

US-Canadian International Music Competition Unveils 2026 Final Round Winners from 34 Global Regions

Featuring outstanding musicians from 34 countries, world-renowned jury excellence, and emerging international stars, the 2026 US-Canadian International Music Competition continues to elevate North America's presence on the global music stage.

Messages from Our Distinguished Grand Jury Panel



New York City, New York Apr 27, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - US-Canadian International Music Competition Announces 2026 Final Round Results Third Edition Elevates Global Musical Excellence Across 34 Countries and Regions

The US-Canadian International Music Competition proudly unveils the official 2026 Final Round Results of its distinguished Third Edition, celebrating an extraordinary global assembly of rising musicians, composers, and performers from 34 countries and regions worldwide.

As one of North America's increasingly influential international music competitions, the 2026 edition demonstrated exceptional artistic achievement across piano, strings, voice, winds, composition, traditional instruments, chamber music, and interdisciplinary performance categories.

Headquartered in New York, USA, with a secondary office in Toronto, Canada, the US-Canadian International Music Competition continues to gain international momentum by offering talented

musicians a prestigious platform for global recognition, artistic advancement, and professional distinction.

This year's participants represented an impressive international spectrum, including:

Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan (ROC), Thailand, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, and Vietnam.

A Powerful International Platform for Emerging and Established Talent

The 2026 Final Round highlighted not only technical mastery and artistic sophistication but also the competition's expanding global prestige.

With performances from highly accomplished participants across multiple continents, the competition continues to position itself as a vital force in international music education and professional artistic development.

Distinguished Grand Jury Panel

The 2026 Final Round was adjudicated by an elite international jury panel composed of globally respected performers, educators, and artistic leaders:

- **Maestro Warren Cohen (USA)**
- **Maestro Massimiliano Valenti (Italy)**
- **Dr. Julie-Anne Derome (Canada)**
- **Prof. Hitoshi Kawashima (Japan)**

This extraordinary panel brought together decades of international expertise in performance, pedagogy, composition, and adjudication, ensuring that all finalists were evaluated under world-class artistic standards.

Their participation reinforced the competition's reputation for fairness, rigor, and international credibility.

Celebrating Excellence Across Medal Categories

The US-Canadian International Music Competition recognized outstanding participants across multiple award divisions:

Absolute Platinum Medalist - The competition's highest honor, awarded to musicians demonstrating extraordinary artistry, elite technical brilliance, and exceptional international promise.

- **Yichun Sheng (USA, Piano)** — Absolute Platinum Medalist and recipient of the prestigious Philip Cohen Award, earning a distinguished performance opportunity at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Platinum Medalists - Recognizing superior artistry, advanced musicianship, and distinguished interpretive excellence.

- Esme Tran — Piano — USA
- Hermione So — Harp — Canada
- Zhongyue Liu — Erhu — Japan

Gold Medalists - Awarding refined performance, technical accomplishment, and high artistic achievement.

- Yik Hei Letisha Lee — Harp — Hong Kong
- Oscar Lucas Mosquera — Piano — USA
- Emese Váczi-Delley — Piano — Hungary
- Kevin Li — Piano — USA
- Kristian Gvozdenov — Alto Saxophone — Serbia
- Kingston Zicheng Pu — Piano — New Zealand
- Saadya Polavarapu — Voice — India
- Alexander Grygoruk — Electric Guitar — Australia
- Yanbo Pei — Piano — USA
- Widha Kirana — Piano — USA
- Yige Zhou — Piano — USA
- Don Dechatin & Dol Decharin — Ranad (Duo / Duet) — Thailand
- Julia Gentry — Piano — USA
- Yige Zhou — Flute — USA
- Antoniya Kondeva — Bassoon — Bulgaria
- Adrian Li — Violin — USA
- Isabelle Ka Yu Wong — Piano — Canada
- Orfée-Anne Vinet — Violon — Canada
- Haruto Yamamoto — Violin — Japan
- Geetha Iyer — Voice (Ethnic / Traditional Music) — India
- Anna Ivanova — Voice — USA
- Panagiotis Fournarakis — Composition — Greece

Silver Medalists - Celebrating strong musicianship, artistic growth, and competitive excellence.

