

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ECSO - INSTRUMENTAL COMPETITION

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Joanna Wu, First Prize, 57th Annual ECSO Instrumental Competition

The 57th Annual ECSO Instrumental Competition was held this past Saturday, March 12, 2016 in Evans Hall on the Connecticut College campus in New London. Generously sponsored by the Kitchings Family Foundation and the Zuckerbraun Family Fund, this competition was established to recognize the outstanding talents of emerging young musicians through the age of 25. Twelve finalists from the top music conservatories across the country competed for a first prize of \$3,000 and the possibility of soloing with the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra during the 2016-2017 concert season. Flutist, **Joanna Wu**, 23, is this year's winner. She is a Taiwanese-American flutist, born and raised in the town of DeWitt, New York. She received her undergraduate degree from Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, studying with Walfrid Kujala and John Thorne. Joanna is currently a second-year student of Ransom Wilson at the Yale School of Music, where she is pursuing her Master of Music degree. She will perform with the ECSO on February 18, 2017. **Samantha Lake**, a senior music performance major at the University of Connecticut took second place and \$1,500. **Jordan Bak**, a senior undergraduate violist at New England Conservatory took the third place prize of \$750. The **2015 winner, Jung-Hsuan Ko**, will perform this Saturday with the ECSO at the Garde Arts Center at 8pm.