

## RESULTS 1998

On May 16, 1998, the first annual Zellmer-Minnesota Orchestra Trombone Competition was held in Minneapolis. Craig Mulcahy, a former student of Buddy Baker and John Daley and currently studying at the Juilliard School of Music with Joseph Alessi, was awarded the grand prize of \$5,000. From more than 70 tapes received internationally in the preliminary round of the competition, five finalists- including Anthony Bianchetta, Rebecca Howenstine, Stephen Lange, Garnett Livingston, and Mulcahy- were selected to participate in the final round at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis. Adjudicating the competition were the members of the Minnesota Orchestra trombone section, including David Herring, bass trombone, Kari Sundström, second trombone and Douglas Wright, principal trombone.

In the final round, the four tenor trombonists and Livingston, the sole bass trombone finalist, began with a designated solo. Then, each played a 20-25 minute audition, which consisted of excerpts from the standard orchestral repertoire. At a post competition reception, each finalist had the unique opportunity to speak with each of the judges about their performance.

The competition is named in honor of the Minnesota Orchestra's long-time principal trombonist Steven Zellmer, who died in 1996. He had bequeathed a sum of money to the orchestra with instructions that it be used to fund an annual competition for young aspiring musicians interested in careers as orchestral trombone players. The judges were quite pleased with the playing level and the number of applicants for the first year of this competition. Ross Tolbert, the Minnesota Orchestra tubist and administrator of the competition, said "Steve would have been thrilled."