



Office for the Arts at Harvard

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PRESS RELEASE

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Office for the Arts Announces 2023 Arts Prize Winners

TWELVE HARVARD STUDENTS RECEIVE PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

(Cambridge, MA) — The Office for the Arts at Harvard and the Council on the Arts at Harvard, a standing committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, announce the recipients of the annual undergraduate arts prizes for 2023.

The awards, presented to more than 200 undergraduates over the past 40 years, recognize outstanding accomplishments in the arts undertaken during a student's time at Harvard. Council on the Arts members at the time of selection were: Robin Kelsey (chair), Shirley Carter Burden Professor of Photography, History of Photography and American Art, and Dean of Arts and Humanities; Alicia Anstead NF '08, Associate Director for Programming, Office for the Arts; Jack Megan, Director, Office for the Arts; Federico Cortese, Senior Lecturer on Music, Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra; Elizabeth Epsen, Interim Communications and Programs Manager for Dance; Jorie Graham, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory; Phillip Howze, Associate Senior Lecturer on Playwriting, Theater, Dance & Media; Ruth Stella Lingford, Professor of the Practice of Animation, Film Study Center Fellow; Laura Rodriguez (LROD), Interim Head of Dance and Lecturer in Theater, Dance & Media; Matt Saunders '97, Professor of Arts, Film and Visual Studies; Elaine Scarry, Walter M. Cabot Professor of Aesthetics and the General Theory of Value and Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows; Yosvany Terry, Senior Lecturer on Music, Director of Jazz Bands.

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Ian Chan '23 is the recipient of the Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts. The prize recognizes outstanding artistic talent and achievement in the composition or performance of music, drama, dance or the visual arts. This prize honors the sum of a student's artistic activities at Harvard.

A resident of Winthrop House concentrating in Linguistics and Mathematics, *Ian Chan* is a composer, orchestrator and music director primarily working in the theater. Most recently, they were the music assistant and rehearsal pianist for the 2022 Broadway revival of *1776*, having served in the same role during the run at the American Repertory Theater. Chan has worked on several other A.R.T. productions, including *WILD; A Musical Becoming* (starring Idina Menzel), and the family holiday musicals *Jack and the Beanstalk: A Musical Adventure*, and *Thumbelina: A Little Musical*; other credits include premieres at 54Below, Playdate Theater, and the Musical Stage Company, and contributions to Broadway's 2022 Carols for a Cure and the upcoming Paramount+ series *Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies*. At Harvard, Chan is a past president of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club, and has worked on nearly 30 theatrical productions, serving primarily in music-based roles and also as a producer. Among these, Chan has written music and orchestrations for the original musicals *Cruising Altitude* (2019 First-Year Musical), *The More You Know*, and most recently *OUT* for the Asian Student Arts Project, where they have been a board member since the group's founding in 2018. Beyond theater, Chan sings with the Harvard Din and Tonics, Harvard University Choir (as a Ferris Choral Fellow), and Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum—which premiered two of his original choral works through the Harvard Choruses New Music Initiative. Chan also works at the Office for the Arts as a production assistant, venue manager and production proctor of the First-Year Arts Program. They have additionally interned at the Center for Asian American Media, Deviant Content (researching with Pulitzer-nominated historian Dr. Eric Cervini) and B17 Entertainment (on their series *Book of Queer*).

Anna Correll '23 and **Dumebi Adigwe '23** are recipients of the Council Prize in Visual Art. The prize recognizes outstanding work in the field of visual arts.

A resident of Eliot House and a joint concentrator in Art, Film and Visual Studies and English, **Anna Correll** works as both a visual artist and a writer with focuses in photography, painting and fiction writing. She has exhibited work with *Ceremony* magazine, the Static Arts Collective and The Channel, a gallery in the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts that showcases photography from the Harvard community. At Harvard, Correll has designed and illustrated for *The Harvard Advocate*, Phillip Brooks House Association's H.O.P.E. Initiative, Harvard College Opera Company, Harvard College Children's Stories and WHRB. She has served as a guest critic in photography at Harvard, as a member of *The Terrace*, and as a student representative in the 2022 AFVS Visiting Artist Selection Committee. She currently co-curates The Channel.

A resident of Adams House and concentrator in Applied Mathematics with a secondary in Art, Film and Visual Studies, **Dumebi Adigwe** is primarily a film and digital photographer. Engaging in the art world under the moniker Dumebi Malaika Menakaya, she has photographed a wide range of subject matter from personal work to commercial projects and everything in between.

