

# By George!

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the George Shirley African American Art Song and Operatic Aria Competition Newsletter!

I am still beaming from our overwhelmingly successful 80th Birthday Celebration fundraising event. We were able raise \$35,000, which will go towards scholarships for aspiring young singers! Thank you for your continued support! Through your bounteous generosity we far exceeded our goal, thus enabling the funding of our 2014 competition initiatives in a manner that permits us for the first time to award a total of four high school division and three college division prizes in our Annual Competition on May 24, 2014 at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

Please join us from 6:00pm-7:00pm for a **FREE Finals Concert** prior to the recognition of awardees. In addition to our established awards, we will confer two new prizes, the Robert Sims Spiritual Prize and the Willis C. Patterson Prize, each in the amount of \$1,000.00.

**Concerts4aCause** was a huge success! The concert on May 16, 2014 at First Baptist Church in Ann Arbor Michigan, was a free-will concert to support our ongoing efforts to engage and encourage young singers to perform African American classical repertoire.

I look forward to seeing you on May 24, and I express to you my heartfelt appreciation for helping me make this competition, once a dream, now a reality.

Sincerely,

*George L. Shirley*

The J. Edgar Maddy Distinguished  
University Emeritus Professor of Music (Voice)  
University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance

**THE GEORGE SHIRLEY**  
African American  
**ART SONG &  
OPERATIC ARIA**  
COMPETITION I MAY 24, 2014  
Final Round Winner's Concert  
**CONCERT BEGINS AT 6PM**  
Kerrytown Concert Hall  
415 N 4th Ave  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
For more information about the competition or concert, visit [www.videmus.org](http://www.videmus.org)

### For more information:

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**THE GEORGE SHIRLEY**  
African American  
**ART SONG &  
OPERATIC ARIA**  
COMPETITION

For more information about the George Shirley Vocal Competition, visit [www.videmus.org/competitions](http://www.videmus.org/competitions)



This is a Videmus and SmithJackson Arts sponsorship.