

Dear David Yuguang Quan,

Congratulations! We are delighted to inform you that you are awarded **Second Place with Special Honours** at the Red Maple Pop & Jazz Competition, Junior Category, 13 - 14 years old, for Clifford Brown, Joy Spring.

Here are the comments from our judges:

Thanks for your performance! Your introduction set the mood beautifully and throughout the piece you showed a very strong, reliable pulse, great technique, and nice coordination; the sound and overall fluency especially during the opening and closing sections felt natural and stylistically convincing. That control gives you a solid foundation for your performance. For the next step, I recommend leaning further into the solo/improvisation section: give yourself permission to "shine"! Right now it feels as a bit cautious, but you clearly have all the tools to push it further. How to think about this improvisation section: during improvisation you are the soloist — this is the time to invent and assert personality. Within the style limits you have, give yourself permission to "shine" by developing short motifs and varying them rather than staying too safe, explore more orchestration across the kit to create contrasting textures, and experiment with rhythmical variety — odd groupings and more of brief polyrhythmic ideas will add surprise while still keeping the jazz style. You had some of it in your performance, but you can definitely add more. It will become very memorable for your listeners than consistent technical runs. You need to trust yourself, you have a great foundation to explore and use bold musical statements. Overall, a very good performance — confident, musical, and stylistically appropriate. The next step is to bring that same level of skills into your solo. Keep up the good work!

Please find your Certificate on the website. If you indicated that you have a teacher and/or an accompanist, their Certificates are also on the website. For your convenience all certificates are in PDF for printing and JPG for posting on social media. Please download the certificates within next two months.

We are thrilled to inform you that you are invited to perform at the Winners' Recital and the Award Ceremony that will be held in Toronto, Canada, in Summer, 2026.

We will send more details regarding the registration, the exact dates, and the venue later. Please, always check your spam/junk email folder to do not miss any important information.

Please register for the recital at the following link by October 30th, 2025:

<https://www.pulsar-music.com/recitals>

Payments after the deadline will not be accepted due to the high volume of participants. Please note that the recital registration fees are not refundable and can not be substituted.

Please find your performance information below:

1. Clifford Brown, Joy Spring (4 minutes 27 seconds) will be listed in the recital program as your performance repertoire. If you need to change your piece please contact us at info@pulsar-music.com no later than one month prior the event date. The repertoire change is available for an extra fee and the duration of the new piece must be no longer than the original piece duration.
2. If you need an official invitation letter from the Competition to apply for the visa, you may provide this letter.
3. The competition does not provide a piano accompanist. If you bring your own accompanist, please, send us the name of your accompanist, so we can add him/her to our backstage security list. If you need a local piano accompanist, please let us know. However, it will be your responsibility to contact the accompanist and make all the arrangements. If your accompanist doesn't show up for the performance, you will not be allowed onto the stage.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Toronto! In addition, Pulsar Music is happy to invite all Winners' Recital and Award Ceremony participants, their teachers, and family members to join us at other social events after the recital date, such as a trip to Niagara Falls and the Toronto Aquarium.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ekaterina Paniukova, CEO of Pulsar Music

Red Maple Music Competition
Website: <https://www.pulsar-music.com/>
Email: info@pulsar-music.com

Red Maple Music Competition is a service offered by Pulsar Music Inc., Ontario, Canada. All rights reserved, 2019-.