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St JOSEPH PUPILS IN HARMONY IN ROTARY MUSIC COMPETITION

Caitlin O'Leary a talented singer from St Joseph's College was named **Swindon Young Musician of 2014** in the Competition held at the Blunsdon House Hotel last Sunday and in a double first for St Joseph's College, Maximo Lopez (seated at piano in the picture) also won the Under 14 section with his very impressive performance on the piano.

The Head of Music at St Joseph's, Mel Collins, says she is thrilled with the success of her pupils and would be pleased to give media interviews and allow photographs to be taken at the College. Contact her direct by email: MCollins@stjosephscollege.net



28 musicians and singers, all 17 years of age and under, competed in this, the 18th Competition organised by the Rotary Club of Swindon North, on Sunday 9th February. Entered by their music teachers from six different Swindon schools, they were organised into two age groups.

The adjudicator was Alex Arkwright, Head of Wind, Brass and Percussion at Marlborough College. Alex is a talented performer and conductor, and his trumpet playing career includes appearances on theme and incidental

music for the BBC and ITV, as well as concerto performances. He said: "People might think judging singers with musicians, who themselves are playing a variety of instruments, is impossible. "Not so," he countered, "there are constants to look for such as technical ability, artistic ability and communication with the audience."

Certificates and John Holmes Music vouchers were awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in both the sections. Rotary District Governor Elect, Martyn Harwood from Stroud, made the presentations. The Rev Geoffrey Gleed, choirmaster and organist at Swindon's Emmanuel United Reform Church for 40 years, was Master of Ceremonies for a 180-strong audience who were admitted free of charge.

The Swindon Young Musician of the Year Competition has been promoted by the Rotary Club of Swindon North on an annual basis since 1997.