

## Results 2003

The 2003 Zellmer-Minnesota Orchestra Trombone Competition was held on May 24th at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis. Tenor trombonist, James D. Williams, was awarded the \$5,000 Grand Prize. Mr. Williams is currently studying with Per Brevig at the Juilliard School, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree in 2002 as a student of Joseph Alessi. In the fall, Mr. Williams will be starting his new position as solo posauone of the Philharmonisches Orchester Dortmund in Dortmund, Germany. He says that he will continue to enter competitions in Europe, and he plans on "exploring the wonderful food that Europe has to offer." We congratulate Mr. Williams and wish him well in this next step in his career.

The \$2,500 Second Prize winner was bass trombonist, Benjamin Green, a student of Donald Harwood at the Juilliard School. The \$1,500 Third Prize winner was tenor trombonist, Darin Cash, a student of Nathaniel Brickens at the University of Texas at Austin. This year's \$500 Finalist Award went to Jonathan Reycraft, a graduate from Indiana University and former student of Dee Stewart and Scott Hartman. Clifford Dale Moore II and Aaron Moats were also accepted into the Final Round, but were unable to attend.

The Final Round had a unique, special quality this year due to the fact that the solo pieces for both the tenor and the bass trombones were written expressly for this competition by Boston Symphony Orchestra trombonist and prolific composer, Norman Bolter. Mr. Bolter, who as a young trombonist studied with Steven Zellmer, has written numerous solo, chamber, and orchestral works for both tenor and bass trombone. It was our honor to have him write Morning Walk for Tenor Trombone and Piano and Sagittarius2 for Bass Trombone and Piano for the competition, and all of the Finalists enjoyed working on and performing the works. The pieces have a special significance for the competition as they were written about and inspired by Steven Zellmer, himself. For more information about these pieces, as well as the numerous other works for tenor and bass trombone written by Norman Bolter, please visit his web site at [air-ev.com](http://air-ev.com).

This year's competition was the largest one yet, with over 70 tapes sent in back in February. All of the Finalists should be commended for making it through to the Final Round against such a large field of very fine applicants. This year's level of tapes was by and large quite high, as was the Final Round itself. Judges Douglas Wright, Kari Sundström, and David Herring of the Minnesota Orchestra trombone section were pleased to get to meet with and critique each of the Finalists at a post-competition reception. The next Zellmer-Minnesota Orchestra Trombone Competition will be held in 2005.