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## **MASSACHUSETTS TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 FOR CELLO PERFORMANCE** **Zlatomir Fung to be Named a 2017 Davidson Fellow**

Reno, Nev. – The Davidson Institute of Talent Development has announced the 2017 Davidson Fellows. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Zlatomir Fung of Westborough. Fung won a \$25,000 Davidson Fellows Scholarship for his project, *Folk Music Influence in the Classical Tradition*. He is one of only 20 students across the country to receive this honor.

“I began to play the cello at the age of three, and since then I’ve had the tremendous privilege to share the music I love with audiences,” said Fung. “Being selected as a Davidson Fellow is an extraordinary honor; to be listed alongside some of the most brilliant young minds alive today is surreal. I am so very grateful to the Davidson Institute for selecting my work to be among the projects recognized this year.”

Through his portfolio, Fung explores music that has a classical theoretical underpinning, yet adopts rhythmic, harmonic, or stylistic elements from folk music. He performed the works of three composers, from vastly different musical worlds and periods: a solo fantasia by Georg Philipp Telemann, a collection of five concert pieces by Robert Schumann, and another collection of five concert pieces by Sulkhan Tsintsadze.

In addition to his remarkable musical ability, Fung is also a skillful chess player and videographer. He has competed in chess tournaments and is in the process of completing his first short film.

Fung will attend the Julliard School in the fall, where he plans to major in cello performance. In the future, Fung would love to be a recitalist and a performer, and would also enjoy teaching cello to others.

“We are thrilled to recognize the 2017 Davidson Fellows not only for their incredible projects, but also for the journey they forged to reach this point,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “Every year I am amazed by the depth of the Fellows’ accomplishments. Through encouragement and recognition, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development anticipates that gifted students like these will be among the pioneers who will solve the world’s most vexing problems.”

The 2017 Davidson Fellows will be honored at a reception in Washington, D.C., on September 27.

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship program offers \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships to students 18 or younger, who have completed significant projects that have the potential to benefit society in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, literature and music. The Davidson Fellows Scholarship has provided more than \$7.1 million in scholarship funds to more than 300 students since its inception in 2001, and has been named one of the most prestigious undergraduate scholarships by [U.S. News & World Report](#). It is a program of the Davidson Institute for Talent Development, a national nonprofit organization headquartered in Reno, Nev. that supports profoundly gifted youth.

### **About the Davidson Institute**

Founded by Bob Davidson in 1999, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development recognizes, nurtures and supports profoundly intelligent young people, and provides opportunities for them to develop their talents to make a positive difference. The Institute offers support through a number of programs and services, including the Davidson Fellows Scholarship and the [Davidson Academy of Nevada](#). For more information about the 2017 Davidson Fellows, please visit [www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship).

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*High-resolution photos are available at [www.DavidsonGifted.org](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org).*