Menakaya has assisted on several shoots and has been featured in multiple magazines and exhibitions. Her published work includes pieces for the *New York Times* and a pride month campaign project for the footwear company UGG. In her two years photographing on campus, Menakaya has freelanced for over 75 student organizations/individual students and has had her work featured in three student-run exhibitions, including a solo exhibition for The Channel in the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts. Menakaya has worked as a student photographer for the Harvard Admissions and Financial Aid Office, photographed for *The Harvard Independent* and *The Harvard Crimson*, serves on the executive boards of the Harvard Photography Club, Harvard Undergraduate Student Art Collective, and the Signet Society and is an artist-in-residence at *The Harvard Advocate*. This spring, Menakaya's work will be featured in the MassArt Auction and a profile piece centering her artmaking in an upcoming issue of *Harvard Magazine*.

Veronica Leahy '23 is the recipient of the Radcliffe Doris Cohen Levi Prize. The prize recognizes a Harvard college student who combines talent and energy with outstanding enthusiasm for musical theater at Harvard and honors the memory of Doris Cohen Levi, Radcliffe '35.

Veronica Leahy is a dual degree student at Harvard College and Berklee College of Music. A resident of Leverett House and concentrator in Music with a secondary in Theater, Dance and Media (TDM), Leahy is a composer, saxophonist/multiwoodwindist, pianist, arranger, conductor and music director across a range of genres. She composed and music directed the musical *Queen of Magic*, which premiered in the Loeb Ex theater in December 2022. In her freshman year, Leahy became involved in theater through composing for the First-Year Musical *Fake Moos*. She has gone on to compose Hasty Pudding's 173rd and 174th productions *Ship Happens!* and *Cosmic Relief*. In 2021, she served as the music assistant and rehearsal pianist for *MacBeth in Stride* at the A.R.T., and she served as the music director for the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players productions of *Cox and Box* and *Pirates of Penzance*. As a saxophonist, Leahy has appeared with Jon Batiste and Stay Human, Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, NEA Jazz Master Terri Lyne Carrington, Danilo Perez, and Christian Sands. She is an active member of Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice and served as the lead alto player in Berklee's premiere big band. She has performed at Lincoln Center, Birdland, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, The Iridium, Scullers, Feinstein's 54 Below, the Monterey Jazz Festival and the Ravinia Festival. She is also the founder, artistic director and a co-producer of the Harvard Student Composers Festival (CompFest), a program of the Office for the Arts that brings together student and world-renowned composers to share and discuss original compositions.

Finn Bamber '23 is the recipient of the Louise Donovan Award. The award recognizes a Harvard student who has done outstanding work behind the scenes in the arts (e.g., as a producer, accompanist, set designer or mentor and leader in the undergraduate arts world).

A resident of Leverett House and concentrator in TDM, **Finn Bamber** is a lighting designer for live performance, spanning plays, musicals, opera, dance, concerts, site specific/immersive performance and virtual performance for more than 50 productions. His work has been seen regularly on campus, as well as in New York, London, Massachusetts, Maine, Texas and Switzerland. Recent credits include New York: *Memonica* (The Goat Exchange); *Dad Don't Read This*; *Torch Song*; *QUEENS*; *Marriage or MADE* (S. Walker-Webb); *Shimcheong* (staged reading); *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (TGE); and *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (BroadwayWorld Maine Best Lighting). At Harvard, Bamber was co-vice president of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club, and HRDC co-president in 2021. He remained on the HRDC board as an emeritus member. As an HRDC board member, he focused on creating and updating systems to best suit the needs of the larger Harvard theater community, as well as rebuilding the Harvard theater community following virtual semesters during the pandemic. Additionally, Bamber has been a proctor for the First-Year Arts Program since 2019. Within the Harvard community, he aspired to foster a communal love for design while also encouraging his peers to sustainably strive towards excellence.

Laura Coe '23 and Angel Hoyang '23 are recipients of the Suzanne Farrell Dance Prize. Named for the acclaimed dancer and former prima ballerina of New York City Ballet, the prize recognizes a Harvard undergraduate who has demonstrated outstanding artistry in the field of dance.

