

## Poquoson Lions Club

The Poquoson Lions Club has provided various community services to the residents of Poquoson, the Hampton Roads area, as well as the State of Virginia. These have included purchases of special equipment at each of the Poquoson Schools, assistance at the Eyeglass Recycling Center, funding and construction of home-ramps for the disabled, sponsorship of a local student at Boys/Girls State, scholarships to graduating High School Seniors, and monetary donations for the Eye Bank, Seeing-Eye Dog foundation, diabetes camp, and tonight's Bland Competition. All of these services are possible through the many volunteer hours of members, fund raising through our Annual Broom sales, Mint sales, and the generous donations collected during our White Cane Days. 100% of all donations and profits from fundraisers are used directly to support each of the services identified and others.

The Poquoson Lions Club meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Poquoson Community Center in front of the Poquoson High School. For more information about becoming a member, please contact Mr John Clotfelter, 868-0128.

## Poquoson High School Leo Club

The Poquoson Leo Club was formed during the 2000/2001 school year to meet the growing need of organizing student volunteers for community service. All activities are community based and in the past have included Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army, delivery of meals for Meals on Wheels, family adoption for Christmas, assistance at the Eyeglass Recycling Center, and assisting the Lions with the annual Mint sales.

The Poquoson High School Leo Club meets the second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Poquoson High School Library/Media Center. For more information, please contact the school sponsor, Mrs Roper, at 868-7123 or Lion Pam Camblin, at 868-0317.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA LION'S BLAND MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Virginia Lions' Bland Memorial Music Scholarship Contest is the ultimate result of many years of effort on the part of the Virginia Association of Lions' Clubs.

James A. Bland, the greatest Black writer of American Folk Song, composed over seven hundred songs, a number of which were outright contributions to Americana. The Lions of Virginia first became interested in James A. Bland in 1938, as the composer of the stirring song, "Carry Me Back To Ole Virginnny." Impressed by the patriotic fervor and nostalgic quality of this lyric, the Lions began a campaign, which resulted in the General Assembly of Virginia officially adopting the song, in 1940, as the Virginia State Anthem. In 1994 the Virginia State Senate adopted the revised song "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia" as the State Song. In February 1997, the Virginia state legislature voted to retire the song.

In 1938 as Virginia Lions inquired into the career of "Jimmy Bland," they found that his grave was unknown and unmarked. Further investigation found his grave in a cemetery in Merion, PA, near Philadelphia. The Virginia Lions erected a suitable monument over the grave. The culmination of this work became a feature of the 1946 Convention of Lions International at Philadelphia. On that impressive occasion, July 15, 1946, the dignified monument was unveiled in the presence of many distinguished representatives of Government, the world of music, and of Lions International. At the Lions International Convention in Philadelphia in 1997, Virginia Lions rededicated the monument at James Bland's grave.

The Lions of Virginia were not content that a monument of granite should suffice to memorialize the work of the author of our official State Song. As a permanent living memorial, they established the Virginia Lions' Bland Music Scholarship Program. Scholarships for musical excellence in both instrumental and vocal performance are awarded annually. Since the initiation of these contests, the Lions have continuously added to the value of the scholarships. Today the contest is spread over the entire state, commencing with individual Club, and thereafter expanding through Zone and/or Region, and District competitions to the final state contest at the annual State Convention. The first Bland contests were held in 1948 with the state finals in Roanoke. Two awards of \$150 were given to the winners. Through the interest and efforts of the Lions of Virginia, the music Scholarships have grown from 2 to 12 scholarships which amount to \$18,000.00 at the state level. The project is financed entirely through voluntary contributions from the Lions Clubs throughout the State of Virginia.

# Poquoson Lions Club



**We Serve**

**1948 - 2010**

**Bland Memorial Music Contest**

**February 22, 2010**

**Poquoson High School**

## Welcome

On behalf of the Poquoson Lions Club, welcome to the 2010 Bland Memorial Music Scholarship Contest. This contest is held annually and provides the young people of Poquoson and our neighboring communities an opportunity to display their musical talents in both voice and instrumental competition. The contestants tonight are vying for scholarship awards totaling \$450 locally, and the opportunity to continue on in higher levels of competition to possibly win even more scholarship funds. We congratulate all the contestants and thank them in advance for providing such fine entertainment for us this evening.

I would like to thank Mr. Doug Spruill and Mr. Scott Bumbaugh, of Poquoson High School for their hard work and support in arranging this evening. They play a very large role in making this annual Lions Club event the success that it is. Many thanks also to our own PHS Leo Club members who have also worked to make tonight's event a success. Finally, I wish to thank the Poquoson High School Chamber Ensemble for adding a choral component to our musical appreciation this evening.

First place winners of our contest tonight will advance to the Region I contest, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Region winners will then advance to the District contest on April 17<sup>th</sup>; and District winners to the State Contest at the State Convention on May 21<sup>st</sup>. You are cordially invited to follow our winners onward, and to attend all of these events. Information on dates and locations can be found on our website [www.poquosonlions.com](http://www.poquosonlions.com).

I know you will enjoy tonight's competition, and hope you will join us again next year as we recognize our talented young musicians. Thank you.

Yours in Lionism,

BT Smith  
President, Poquoson Lions Club

## Contestants

**Daniel Wayne Chow** ..... Baritone/Bass  
Spays, Claude-Michel Schonberg  
Accompanist: Nicole Birchak

**Emily Winona Brawley** ..... Classical Guitar  
Rondo Allegretto, Mauro Giuliani

**Keanan Mikhail McGonigle** ..... Bass  
Non Piu Andrai, W.A. Mozart  
Accompanist: Nicole Birchak

**Vivian W. Chan** ..... Piano  
Grande Valse Brillante in E-flat major, Op. 18, Frederic  
Chopin

**Nichole Lynn Scharff** ..... Soprano  
Un Ombra di Pace, Giovanni Bonocini  
Accompanist: Nicole Birchak

**Joey Kun Hsu** ..... Violin  
Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64, F. Mendelssohn  
Accompanist: none listed

**Brianna Renee Sklute** ..... Soprano  
Gia il Sole dal Gange, Alessandro Scarlatti  
Accompanist: Matt Stearn

**Joyce Lynn Chow** ..... Piano  
December, V. Shukovsky

## Contestants (continued)

**Sean Robert Hopkins** ..... Bass  
Si Trai Ceppi, George Frideric Handel  
Accompanist: Nicole Birchak

**Olivia Ann Stansbury** ..... Flute  
Concerto No. 1 in G (Movement 1), W.A. Mozart  
Accompanist: Lori Yankoski

Entertainment by  
**“The Chamber Ensemble”**  
of Poquoson High School  
under the direction of Mr. Scott Bumbaugh