

# BEMUS BAY POPS

PO Box 9250 • Bemus Point, NY 14712 • (716) 386-7000

[www.bemusbaypops.com](http://www.bemusbaypops.com)

September 2, 2017

Dear. William,

This year we received impressive applications from all over the county. There were 3 outstanding and talented finalists which made the decision difficult for our committee. In the end, your spirit stood out above all as the kind of passion that Steve Swanson had for music and the arts.

Your love for music was more than evident when you wrote, *"Music is what I wish to do for the rest of my life. It's how I express myself, what I do, who I am."*

Equally impressive were letters of recommendation from two of your music teachers. Mr. John Cross, Infinity Jazz Band Director, wrote, *"It is very rare for a music teacher like me to see an emerging young artist exceed their own teacher's ability. I give my highest recommendation to this young saxophone artist, who is bound to distinguish himself and Chautauqua County."* In the other letter, Mr. Andrew Bennett wrote, *"Will is maintaining a 100% average in my Music Theory class. This is an unprecedented achievement, but well earned. His written and aural theory skills are perhaps the best I have ever seen in a High School student."*

Your sample of work was excellent!

Mr. Swanson, whom this scholarship is, in part, named and dedicated after, not only loved music but he dedicated his life to sharing, teaching and giving back to others his music and talents. You seem to possess very similar values and talents.

We believe that you too will live up to the Pop's mission of "bringing the arts to the people".

On behalf of the Bemus Bay Pops and the Steve Swanson family we have selected you as this year's **Bemus Bay Pops/Steven Swanson Memorial Arts Scholarship** recipient.

Congratulations and best of luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dan Dalpra

Chairman, Bemus Bay Pops