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Atchison Native Selected As Finalist In Singing Competition

(KAIR)--An Atchison man has been selected as one of three finalists in the "Oh Say Can You Sing" competition sponsored by the Des Moines Symphony.

19-year-old Sam Nolte, who is a 2013 graduate of Atchison High School, and is currently attending Drake University in Des Moines, says he first found out about the competition from his college Choir Director, but was unsure at first if he wanted to try out. A few days later, his voice teacher sent him a direct message encouraging him to enter, which helped him to decide to finally enter.

Nolte was one of ten competitors who sang the Star Spangled Banner Thursday afternoon in front of five judges who were directly affiliated with the Des Moines Symphony. He found out he was one of the finalists soon after, and was required to sing the anthem again, this time on camera.

Nolte says the prize is pretty impressive. The winner will have the opportunity to sing the national anthem with the orchestra during their annual Yankee Doodle Pops concert on July 3rd in front of an estimated 100,000 people.

The Des Moines Symphony is asking the public to vote for one of the three finalists. The video with the most votes by Friday will be declared the winner. The videos are available for viewing on the symphony's website dmsymphony.org.

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