

**THE CONCOURS MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL ANNOUNCES
ITS 10 SEMIFINALISTS!**



The 10 semifinalists of the Concours 2026
@ Tam Photography

Montreal, Friday May 29, 2026 – Following a thrilling First Round, the International Jury has selected the **10 semifinalists of the Concours 2026**. The announcement was made following the deliberations that took place after the final session of this First Round, during which the competitors dazzled the audience with their talent, virtuosity and musicality.

The Semifinal will take place at Bourgie Hall:

- May 30 at 7:30 p.m.
- May 31 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

HERE ARE THE 10 VIOLINISTS WHO ARE MOVING ON TO THE SEMIFINAL

- Bade Dastan, Turkey and Belgium
- Laurel Gagnon, United States
- Michael Germer, Denmark
- Yuki Hirano, Japan
- Sijun Kim, South Korea
- Hannah Tam, Hong Kong
- Koshiro Takeuchi, Japan
- Sara Watanabe, Japan
- Yume Zamponi, Italy and Japan
- Aozhe Zhang, China

ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS OF TWO SPECIAL PRIZES

The evening of May 29 also provided an opportunity to announce the winners of two special prizes.

Baroque Prize

Presented in partnership with Andrew Wan, concertmaster of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the Baroque Prize recognises the best performance of a Baroque work in the First Round and comes with a cash prize of \$2,500. This prize was awarded Koshiro Takeuchi for his interpretation the Sonata for Solo Violin No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003 by Johann Sebastian Bach.



Koshiro Takeuchi with the President of the International Jury, Lucie Robert

@ Tam Photography

Robert-Trempe Junior Jury Prize

The Robert-Trempe Junior Jury Prize, awarded by the Junior Jury chaired by Canadian-Serbian violinist Ana Drobac and made up of 10 violin students from four leading music institutions in Montreal and Toronto, has been awarded to Charlotte Spruit. This prize, presented in partnership with Richard Tremblay, comes with a \$1,500 cash prize.



Charlotte Spruit with Mr. Richard Tremblay and Ana Drobac
@ Tam Photography

THE CONCOURS ON THE ROAD

On May 31, the violinists who do not advance to the Semifinal will have the opportunity to perform for other audiences around and beyond Montreal. For the third consecutive year, this initiative opens new perspectives to offer a unique musical experience to an even wider audience with the Concours On the Road.

- 2 p.m.: Centre d'art de Richmond (Richmond)
- 3 p.m.: Le Vaisseau d'art (Farnham)
- 7 p.m.: Concerts sur le fleuve (L'Île-des-Sœurs)

THE CONCOURS CONTINUES UNTIL JUNE 4!

Semifinal

May 30 at 7:30 p.m. and May 31 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**Bourgie Hall of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
1339, Sherbrooke Street West**

Each competitor will present a 55-minute program including a complete sonata, a work of the competitor's choice, and a work by a Canadian composer.

Following this decisive stage of the Concours, 5 finalists will move on to the Final on June 3-4.

The performance order of the competitors is available on the Concours' website.

Final

June 3-4 at 7:30 p.m.

**Maison symphonique
1600, Saint-Urbain Street**

Experience the excitement of a major international music competition, as five finalists perform with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the Concours' official orchestra, led by Sascha Goetzel.

June 3 at 7:30 p.m.: Final – Mozart Round. 5 finalists will perform a Mozart concerto.

June 4 at 7:30 p.m.: Grand Final. This decisive evening promises to be absolutely riveting. Three grand finalists will perform some of the finest concertos of the repertoire in a thrilling final that will determine who will be crowned the Grand Laureate of the Concours 2026.

ICI Musique Audience Choice Award

From May 30 at 10.30 p.m., the public will be able to vote for their favourite competitor, either in person or via the [Concours website](#). The winner of the ICI Musique Audience Choice Award will be announced on June 4 during the closing ceremony following the Grand Final.

The Concours, in person and online

The public is invited to live the excitement of the Concours in person by [purchasing tickets online](#). **All sessions can also be streamed online, directly on the [Concours website](#).**

[INFORMATION AND TICKETS](#)

ABOUT THE CONCOURS

The **Concours musical international de Montréal** enjoys an undeniable reputation as one of the most prestigious and welcoming international music competitions around the world. A multidisciplinary event, the Concours has welcomed annually since 2002, in turn, singers, violinists, and pianists. Well over 5,000 musicians of the new generation from more than 90 countries and trained at the world's most important musical schools have entered the competition.

A major event on Montréal's cultural calendar, the Concours musical international de Montréal is a high-profile showcase that shapes the future of the classical music scene by offering its laureates invaluable visibility and professional opportunities. The competitors measure themselves against their peers, performing before a jury of classical music luminaries and music lovers in Montréal. Events of the Concours musical international de Montréal are viewed by more than 3 million people annually worldwide.

[Consult the press kit](#)



– 30 –

Source

Claudine Jacques
Head, Communication & Marketing
cjacques@concoursmontreal.ca
514 817-8044