



Algonkian's Got Talent Highlights District Youth

Seven Recognized for Performances

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Sterling, VA, November 17, 2020 — Algonkian District Supervisor Juli Briskman hosted a virtual award ceremony for the inaugural Algonkian's Got Talent last week, a friendly competition she created to uplift our artistic youth and to offer them space to share their gifts and achieve recognition. Twenty-four youth in Algonkian submitted entries in the categories of solo vocalist, solo instrumental, group musical act, and miscellaneous. The virtual awards show featured musical guest performances by local music educators and a viola performance from Supervisor Briskman.

Supervisor Briskman believes the arts are an integral part of education, culture and society and also help to develop empathy and promote understanding of unfamiliar people, places, history and issues.

"I am so thrilled that so many of Algonkian's youth decided to participate in this event," said Supervisor Briskman. *"I really wanted to give our young people, in this challenging time, an opportunity to perform for their peers and family, and to just have a good time. It is my hope that next year we will be in a better place as a nation and can have this program in person."*

The winners, from each category, were as follows:

Group Musical Act

Robert Manfredi, and his band Antigravity, River Bend Middle School for U2s, *Sunday Bloody Sunday*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JmRrFQVBmQ>

Solo Instrumental

Josh Beyer, Dominion High School for Schubert's *Impromptu #3 in G Flat Major*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nhokz6m0VnY>

Solo Dance Performance

Samantha Ankers, Riverbend Middle School
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVUvDQggz4A>

Solo Vocalist Category

1st Place

Caroline Taylor, Horizon Middle School for *On my Own*, from Les Misérables
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g22W0nXZ8RE>

2nd Place

Claudia Brohs for *On my Own*, Les Misérables

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slcFf8-RO8Q>

Special Honorable Mention

Max Garrett, Lowes Island Elementary School for *Remember Me*, from the Disney film, Coco

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSuSXRwmkfk>

Fan Favorite

Ava Buchner, Lowes Island Elementary for *Rolling in the Deep* by Adele

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3WX1gYcrrE&feature=youtu.be>

The video of the night's events is available for viewing on [Supervisor Briskman's Facebook page](#).

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