



Mayfield Festival
of Music and the Arts

Spring 2017
NEWSLETTER



Tunbridge Wells
International Music Competition
at Mayfield Festival

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A message from our Chairman

Things are looking good! It is just a year till the next Competition. This will be held in Mayfield School which provided such a wonderful setting in 2016. The Competition will again be integrated with the Mayfield Festival which will run 29th April- 13th May 2018. Please make sure to note the dates for the Competition if you have not already done so:-

2nd - 6th May 2018

Work gathers pace to ensure that the reputation of the Competition continues to grow. It is the quality of the judges which attracts competitors of the highest calibre from around the world and we are already able to announce the names of four internationally acclaimed musicians who have agreed to serve in 2018:-

Levon Chilingirian, violin George Caird, oboe

Michael Collins, clarinet Stephen Kovacevich, piano

Levon and George return as old friends and Michael as a past TWIYCA winner. Levon, as lead judge, and our Musical Director, Jeremy Summerly, are confident that they will be able to announce the names of the two remaining judges shortly.

We are delighted to have confirmation that our three 2018 Section winners will be giving lunch time recitals at St Martin-in-the-Fields in the autumn or early spring 2019 and they will also be offered several other performing opportunities in this area as in previous years.

Barry Miller 1942-2017

With deep regret we announce the sudden death on 9th March of Barry Miller who was a long time supporter of the Competition. He was instrumental in modernising and updating the records and administration while serving as Entries Co-ordinator, 2002-2008 and became a Friend when we set up our new organisation. He also played a key role in resolving the long-running dispute with CODA over the ownership of the Yamaha grand piano which used to be at Kent College. I know he spent many hours on this matter, and we shall always be grateful to him and to our Financial Director, Tom Guy, for negotiating this sad matter to a satisfactory conclusion. We send our condolences to Katrina, his widow, their two children and granddaughters.

Chris Storr, Chairman

News of Past Competition winners

It is always thrilling to watch the progress made by past Competition winners as they develop their careers as solo performers. Here is news of some of them:-

Savitri Grier *violin* the Competition winner in 2010 and Alexander Ullman *piano* the 2012 winner, have both given recent lunchtime recitals to large audiences at the Wigmore Hall [Alexander got five curtain calls!].

Alexander has also paid a recent return visit to the Sutton Valence Music Club.

Marina Koka *piano* who was the winner in 2014 played Mozart's Piano Concerto no.22 with the Tonbridge Philharmonic Orchestra to a full house at Tonbridge School chapel in March.

Amalia Hall *violin* winner in 2016, has been offered a concerto opportunity with the Primavera Chamber Orchestra at the next Mayfield Festival. Till then, Amalia is back in her own country, New Zealand, where for the current year she is contracted as violin/viola lecturer at the University of Waikato and has recently also taken up an appointment as concertmaster with Orchestra Wellington.

Dominic Degavino *piano* section winner 2016 is now studying at the Guildhall in London and recently won the Keyboard Section of the Royal Overseas League Competition. He goes through to the grand final in June- and will be playing at the ROSL in Edinburgh during the Festival in August.

Please do search the Internet for news of past competitors whom you remember. So many of them are clearly reaching success as their names appear on the national and even international stage. We know how much dedication, effort and sacrifice has to be invested to achieve this success and hope to do all we can to continue the mission of the Competition to contribute to the future of classical music by supporting the young musicians of today.

Fund Raising

We would like to thank all who supported the soirée held at the home of Mary Anderson and Harry Trusted in February when the Wind Section and Audience Prize winner 2016, Matthew Higham, gave an exhilarating flute recital at which over £1,000 was raised for the Competition.

Future Events

Please [see the flier](#) for a relaxed summer afternoon tea party in the garden [alternative arrangements will be in place for inclement weather] on Saturday, 24th June with the opportunity to hear Guy Boursot give a fascinating Wine Tasting talk on wines including Champagne, a subject on which many will know he is a real authority. Those who have heard Guy before will know that this will be an entertaining, informative and fun afternoon. Places will be limited- so do apply early if you would like to come.

Looking further ahead, please also make a note in your diary that there will be another soirée at Manor Grange on 24th February 2018 when **Dominic Devagino** has agreed to play for us.

Other forthcoming local Recitals

Tanja Roos, *violin* finalist in 2016 will be giving a recital for Crowborough Arts on the evening of 29th July 2017, full details of which can be found on the [flier](#). Although this is not a Competition event, Angela Quinn who hosts the event will be promoting the Competition and will reserve a limited number of seats for Friends of the Competition.

Matthew Higham has been invited give a flute recital at the Rye Arts Festival 16th-30th September 2017 and will play the Neilson concerto with the Tonbridge Philharmonic Orchestra in 2018. Full details to follow.

Support the Competition by becoming a Friend or Patron

Please consider joining us as a Friend or Patron if you have not already done so. Our Friends and Patrons scheme offers the Competition ongoing support and is invaluable in allowing us to plan ahead for future years. You can choose your level of support, from a minimum of £25 per year for a Friend, £100 per year for a Silver Patron through to £250 per year for a Gold Patron or £1,000 per year for Diamond Patrons. Each level entitles you to increased benefits from priority booking through to discounts for tickets for Competition events. Patrons can choose to be anonymous or to be credited in the Competition programme. If you are interested please contact our Friends Secretary, Mary Anderson (friends@twiyca.org or 07896 532194). She will be happy to discuss the options and to welcome you to the scheme.

And last but not least...

Accommodation in the homes of local supporters is one of the characteristics of our Competition which competitors say they most appreciate- and it is a very rewarding experience for their hosts, too! Please do let us know if you are able to offer B/B during the Competition. We are also seeking a volunteer to help coordinate this accommodation- so please get in touch with Mary Anderson as above or Kate Sander on 01892 527315 or ksander2008@googlemail.com if you would like to help and are keen to learn more.