Laura Coe is a resident of Leverett House and a joint concentrator in Theater, Dance and Media, and Romance Languages and Literatures. Coe is a dancer and choreographer working at the intersection of street and concert dance with over ten years of experience working with stage, video and site-specific work, as well as music and video production. In addition to many independent projects, Coe has performed and choreographed with Harvard Breakers, Harvard Ballet Company, Expressions Dance Company and Eleganza, and served as the resident choreographer of Harvard College Opera. She started HomeStyle, an initiative to bring dance into the Harvard House system, and was awarded the National Collegiate Breaking Association's Floor Angels Award for Representation and Empowerment as the social chair of Harvard Breakers, responsible for community outreach. She has performed at Jacob's Pillow and as part of Corpi di donne, collaborated on music videos and performance art installations, and received commissions from Choreography on the Edge, Theater Festival of Hudson, WordxWord, New England Conservatory, the Chesterwood Estate and the Mass Cultural Council. Coe values rigorous athletic and conceptual creation rooted in social justice and community engagement. Centering perception and identity through relationality, she enjoys work that revolves around difficult questions and how our answers define us.

Angel Hoyang is a resident of Winthrop House studying the intersections of performance, artistic and creative media, as well as performance and social theory. She brings her background in dance and choreography to all artistic disciplines, including her work as a director, filmmaker, musician, producer, editor and arts administrator. She has danced and choreographed both independently and with the Harvard Ballet Company, Harvard Dance Project, Harvard-Radcliffe Modern Dance Company, Asian American Dance Troupe, as well as TDM for her senior thesis project *H O R I Z O N: The Bodies We Forget*, an original full-length choreographic and improvisatory production. Hoyang has explored the envisioning, pedagogy and performance of dance media through the use

of lighting, sound, projections, improvisation, digital media, liveness and authentic integrations of personal experience. She has collaborated with artists from the Martha Graham Dance Company, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, Cunningham Trust and Batsheva Dance Company, and has studied under and workshopped choreography with professional artists such as Mina Nishimura, Koto Yamazaki and Sidra Bell. In addition to Hoyang's work as a dancer and choreographer, she also values her experiences as both a dance and production proctor for the First-Year Arts Program, producer in the Harvard-wide multi-genre ARTS FIRST Festival, and show coordinator and teacher for the dance/arts and social impact organization CityStep. Hoyang is deeply invested in furthering the possibilities within choreography, movement pedagogy and arts production beyond established personal and artistic definitions, working towards a continuing exploration of human expression.

Michael Pak '23 is the recipient of the Robert E. Levi Prize. This prize acknowledges a Harvard College senior who has demonstrated outstanding arts management skills over the course of an undergraduate career. The recipient's dedication, organizational talent and creative problem solving, as well as ability to nurture artistry, have been critical factors in the success of one or more arts organizations and/or projects. The award honors the memory of Robert E. Levi, Harvard College class of 1933 and Harvard Business School, MBA, 1935.

Michael Pak is a concentrator in Economics with a secondary in Mathematical Sciences and a resident of Lowell House. He plays violin and percussion in the Harvard Pops Orchestra and served as its co-president in 2021. As co-president of the Harvard Pops Orchestra, Pak helped lead the orchestra through the last semester of the virtual school year and, upon returning to campus in fall 2021, co-produced two shows in that semester, *Pops Casts a Spell* and *Popscast: LIVE!*. Since fall 2021, he has served as student conductor for the orchestra and has served in a variety of other leadership roles within the group such as publicity co-chair, historian and alumni liaison. Pak is also the parliamentarian for the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, in which he plays percussion, and a member of the Lowell House Society of Russian Bellringers. Pak composed a piece for Pierrot sextet (flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano and percussion), *Suite No. 3 in E minor*, which was premiered by Collage New Music at the Harvard Composers Association spring 2022 concert.

Camden Archambeau '23 and **Devon Gates '23** are the recipients of the Robert Levin Prize in Musical Performance. This prize has been established to recognize an extraordinarily gifted undergraduate musician, preferably of the senior class. The award honors Robert Levin '68, Professor Emeritus and former Dwight P. Robinson Jr. Professor of the Department of Music at Harvard University.

Cellist Camden Archambeau is a resident of Lowell House, and enrolled in the Harvard-NEC dual degree program studying History and German, and Cello Performance in the studio of Paul Katz. Archambeau has extensive orchestral and chamber experience in the U.S. and Europe, serving as the principal cellist of the Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival Orchester, Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, Juilliard Pre-College Orchestra and the New York Youth Symphony, and assistant principal of the National Youth Orchestra of the USA 2019 European Tour. More recently, Archambeau performed at Carnegie Hall as principal cellist of the New York String Orchestra under the baton of Jaime Laredo. An active chamber musician, he has performed in two

residencies at the Stauffer Center in Cremona, Italy. Archambeau will appear this summer as a fellow at the Bowdoin International Music Festival and the Perlman Chamber Music Workshop. As a soloist, Archambeau has performed with regional orchestras, on NPR's *From the Top* (Show #464), in recitals throughout New England and recently earned honorable mention in the 2022 Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra James Yannatos Concerto Competition. Archambeau has performed in masterclasses for cellists including Antonio Meneses, Joseph Lin, Johannes Moser, Franz Helmerson, Astrid Schween, Hans Jorgen Jensen, Paul Katz, David Gerber, Julia Lichten and Jonathan Koh. As a conductor, Archambeau is the music director of the Harvard Bach Society Orchestra, former assistant conductor and vice president of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra.

