

**SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> AND 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**CREMONA MUSICA SPECIAL EDITION**  
*The winners of PianoLink International Amateurs Competition*



Cremona, September 27th 2020 - The winners of PIANOLINK INTERNATIONAL AMATEURS COMPETITION have been announced. Here are the names: Michael Cheung (Canada), Carl Di Casoli (Florida USA), Jowon Kim (South Korea), Irene Longacre Whiteside (Texas USA), Zachary Weiner (California USA). The first overall PianoLink Grand Prize went to Zachary Weiner.

The winners were selected yesterday among the 10 finalists, 4 of which took the test remotely, from 4 different countries (California, Texas, Florida, Greece) and with as many different time zones. The other 6 took the test in Cremona at Palazzo Affaitati. All moments of the day were broadcast in live-streaming, simultaneously on the Facebook pages of PianoLink, Yamaha Pianos, Bösendorfer Italia, CremonaFiere and Cremona Musica and on the YouTube channel PianoLink International Amateurs Competition. All amateur pianists of all nationalities took part in the competition divided into two categories, graduates and non-graduates. The jury was chaired by the American pianist Jeffrey Swann and also composed by Bruno Monsaingeon (FRA), Eric Schoones (NLD), Alberto Nosè (ITA) and Alexander Romanovsky (UKR).

The five Winners of the Competition will be awarded: Recital of the Winners in Milan within the MiAmOr Music Festival 2021, Recital of the Winners in St. Petersburg, review written and signed by the jury, Interview on Pianist Magazine. The Absolute First Prize won by Zachary Weiner consists of an enrollment in the PianoLink PianoLink Workshop 2020/2021 edition with the frequency of lessons and rehearsals with orchestra in Milan, and a Final Concert with the Symphony Orchestra, worth euros 4,000, provided by Yamaha Music Europe Branch Italy. The CremonaMusica Prize, worth euros 1,000, will go to the video that has recorded the highest number of likes and votes expressed by the audience present in the room during the MiAmOr Music Festival, it will be possible to vote until May 2021.

**CREMONA MUSICA SPECIAL EDITION** is the answer to the market need of having a reference point event. But it is also CremonaFiere starting point to prepare and launch a great edition of Cremona Musica in 2021, when we could finally experience again the unique and engaging Cremonese appointment that we all know, meeting each other and sharing the emotion of being part of the event. All this will be possible thanks to the synergy with the city and our territory, homeland to historical violin-making masters and composers. Next September there will be several initiatives, such as: contests, performances, presentations and concerts taking place both at Cremona Exhibition Centre and in prestigious locations of our city. These events will involve a wide audience of music lovers and provide companies of the sector with digital business opportunities. Also international sector professionals will be on board, thanks to the Exhibition promotional program or through direct involvement.

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