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## **CINCINNATI TEEN AWARDED \$10,000 FOR PROJECT JOINING THE MAGIC OF MUSIC WITH THE ART OF STORYTELLING**

### **Kasey Shao to be Named a 2020 Davidson Fellow Scholarship Winner**

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Cincinnati – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2020 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 16-year-old Kasey Shao of Cincinnati. Shao won a \$10,000 scholarship for her project, *Music through stories: A new kind of fairytale*. She is one of only 20 students across the country to be recognized as a scholarship winner.

“I am so honored to be named a 2020 Davidson Fellow and join this community of innovators,” said Shao. “Since learning about this renowned Institute and fellowship program, it has been one of my goals to become a Davidson Fellow. This motivates me to continue my work as a pianist, a musician, and a storyteller.”

Shao’s project is focused on reinforcing and spreading the magic of music through the art of storytelling. Shao believes that by presenting stories and fairytales through classical music and expanding this world to musicians and audiences alike, classical music becomes more accessible and understandable. Just as musicians approach their music in a different way and better their art, so too the audience of classical music now envelops a larger age range, where young adults and even young children can become connected to the new world of colors, emotions, and stories that are hidden in classical music.

Shao is a rising senior at Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati. She hopes to continue to spread her love for music to audiences around the world as a concert pianist.

“We are proud to announce the 2020 Davidson Fellows Scholarship recipients and applaud them for their hard work and achievement in their fields of study,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “By being awarded this recognition, these students have shown immense skill and work ethic, and they should be commended as they continue their educational and research journeys while continuing to work to solve some of the world’s most vexing problems.”

The 2020 Davidson Fellows will be honored during a digital reception on September 30, 2020.

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 \$8.2 million in scholarship funds to 366 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 2020 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/Fellows-Scholarship](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship).*