

## **THE 2014 EUGENIE COLADARCI ARTS SCHOLARSHIP**

### **KATHERINE MERWIN**

Sixteen years ago, as a part of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Morris Arts collaborated with the Coladarci family and initiated what has become a \$1,500 scholarship award to be given annually to a graduating Morris County high school senior who plans to pursue further study in an area related to the arts. Created as a tribute to the memory of our former Board Chair, Eugenie Coladarci, who was Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations for Chase Manhattan Bank and an active member of the Morris Arts for eleven years, the scholarship recognizes artistic excellence and encourages the artists of the future, in keeping with Morris Arts' mission and with Genie Coladarci's role as a statewide champion of the arts who actively encouraged the development of young artists and strongly believed the arts were essential to the quality of life.

I am pleased to announce that this year's award winner is Katherine Merwin, a talented soprano who lives in Morristown and is soon to graduate Morristown High School.

A finalist for the 2014 New Jersey Governor's Award in Vocal Music, Katherine Merwin qualified for top rankings in All-Eastern Chorus, All-State, and North Jersey Regionals. In 2013, she was the first place winner of *Morristown's Got Talent* and was one of only 22 high school seniors accepted in the 2013 Classical Voice Intensive summer program at New York University. Additionally, she was the Leader of Girl' Course at St. Thomas Choir School in NYC.

One of her recommendations stated that she “has one of the finest soprano voices that I have heard in a high school student and in sight singing she is clearly in the top of her class.”

The panelists were deeply impressed by the exceptional clarity and natural beauty of her voice, the ease of her singing in high registers, her clear diction, expressiveness, open and refined tone quality, accurate intonation and musicianship.

Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of Morris Arts, it is my great pleasure to award the sixteenth annual Eugenie Coladarci Arts Scholarship to soprano Katherine Merwin. Unfortunately, Katherine could not join us this evening but we will be presenting her award at Morristown High School’s Senior Awards Night.

March 27, 2014