

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Monday, April 14, 2025 at 5:00 pm

AGENDA

| ٠ | Call to Order and Remarks | 5:00-5:05 pm |
|---|--|---|
| | Linda McDonald, Chair, Board of Directors | |
| | Consent Agenda - February Board meeting mir | nutes, 2025 Calendar of Events, Financial |
| | Reports, Committee Reports from Education ar | nd Community Engagement, |
| | Development, and Audience committees | |
| | Approval of consent agenda. | |
| • | Staff Reports | 5:05-5:25 pm |
| | Marissa Moore, Executive Director | |
| | Ryan Ireland, Marketing & Communications Marketing | nager |
| ٠ | Finance Committee | 5:25-5:30 pm |
| | Robin Baum and Cynthia Resch, Co-Chairs | |
| • | Governance Committee | 5:30-5:35 pm |
| | Ce Sinclair, Chair | |
| | o Vote on Jill Clark to join Governance Committe | e. |
| • | Development Committee | 5:35-5:45 pm |
| | John Herman and Paul Sequeira, Co-Chairs | |
| | Chris Fornadel, Director of Philanthropy & Marl | keting |
| • | Unfinished Business | 5:45-5:50 pm |
| • | New Business | 5:50-5:55 pm |
| • | Adjourn | 6:00 pm |
| _ | - | |
| | | |
| | Take Home Tric | |

- 1. **Piano Days tickets are on sale**! We are so excited to welcome an amazing roster of artists, including the kickoff gala performance of The 5 Browns. Check out our website for information and videos of each artist.
- 2. Our annual International Piano Day was a success, raising \$14,205.84! Thank you to **Kathy Coleman** for offering a generous \$10,000 match.
- 3. Coming off of a wonderful Arts Alive performance, Education and Community Lead Emily Shelley has a busy spring! She has brought our English curriculumintegrated Keys To Read program to two schools already this fall, with an additional presentation scheduled at Akron's I PROMISE school. Plus, PianoLab students at Paul L. Dunbar will perform their Spring Showcase Recital on April 24 at 4 PM. Board members are welcome to attend by letting Emily know.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 9TH

Piano Cleveland Board of Directors Meeting February 10, 2025 5:00 pm 20600 Chagrin Boulevard, Shaker Heights OH, 44122

Attendance: Jeff Weiler, Bonnie Ivancic, David Reimer, Dan Gisser, Rick Stuhan, Debbie Neale, Cindy Resch, Linda McDonald, Steve Gariepy, Herb Wainer, Robin Baum, Sarah Baley, Zeda Blau, Astri Seidenfeld, Catherine Bruhlport, Beth Rankin, Craig Mosier, Eric Barbato, David Freno, Yaron Kohlberg, John Herman, Ted Good, Teresa Good, Peggy Demitrack, Paul Sequeira, Sam Chaffee, Chris Fornadel, Marissa Moore, Kristina Tabler-Nemeth

Linda McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:04. The Consent Agenda was different tonight. It included updated minutes from the November Annual Meeting and minutes from the December 9 special meeting. It also included a Financial Committee report and an AI Safe Use Policy. Both minutes were approved and reports were accepted unanimously.

The HR Committee has met and Linda updated the board on some changes that have been made. Both Yaron and Marissa suggested and agreed that Marissa will be the Executive Director with more responsibilities and Yaron will be the Artistic Director. This will allow more time for Yaron to travel to spread our word internationally and perform.

Piano Cleveland's new Administrative and Philanthropy Associate, Kristina Tabler-Nemeth, was introduced to the board. Kristina comes to us with many years of experience having come from the office of the Dean of Music at Baldwin Wallace University.

Sadly our long time and very involved board member Lee Maxwell has passed away. There will be a celebration of life on March 8 at 1:00 at DeJohn-Flynn-Mylott Funeral Home in South Euclid.

