

RESULTS 2001

The 2001 Zellmer-Minnesota Orchestra Trombone Competition was held on Saturday, May 26th at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis. Bass trombonist Frank Bunger was this year's winner of the \$5,000 Grand Prize. Mr. Bunger has just received his Bachelor of Music Degree from the New England Conservatory, where his primary instructor was Douglas Yeo. His past teachers include Norman Bolter and Matt Guilford. Next fall, he will begin a Master's Degree program at the San Francisco Conservatory, where he will be studying with John Engelkes.

This year's competition was the first in which all participating finalists were awarded prize money. A total of \$10,000 was broken down in the form of a \$5,000 Grand Prize, a \$2,500 Second Prize, a \$1,500 Third Prize, and Finalist Awards of \$500 to each of the other participating finalists. Along with this expansion in prize money, the number of tapes received for this year's competition tripled, elevating the level of playing even higher than in previous years. Indeed, the level of playing was so close in the final round that it resulted in a tie for second place with two awards of \$2,000 being given. The Second Prize winners were Darcio Gianelli, a student of Per Brevig at the Juilliard School, and Clifford Dale Moore, II, a student of John Drew at Florida State University. The Finalist Award winners were Philip Brown, a former student of Tom Ashworth at the University of Minnesota, and Greg Spiridopoulos, a student of Ron Barron at Boston University.

All of the finalists played exceptionally well. Judges Douglas Wright, Kari Sundström, and David Herring of the Minnesota Orchestra trombone section deliberated for the better part of an hour before finally awarding the prizes. As in previous competitions, all finalists got to meet with and discuss their performances with the judges at a post-competition reception