

Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts  
for Dance, Music and Drama

Milton Keynes  Young  
Musician

MILTON KEYNES YOUNG MUSICIAN  
OF THE YEAR 2024



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Established in 1968, the Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts is an educational charity run on a self-funding basis by a small committee of unpaid volunteers, with the objective of providing a safe and constructive performance platform for amateur performers of all ages and levels of experience.

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# MILTON KEYNES FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

for Dance, Music and Drama

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Dance, Music and Drama



## Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year 2024

Seven piano and instrumental soloists from last weekend's music festival have been invited back to further showcase their performances. All performers will receive a special trophy and certificate and a small amount of prize money and one performer will be awarded the title Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year. Each performer is asked to prepare two pieces of up to 12 minutes of repertoire of their own choice.

### Our Judges

#### Nadia Hinson GRSM(Hons), LRAM, LTCL

Nadia graduated from the Royal Academy of Music after having studied the violin with Manoug Parikian and the piano with Jean Harvey. She was awarded first prize for Aural studies and her quartet won the string chamber prize in her final year. Nadia was the featured soloist playing the Lark Ascending and Bach double violin concerto for the Benslow Trust at St. James' Piccadilly having been awarded an instrument to continue her studies. Other concertos in her repertoire include performances of the Mendelssohn, Mozart no.3 and 4, Haydn in C, De Bériot, Viotti, and works by Beethoven and Finzi.



She began her career as a freelance violinist playing in many London based orchestras. As an accompanist to singers and instrumentalists, she met her musician husband Nigel and together they founded the Veloce Ensemble (string quartet and clarinet quintet) touring throughout Britain performing specially commissioned works for that genre. Appearances at festivals and stately homes inspired a regular concert series at Belvoir Castle and Holmepierrepoint Hall. As a recitalist throughout the East Midlands, Nadia has been highlighted in festivals and BBC features locally.

She is also currently the owner and director of the Hinson School of Music in Nottingham, and is an international examiner for the ABRSM, an adjudicator for The British and International Federation of Festivals, and a member of the Royal Society of Musicians.

Nadia has recently been appointed a senior consultant for the LEAD Academy trust, involved in developing music departments in schools in Nottinghamshire, and leading workshops to encourage and involve as many youngsters as possible in experiencing music and the arts in large scale productions and showcase concerts.

She has set up composition workshops to inspire children to explore feelings and ideas through music and is a mentor for the Trust to develop self-confidence and communication through learning and performance. Nadia has also recently been appointed to the ABRSM jazz examining panel.



## Craig Greene



Pianist and conductor, Craig Greene, a former scholar of Christ Church, Oxford, graduating with a double first-class degree, Craig continued his Studies at the Royal College of Music with Dmitri Alexeev and Ashley Wass.

Craig won various prizes throughout his studies including the Oxford University Conducting Competition in 2008 and the RCM Chamber Music Prize in 2012.

Whilst at Oxford, Craig served as principal conductor of the Oxford University Philharmonia, and later became Musical Director of Opera Lyrica, an independent opera company with whom he conducted productions of *Die Fledermaus*, *Fierrabras*, and *Il barbiere di Siviglia*.

Craig has been fortunate to perform as soloist with numerous orchestras including the Russian National Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Swan, the Milton Keynes City Orchestra, and the Oxford Chamber Orchestra, a group that he also regularly works with as a guest conductor. Craig frequently performs as a recitalist both locally and further afield and has been fortunate to perform alongside numerous leading singers and instrumentalists, most recently giving a recital alongside world-renowned oboist, Gordon Hunt.

In addition to performing, Craig pursues a busy teaching career having spent 5 years as a member of teaching staff at St Paul's School, London before serving as Director of Music at Stowe School. He currently teaches piano at St Helen & St Katharine and Bedford School.

# Beethoven's Fifth

## Friday 12 April

### 7.30 pm

featuring

**Glinka** Ruslan and Ludmilla: Overture  
**Grieg** Piano Concerto op.16 in A minor  
**Beethoven** Symphony no.5, op.67 in C minor