Since Yaron was virtual today Marissa will give the 2025 presentation and Yaron will give the 2026 presentation. Marissa then gave an extremely informative presentation of everything that has been planned for Piano Cleveland in the coming year and beyond with many interesting thoughts that came from discussions of where we are going and what their thinking is.

Kristina will email Marissa's presentation to every board member after today's meeting as descriptions alone cannot properly inform you of the exciting plans in store for Piano Cleveland. You can then rewatch it.

Chris then reported on the upcoming Florida receptions in two weeks. The Naples event has already reached its capacity. The other two still have availability at this point. The sponsorship documents are going out. There will only be 500 seats available and we are expecting a sell out.

Robin Baum discussed our finances. We are doing well with a \$1,428,000 endowment and are 12-1/2% over previous. We were able to distribute stiff bonuses to the staff.

Under new business we discussed the formation of an AI task force. It will be comprised of Linda McDonald, Ryan Ireland, John Knific and Dan Gisser. We talked about copywrite issues and our general policy of using AI. Nothing will be totally AI as everything will pass through human being minds also. We are fortunate that Dan and John have experience using AI in their work.

Upcoming events were announced with a special reminder to donate for our fundraiser for Piano Day on March 29, the 88th day of the year matching the 88 keys on the piano. We are extremely fortunate again because Kathy Coleman will be matching all donations if we raise \$10,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Ivancic

2025 BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

| JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH | APRIL |
|---|--|--|--|
| Jan. 13: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM Jan. 13: Executive Committee, 5:00 PM Jan. 15: Education Committee, 12:00 PM Jan. 15: Investment Committee, 3:30 PM Jan. 20: Development Committee, 5:00 PM Jan. 29: Finance Committee, 3:30 PM | Feb. 5: Piano Cleveland Live with Arseniy Gusev and Shannon Lee at Forest City Brewery Feb. 10: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM Feb. 10: Board of Directors, 5:00 PM Feb 25: Florida Event (Sarasota), Home of Howard and Susan Levine, 5:00 PM Feb. 26: Florida Event (Naples), Home of Katheleen Van Bergen, 5:30 PM | Mar. 1: Florida Event (Boca del Ray), Addison Club, 11:00 AM Mar. 2: Florida Event (Palm Beach Gardens), Old Palm Golf Club, 11:00 AM Mar. 4: CMA Lunchtime Concert with Toke Møldrup (cello) and Y. Kohlberg, 12:00 PM Mar. 10: Governance Committee, 5:00 PM Mar. 10: Executive Committee, 5:00 PM Mar. 19: Arts Alive: Partnership performance with Cleveland School of the Arts Mar. 24: Development Committee, 5:00 PM | Apr. 14: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM Apr. 14: Board of Directors, 5:00 PM Apr. 15: CMA Lunchtime Concert with Zhu Wang, 12:00 PM Apr. 16: Education Committee, 12:00 PM Apr. 16: Investment Committee, 2:30 PM Apr. 16: Piano Cleveland Live at Hofbrauhaus, 6:00 PM Apr. 30: Finance Committee, 3:30 PM |
| MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST |
| May 5: Development Committee, 5:00 PM May 12: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM May 12: Executive Committee, 5:00 PM May 13: CMA Lunchtime Concert with Daniela Liebman, 12:00 PM May 14: Piano Cleveland Live at BrewDog | June 9: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM June 9: Board of Directors, 5:00 PM | July 7: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM July 7: Executive Committee, 5:00 PM July 11: Piano Cleveland Live at Crocker Park, 6:30 PM July 14: Development Committee, 5:00 PM July 16: Education Committee, 12:00 PM July 16: Investment Committee, 3:30 PM Piano Festival July 20: Gala with The Five Browns July 22: Utsav Lal July 24: Mirabelle Kajenjeri solo recital July 26: Blkbok July 31: Kotaro Fukuma solo recital | Aug. 2: Natalie Tenenbaum Aug. 20: Finance Committee, 3:30 PM |
| SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
| Sept. 8: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM Sept. 8: Board of Directors, 5:00 PM Sept. 15: Development Committee, 5:00 PM | Oct. 15: Education Committee, 12:00 PM Oct. 15: Investment Committee, 3:30 PM Oct. 15: James (Zijian) Wei, CIM Residency Recital, 7:30 PM Oct. 20: Governance Committee, 3:30 PM Oct. 20: Executive Committee, 5:00 PM Oct. 26: James (Zijian) Wei, Carnegie Hall Debut, 3:00 PM | Nov. 3: Development Committee, 5:00 PM Nov. 5: Finance Committee, 3:30 PM Nov. 10: Governance Committee (TENT), 3:30 PM Nov. 10: Annual Meeting, 5:00 PM | |

