

## Classical Music Winner



**Jeffrey Dyrda**

Jeffrey Dyrda is an exceptional 18-year-old classical violinist and jazz saxophone player from Oakbank, a town near Winnipeg, Manitoba. He completed the Royal Conservatory of Music grade 10 violin examination with first class distinction in 2002 and graduated high school with honours from Springfield Collegiate in June 2005. He has been a member of the Winnipeg Youth Orchestra since 1996, and its concertmaster since 2002. Jeffrey will start his Bachelor of Music, Honours, degree in classical violin at McGill University in Montreal in the fall of 2005.

Jeffrey has won numerous awards at music competitions in Manitoba and has participated in a variety of summer chamber music programs in both Canada and the United States. He has also performed as a soloist with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

“Jeffrey Dyrda is one of the most promising young violinists to enter an undergraduate program at McGill University”, says Dr. Douglas McNabney, Chair of the Department of Performance at McGill’s Faculty of Music. “Imagine our surprise when we realized that he also did one of the best auditions on jazz saxophone on the same day!” The Hnatyshyn Foundation classical music jury, composed of Terence Tam, Gwen Thompson and Douglas Sturdevant, praised Jeffrey’s “technically advanced, accomplished and polished performance”, noting that his technique, style, nuances, intonation, rhythm and pacing were all excellent. “He is an accomplished performer and musician.”