Devon Gates is a Winthrop House resident concentrating in Social Anthropology with a secondary in Music. She is a bassist, vocalist and composer studying jazz performance in the Harvard-Berklee dual degree program, where she has worked with the Global Jazz Institute and Institute for Jazz and

Gender Justice. Her compositions have been showcased at Boston's MassArt Museum, Winter JazzFest, the Monterey Jazz Festival and in the Berklee Press book *New Standards: 101 Lead Sheets by Women Composers*. At Harvard, she has composed two works for the Harvard Choruses (both featuring her as a soloist), contributed two original songs for the Harvard Ballet Company's spring 2021 (*renewal*) and fall 2021 (*technique*) shows, and composed an original score to the Radcliffe Institute's short film *Light the Way Home* honoring ethnomusicologist Dr. Eileen Southern. She has also performed at the Harvard Arts Medal award ceremony honoring Rubén Blades (May 2022), premiered an original composition to honor Tania León receiving Harvard's Vosgerchian Teaching Award (fall 2022), and performed at Commencement in May 2021. Her extracurricular work at Harvard includes performing in the original HRDC production *Queen of Magic*, singing in the Harvard Opportunes, curating jam sessions and events for the Black Arts Collective and co-facilitating the *Music and Justice* workshop at Nashua Street Jail as part of the Radcliffe Prison Studies Project.

Connor Riordan '23 is the recipient of the Jonathan Levy Award. This prize recognizes the most promising undergraduate actor at the College.

A resident of Eliot House and a concentrator in History & Literature with a secondary in AFVS, **Connor Riordan** is an actor, writer and filmmaker who has been involved in theater at Harvard since his first semester. His freshman year he played Tony in *West Side Story* and John Harvard in the First-Year Musical *Fake Moos*. His sophomore year, he played Macbeth in *Macbeth* and Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing*. His junior year, he played Polixenes in *The Winter's Tale* and SHE-3PO in the Hasty Pudding Theatricals' production of *Ship Happens*. In the fall of 2022, he played Shakespeare in *Something Rotten!* and Jodie in *Crossroads*. In addition to his theater acting, Riordan has acted in three short films that he directed, wrote, produced, edited and filmed. He is a proctor for the First-Year Arts Program and is an active member of Harvardwood.

Clarissa Briasco-Stewart '24 is the recipient of the Alan Symonds Award. The Alan Symonds Award, administered by the Office for the Arts and given by the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players in honor of Alan Symonds '69-'76, HRG&SP alumnus and former Technical Director for Harvard College Theater recognizes outstanding work in technical theater and commitment to mentoring fellow student technicians.

Clarissa Briasco-Stewart is a resident of Leverett House studying Linguistics with a secondary in Computer Science. She has been a lighting designer and technician in spaces across campus since fall 2019, including the Agassiz Theatre, Farkas Hall, Adams Pool Theater, the Loeb Mainstage and the Loeb Ex, and has been involved in over 20 productions on campus. Clarissa has designed, produced, advised and supported performances by HRG&SP, Harvard College Opera, Hyperion Shakespeare Company, Harvard Ballet Company, Harvard Pops Orchestra and Harvard College Musical Theater, as well as several individual student projects. She served as president and co-president of HRG&SP in fall 2021 and spring 2022, respectively, and was instrumental in maintaining the organization's institutional knowledge and rebuilding its on-campus presence after the virtual year. She currently serves as tech chair of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club and is also a proctor for the First-Year Arts Program.

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The Office for the Arts at Harvard supports student engagement in the arts and integrates the arts into University life. Through its programs and services, the OFA teaches, mentors and fosters student artmaking, connects students to accomplished artists, commissions new work, and partners with local, national and international constituencies. By supporting the development of students as artists and cultural stewards, the OFA works to enrich society and shape communities in which the arts are a vital part of life. For more information about the OFA, call 617.495.8676, or visit ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