**Craig Greene** Piano (Alina Orchestra Artist in Residence)  
**Hilary Davan Wetton** Conductor

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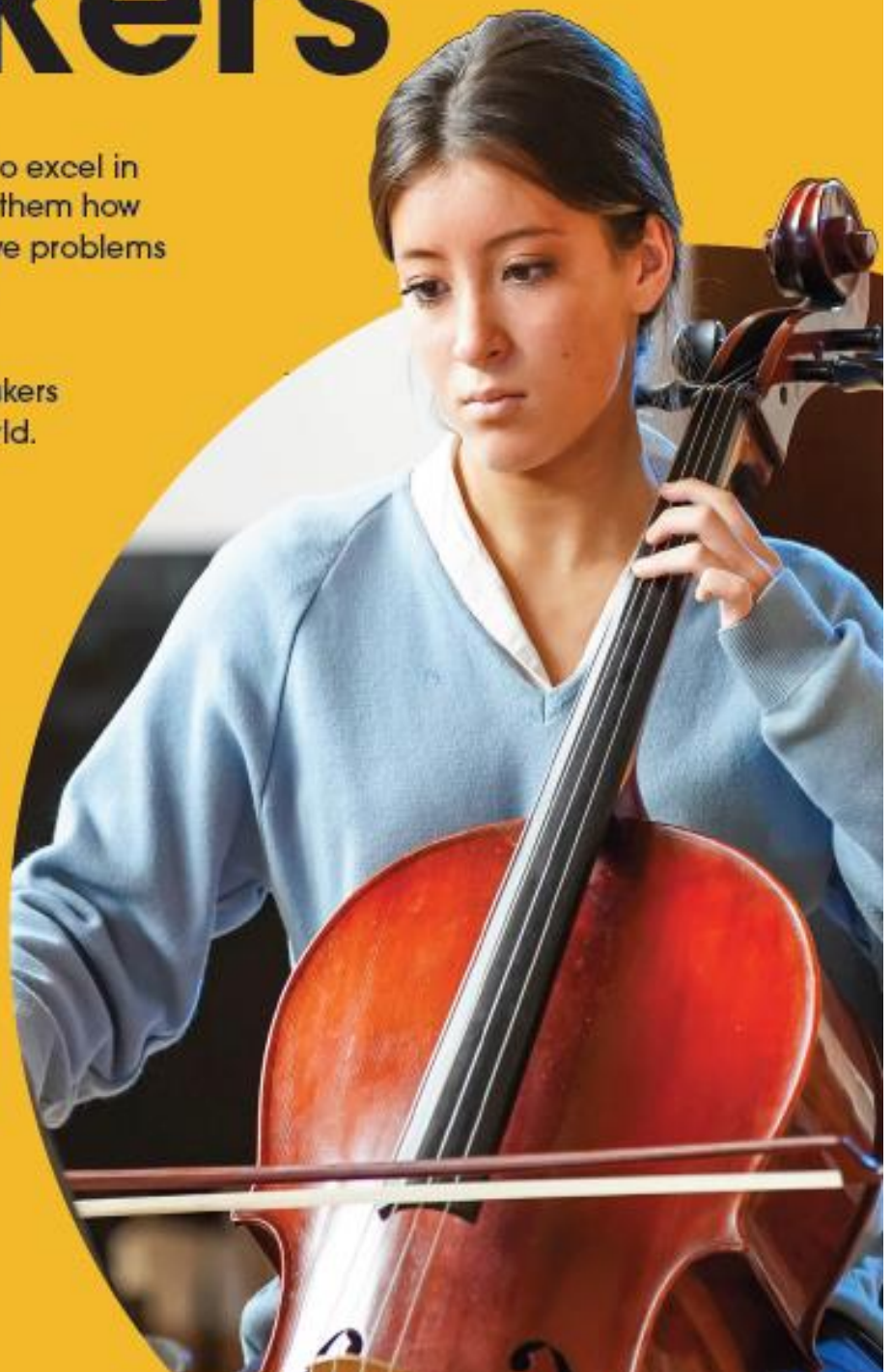
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## Our Young Musician of the Year Performers

### **Your announcer: Mr Adrian Boynton**

Vice President of the Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts for Dance, Music and Drama

### **Yiding Wang – Piano**

*Haydn – Sonata in B Minor*

*Chopin – Mazurka in A Minor Op 68 No 2    Norton – New Kid*

Yiding is 11 years old and grew up in Milton Keynes. He recently moved to Oxford to attend Magdalen College School. He started playing the piano at age 5 and took up the organ in 2022, learning both under the guidance of Adrian Boynton. He has always nurtured an insatiable curiosity and an unwavering passion for music. This led him to achieve distinctions in all his ABRSM piano exams. In 2023, he achieved a high distinction in ABRSM Grade 4 organ. This year marks his fourth participation in Milton Keynes Festival, at which, over the years, he has won 4 gold, 10 silver, and 9 bronze medals. Under Adrian's guidance, he actively contributes to local church concerts, showcasing his piano skills. Last year, he began learning the cello at Magdalen College School with Mr. Simon Trentham. He is passionate about composing and dreams of becoming a great film composer like Hans Zimmer and John Williams. Music is his joy, and he is excited about every possibility ahead.

### **Sean Lau - Violin**

*Fauré – Andante in B Flat Op 75*

*Kreisler – Praeludium and Allegro*

Sean has been playing violin since the age of five. He is now 11 years old and currently learning violin with Juliet Hughes-Rees in the Royal College of Music Junior Department. Immersed in his musical pursuits, Sean finds joy in playing with the string orchestra and chamber music. In 2022, he got the Janet Tinbergen Memorial Award in the String Recital Classes at the Oxford Music Festival. In 2023, he had been awarded with the Junior Strings Challenge Cup at the Sutton Music Festival. Sean's enthusiasm and unwavering passion for playing the violin shine through in his performances.

