receiving the benefits of a cross-cultural education.

Music: <http://zawinulfoundation.org/news/jamael-dean-renan-spork-perform-at-austrian-national-day/>

To further deepen and develop the relationship between Austria and the US, the International Music Award is given to a student demonstrating excellence in performance, presence, originality, interpretation, and musicianship. The recipient of the 2014 Joe Zawinul “International Music” Award was Jamael Dean, who has demonstrated a remarkable sense of poise and professional “cool” far beyond someone at the tender age of 16. Jamael was also afforded the chance to participate in the Student Music Exchange Program, a 10-day all-expenses-paid musical and cultural study in Vienna, Austria.

Gallery: <http://zawinulfoundation.org/2014-international-exchange-program-us-receipient/>

Sponsors of the Zawinul Foundation For Achievement are sought and can contact the Foundation for further explanations in which way they can participate and contribute to musical education and cross cultural exchange between the Austria and the US.

The Zawinul Foundation For Achievement is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization and donations are tax deductible.

### **About the Zawinul Foundation For Achievement**

The Zawinul Foundation aims to further the interests and life passions of Joe and Maxine Zawinul, by creating programs, events and partnerships that reflect their commitment to music education as a life transforming experience. The Joe Zawinul International Music Program was established by the Zawinul Foundation for Achievement in collaboration with the Zawinul Musikschule in Gumpoldskirchen, Austria, to encourage music students to broaden their studies, acquire new skills and familiarize them with international music schools. The Program will draw from Joe Zawinul’s personal experiences as a globe-trotting musician whose classical music roots were established in his conservatory studies in Vienna.