



CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



Donovan Cassidy-Nolan

Pitch Please!

Challenge: Discovery Category: Intermediate Region: Annapolis Valley City: Wolfville, NS School:

Horton High School

Abstract: In this study, 60 subjects with varying degrees of musical experience were

given a newly-designed pitch discrimination (PD) test. Their performance was analyzed for both accuracy and acuity. Subjects' scores increased in both measures over a 10-year period of musical experience. Subjects who played continuous-pitch instruments showed superior PD at 6-10 years, suggesting that these instruments may optimize PD performance in young

musicians.

Biography

I am a grade 10 student from Wolfville, Nova Scotia. I began playing violin and piano at the age of four, but I have been making potions and running experiments in my basements long before that. Combining both interests in a musical experiment has been a great pleasure! In my spare time, I enjoy running, skiing, snowboarding, Tetris and a good ping pong game. I also have recently taken up the Rubik's Cube and, one day, hope to be able to solve it in under 10 seconds. My idols are Sherlock Holmes and Mr. Spock.

Awards	Value
Excellence Award - Intermediate - Silver Medal	\$300
Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship	\$2 000
Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: Western University	
Total	\$2 300



