

## Classical Voice Winner



**Lisa DiMaria**

Lisa DiMaria is an outstanding 23-year-old soprano who comes from Gormley, not far from Toronto, Ontario. She graduated with honours from Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts Secondary School in 2001 and obtained her Bachelor of Music degree in Voice Performance from the University of Toronto in the spring of 2005. She will begin her Master of Music degree in Operatic Performance at the University of Toronto in the fall of 2005, under the tutelage of distinguished voice teacher Mary Morrison, C.M.

Lisa has won numerous awards at music competitions in Ontario including the Greater Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival, the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition and the Rising Stars talent competition at the CNE.

“Lisa sings with an emotional connection to the poet, character and composer that is beyond her years”, says Lorna MacDonald, Head of Voice Studies at the University of Toronto. Joseph Rouleau, Lynn Channing and Jane Leibel, the members of The Hnatyshyn Foundation classical voice jury, agreed. In awarding her first place in the competition they praised her “very free, open, beautiful sound” and noted her expressive singing, intelligent and thoughtful phrasing, and attention to dynamics. “She handles technical difficulties with ease and confidence. Her intonation is superb and her diction in all languages is solid. Very fine potential for a career in opera.”