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Ouachita to host NFMC Young Artist winner Christie Conover in concert Sept. 16

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Recommended Citation

Grigsby, Emily, "Ouachita to host NFMC Young Artist winner Christie Conover in concert Sept. 16" (2015). *Press Releases*. Paper 145. http://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/press_releases/145

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For immediate release **Ouachita to host NFMC Young Artist winner Christie Conover in concert Sept. 16** *By Emily Grigsby* September 3, 2015 For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at <u>newsbureau@obu.edu</u> or (870) 245-5208

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Ouachita Baptist University's Division of Music will host soprano Christie Conover, the 2015 National Federation of Music Clubs Young Artist winner, in concert Monday, Sept. 16. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Mabee Fine Arts Center's McBeth Recital Hall and is free and open to the public.

The NFMC Young Artist Award is a professional competition for piano, string, wind instrument and voice. Contestants between the ages of 18 and 30 compete on three different levels over the course of several months. Conover, this year's vocal winner, will begin a tour in September featuring appearances at several Arkansas universities, including Ouachita. She also will join the Komische Oper Berlin as Pamina in its tour of China.

"This recital will give our students an opportunity to hear an excellent artist in their craft," said Dr. Gary Gerber, dean of Ouachita's School of Fine Arts. "It also will help those who attend appreciate all types music – in this case, classical music."

Conover has received national attention including the Audience Choice Award at the 2013 Irene Dalis Competition and third place in the 2011 Rocky Mountain Region competition of the prestigious Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

During the Ouachita concert, Conover will be performing G.F. Handel's "Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion" from *Messiah*, Mozart's "Exsultate, Jubilate," Richard Strauss's "Lieder," Charles Gounod's "Ah! Je veux vivre" and Libby Larsen's "Songs from Letters."

For more information, contact Gary Gerber at 870-245-5128 or <u>gerberg@obu.edu</u>.

PHOTO OF CONOVER AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT <u>http://www.obu.edu/news/2015/09/03/ouachita-to-host-nfmc-young-artist-winner-christie-conover-in-</u> concert-sept-16.