### **Mason Huo - Piano**

*Tchaikovsky – Juin from The Seasons*

*Beethoven – Pathetique 1<sup>st</sup> Movement*

Mason has played piano since age of 6, taught by Carol Evans. He is currently working towards his piano diploma exam, under guidance of Ben Andrews. Mason is a year 9 student in Northampton School for Boys. Mason also plays French Horn. Mason enjoys solo, as well as taking part in ensembles and bands. He is an active member of school and county bands, ensembles, and Northampton County Training Orchestra.

### **Evie Cooper - Violin**

*Beethoven – Romance in F Major*

*Bruch – Concerto No11st Movt (cut)*

Evie has been learning the violin since the age of 5. She is currently in Year 10 at The Latymer School. Evie studies violin with Charles Sewart at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama junior department and has been studying viola with Jacky Woods from the age of 9. Evie has been a national member of NCO between 2020-2023 and has enjoyed taking part in a variety of music courses including NSSO, Arpeggione and NYO Inspire, among others. Evie is particularly passionate about chamber music and plays both violin and viola in multiple ensembles, including a quartet at J & A Beare. She aspires to a future career in music.

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## **Matias Yung – Piano and ‘Cello**

*Brahms – Capriccio Op 76 No 1*

*Davidoff – At The Fountain*

Matias is 16 years old and is currently learning piano under the tuition of Mrs Maia Griffin. He is also a cellist and studies cello with Ms Selma Gokcen in the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He is currently working towards his diploma for both instruments. Driven by his character he is an active musician who always engages himself in a variety of music activities. He played in the National Children Orchestra and chamber music in various cello events and summer courses. Apart from playing solo he is also an accompanist for the school choir and his sister and friends in their strings performances. He intends to make a full-time career as a musician.

## **Reeka Chanelle Manglicmot – Violin and Piano**

*Wieniawski – Légende*

*Debussy – Rêverie*

Reeka Chanelle Manglicmot was born in London in June 2009. At the age of five, she began piano lessons with Karen Newby. She won her first competition at the Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts after just one year. At the age of seven, Reeka started receiving violin lessons from Karen as well. However, due to the pandemic, her sister Reese took over as her teacher for both instruments. While continuing piano lessons with her sister, Reeka started taking violin lessons from Enrico Alvares, whose guidance helped her be accepted into the Purcell School in 2022. Since then she has been playing the violin as her primary instrument under Dr Tanja Goldberg, taking piano as a second study under Debbie Shah. She also enjoys jazz / pop-commercial singing as her third study under Jacqui Hicks. Recently she has performed in the Purcell Symphony and Middle School Orchestra, as well as played in a string quartet in an external concert. She is currently preparing to participate in the New Virtuosi Violin Mastercourse.

## **Waika Hagan Chu - Piano**

*Chopin – Nocturne Op 15 No 1*

*Piazzolla – Suite para Piano Op 2*

Hagan has been playing the piano since he was 5, showing an interest in the instrument as he grew up. He is currently in Year 9. He was under the guidance of Yano Siu, piano teacher in Hong Kong for 6 years until September 2020, where he moved to England. Now, he is preparing for his diploma exam with Miss Iris Chan, his current piano teacher. He has completed various piano competitions in Hong Kong and the UK. They include 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up in the Hong Kong International Music Arts Festival 2022 Global Final, the Bangkok International Music Competition, which he was awarded second place.

## **Guest Performances**

### **Victoria Letsman – Piano**

*Rachmaninoff – Elegie*

*Schmitz – A Run Of The Keys*

### **Hope Dionisio-Sagau – Milton Keynes Young Singer of the Year 2024**

*Durante – Danza Danza*    *Lloyd Webber / Rice – Don't Cry For Me Argentina*

## **The Future of Milton Keynes Music and Drama Festivals**

This is Pat Haig's last festival as organiser of the Speech and Drama and Music Festivals. Having organised and built up the festival over the last 20 years, supported by a fantastic team of volunteers, and having moved to live in Lincolnshire in 2022, Pat hopes that someone, or several people, will come forward to take the reins and continue to give this fabulous festival opportunity to more adults and children in the years to come. The festival is divided into 4 distinct sections: speech and drama / piano / instrumental and orchestras / singing and Pat is happy to give training and support to a new incumbent(s). Please email Pat Haig if you would like more information on [pathaig@me.com](mailto:pathaig@me.com)





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Their syllabus will be uploaded to their website:

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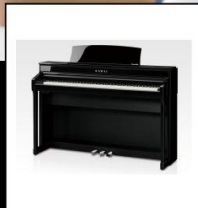
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