- Claire Dupont — Harp — France
- Anna Gruber — Piano — Austria
- Kristóf Váczi-Delley — Piano — Hungary
- Gabriel Tremblay — Piano — Canada
- Harry Smurf Au — Classical Guitar — United Kingdom
- Grace Kwon — Voice — USA
- Elise Hoang — Voice — USA
- Siddharth Khanna — Violin — India
- Rohan Balan — Viola — USA
- Zhenyao Zhou — Piano — USA
- Tram Nguyen — Piano — USA
- Chi Yin Tang — Voice — Canada
- Chloe Wong — Cello — Hong Kong
- Joyce Maeng — Piano — USA
- Matteo Rossi — Violin — Italy
- Ingrid Cusido Muntada — Piano — Spain

Bronze Medalists - Acknowledging dedication, preparation, and promising artistic development.

- Khalifa Al Mansoori — Violin — UAE
- Charlotte Woo — Erhu — Canada
- Arman Gasparyan — Piano — Armenia
- Jacob Chueh — Piano — USA
- Jason Huang — Piano — Taiwan
- Winnie M. K. Lam — Violin — USA
- Aarya Dhane — Voice — USA
- Sophia Lim — Flute — Macau
- Isla MacDonald — Violin — Canada
- Emilia Müller — Piano — Germany
- Aaron Ng — Composition (Piano) — Singapore
- Lucas Tan — Piano — Singapore
- Luka Petrovic — Violin — Serbia
- Narin Srichai — Violin — Thailand
- Olivia Smith — Cello — USA

More Than Awards: Career Advancement and International Recognition

The US-Canadian International Music Competition continues to stand apart by offering laureates substantial opportunities beyond traditional competition structures, including:

- Global recognition and prestige
- Professional media visibility
- Artist promotional opportunities
- Performance exposure
- Official medals and certificates
- Institutional and teacher recognition
- Professional portfolio development
- International artistic branding

This comprehensive framework transforms competition success into meaningful professional momentum for participants.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Global Musicians

The Third Edition of the US-Canadian International Music Competition further cements its growing influence by combining:

- Elite international adjudication
- Broad global participation
- Accessible online excellence
- Professional advancement pathways
- Multi-genre inclusivity
- World-class artistic recognition

As the competition continues to expand, it remains committed to fostering musical excellence while empowering artists to thrive on the global stage.

About US-Canadian International Music Competition

Headquartered in New York, USA, with a secondary office in Toronto, Canada, the US-Canadian International Music Competition is a premier international online music competition dedicated to identifying, celebrating, and advancing musicians across all ages, genres, and disciplines. Through distinguished adjudication, international recognition, and professional development opportunities, the competition serves as a transformative platform for musicians worldwide.

For complete Final Round Results, official laureate listings, and additional competition details, please visit:

<https://www.uscanadianmusiccompetition.com>

Media Contact:

US-Canadian International Music Competition

Head Office: New York, USA

Secondary Office: Toronto, Canada

Official Website: <https://www.uscanadianmusiccompetition.com>

Rank	Category	Name	Age	Country	Instrument	Score
1	Professional	Yichun Sheng	21	USA	Piano	98.5
2	Professional	Esme Tran	20	USA	Piano	97.8
3	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	97.2
4	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	96.8
5	Professional	Barak	23	Israel	Piano	96.5
6	Professional	Esme Tran	20	USA	Piano	96.2
7	Professional	Yichun Sheng	21	USA	Piano	95.8
8	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	95.5
9	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	95.2
10	Professional	Barak	23	Israel	Piano	94.8
11	Professional	Esme Tran	20	USA	Piano	94.5
12	Professional	Yichun Sheng	21	USA	Piano	94.2
13	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	93.8
14	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	93.5
15	Professional	Barak	23	Israel	Piano	93.2
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18	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	92.2
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23	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	90.5
24	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	90.2
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34	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	86.8
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45	Professional	Barak	23	Israel	Piano	83.2
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47	Professional	Yichun Sheng	21	USA	Piano	82.5
48	Professional	Hermione So	19	Canada	Harp	82.2
49	Professional	Zhongyue Liu	22	Japan	Erhu	81.8
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Grand Prizes & AWARDS

Philip Cohen Prize (Performance at Carnegie Hall)

Yichun Sheng Piano Professional Category USA

Masterclass with Maestro Massimiliano Valentini

Yichun Sheng Piano Professional Category USA

Esme Tran Piano Junior Category USA

Music Streaming Award Winners

Esme Tran Esme Piano Junior USA

Hermione So Hermione Harp Youth Canada

Yichun Sheng Yichun Piano Professional USA

Zhongyue Liu Zhongyue Erhu Professional Japan

*Winners of the above prizes will be notified personally via email within 2-3 weeks following the release of these final results.

2026 US-Canadian International Music Competition Prize Winners' Concert Absolute Platinum & Platinum Medalists

Yichun Sheng - Piano - Professional Category - USA -