

Title for cellist

A VENEZUELAN cellist gave an "outstanding performance" as the winner of a recent competition.

The Reading Symphony Orchestra's Young Musicians Competition was won by 17-year-old German Marciano from Wokingham's Emmanuel School, a Venezuelan boy who has been in the area for almost two years.

German, who has played the cello for about four years and receives tuition at the Guildhall School of Music in London, delighted the audience with his performing and mastery of the cello. The judges said that his playing was "outstanding".

The competition was held at Reading's Alfred Sutton Girls' School and the judges were Mr Hamish Preston, County Music Advisor; Mr Christopher Maby, Assistant Conductor of the Reading Symphony Orchestra; and Mr Robert Saxton, Professional Composer.



German Marciano

They also highly commended five other performers from local schools. They were Catherine Stroud of Abbey School, Reading, who played the oboe; Ruthlina Guelbeit of Theale Green School, playing the violin; Hilary Ougham of Wokingham's Holt School, playing the bassoon; Alistair Lomax of Theale Green, who played the oboe; and Julian Johnson of Reading School, playing the horn.

On a general note, the judges said that the technical attainment and musical sense of all the performers was "commendable" although they "needed to develop their own inner experience of the music to their audience, this being the essential function of meaningful performance."

The winner, German Marciano, received a cheque for £25 and was invited to play a concert with the RSO.