

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Piano 2024 edition, May 5 to 16

CANADIAN JAEDEN IZIK-DZURKO IS THE GRAND LAUREATE OF PIANO 2024

Montreal, May 16, 2024 – Pianist **Jaeden Izik-Dzurko** has won the top honour at the 2024 Piano Edition of the <u>Concours musical international de Montréal (CMIM)</u>.

In addition to remarkable technical mastery and musicality, <u>Jaeden Izik-Dzurko</u> stood out for his captivating stage charisma. As the Grand Laureate of Piano 2024, he also won several special prizes. The Final took place at the Maison symphonique, where the six finalists performed the concerto of their choice accompanied by the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM), the official orchestra of the CMIM, under the direction of Guest Conductor Xian Zhang.

Chaired by cultural manager Zarin Metha (USA, India), the international jury consisted of nine members: Dmitri Alexeev (Russia, UK), Lydia Artymiw (USA), Louise Bessette (Canada), Jan Jiracek von Arnim (Germany), Robert Levin (USA), Hélène Mercier (Canada), Ronan O'Hora (Great Britain, Ireland), and Minsoo Sohn (South Korea). More than \$200,000 in prizes and grants were awarded.

Winners of prizes and grants

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

Sibylla-Hesse 1st Prize valued at \$140,000

- Grand Cash Prize of \$30,000 offered by la Ville de Montréal
- Joseph-Rouleau Career Development Grant of \$50,000 offered by the Azrieli Foundation
- Steinway Recording Prize (valued at \$54,000) offered by Steinway & Sons
- Steinway Prizewinner Concerts Korean tour (World Culture Network) in March 2025 and other concerts to be announced offered by Steinway & Sons
- Engagement for a concert or recital in a subsequent program of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, offered by the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal
- Engagement for a recital for the 2025-2026 season of the Coast Recital Society offered by the Coast Recital Society, British Columbia

Gabriele STRATA (Italy)

Pierre-Péladeau and Raymonde-Chopin 2nd Prize

\$15,000 offered by Québecor

Anthony RATINOV (USA)

3rd Prize

\$10,000 offered by Stingray Classica

Winners of special prizes

Gabriele STRATA (Italy)

ICI Musique Audience Award

\$5,000 offered by ICI Musique

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

Best Canadian Artist Award

\$5,000 offered by the Bourbeau Foundation

Elias ACKERLEY (UK / South Korea), Jakub KUSZLIK (Poland), Derek WANG (USA) Three CMIM Grants of \$3,000 each for the unranked finalists

Offered by the Rouleau Family, Morris & Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation, and Louise Roy

Jakub KUSZLIK (Poland)

Junior Jury Prize

Élisabeth Pion (Canada)

Bita Cattelan Philanthropic Engagement Award Offered by Bita & Paolo Cattelan

Gabriele STRATA (Italy)

Chamber Music Award

Offered by Dixi Lambert and the Festival de musique de chambre de Montréal

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

Best performance of a Sonata in the Semifinal Offered by Anne Stevens

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

André Bachand Award for the Best performance of an imposed Canadian work Offered by Claudette Hould Missed a round or want to rewatch one? All the CMIM events are available on demand at the Concours's website at <u>concoursmontreal.ca</u>.

Thank you for joining us, and see you at the next edition, Voice 2025, which will be held in Montreal from May 25 to June 16, 2025!

ABOUT THE CMIM

The Concours musical international de Montréal (CMIM) is a prestigious competition that showcases the international elite of the new generation of classical music. An essential *rendez-vous* of passion and music, in the heart of a city known for its cultural vitality and warm welcome, the CMIM enjoys an undeniable reputation worldwide. Since its inception in 2001, nearly 5,000 young virtuosi, trained in the best music schools from over 90 countries, have taken on the challenge to excel. The CMIM is more than a competition: it is a remarkable platform that highlights the excellence and pure talent of exceptional classical musicians. Our mission is to contribute concretely to the career development of participating artists by making the heart of Montreal vibrate to the rhythm of classical music, making it even more accessible to all, while forging links between the public, young artists and exceptional mentors. Together, we create unforgettable memories and propel the careers of young international musicians.

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