| | 2025 Budget | 2025 YTD @ 3/31/25 | 2025 bud, 2026, 2027 Total |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Contributions | | | |
| Underwriting | | - | - |
| Foundations | 300,000 | 85,000 | 300,000 |
| Board Minimum | 72000 | 15,000 | 72,000 |
| Board Beyond Min | 160000 | 73,208 | 160,000 |
| Individuals | 250,000 | 153,145 | 250,000 |
| Prizes | | 10,000 | - |
| Artist Development | | | - |
| Government Sources | 69000 | 58,031 | 69,000 |
| Covid-related | | | - |
| Corporation | 14150 | - | 14,150 |
| In-Kind | 14,000 | | 14,000 |
| Endowment Dist'n Unrestricted | 22319 | 22,297 | 22,319 |
| Endowment Dist'n Prizes | | - | - |
| Endowment Dist'n Young Artists + | | | - |
| Total Contributions | 901,469 | 416,681 | 901,469 |
| | | | - |
| Other Income | | | - |
| Camp Income | | | - |
| Gala Income | 450000 | 48,104 | 450,000 |
| NY Debut Packages | | | - |
| Sponsorships | 20000 | - | 20,000 |
| Application Fees | 55000 | | 55,000 |
| Box Office | 75000 | - | 75,000 |
| Arts Connect | | 350 | - |
| Concerts and Events | | | - |
| Management Fee | 5000 | - | 5,000 |
| Miscellaneous | | - | - |
| Retail Sales | | - | - |
| Virtualoso box office | | | - |
| Interest Income | 12000 | 1,867 | 12,000 |
| Total Other Income | 617,000 | 50,321 | 617,000 |
| | | | - |
| Total Income | 1,518,469 | 467,002 | 1,518,469 |
| | | | - |
| Expense | | | - |
| Virtualoso Costs | | | _ |

| | | | - | |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | get | 0 | . ト |
| | | Bud | YTD 25 | bud, 202 |
| | | 2025 Budget | 2025 YTD 3/31/25 | 2025 bud, 2026, 2027 Total |
| CIPC | C Production Costs | N | <u>%</u> 7 | <u> </u> |
| | Artist Development | | 5,575 | _ |
| | · · | | 0,070 | |
| | Audio & Video services | | - | - |
| | Guest Artists | | | - |
| | Contestant Costs | | - | - |
| | Institute Housing | | | - |
| | In Kind expense | | | - |
| | Jury Costs | | - | - |
| | Opening Ceremonies | | - | - |
| | Orchestra/Conductor | | - | - |
| | Finals Streaming | | _ | _ |
| | Other Competition Prod. Costs | | _ | |
| | Practice Space | | _ | |
| | | | - | - |
| | Prizes, Cash | | - | - |
| | ARTIST DEVELOPMENT | | | - |
| | Quartet/Chamber | | _ | - |
| | Selection Process | | - | - |
| | Social Competiton Events | | _ | - |
| | Ticket Expense | | _ | - |
| | Transcriptions | | _ | - |
| | Venue & Valet Costs | | _ | - |
| | Winners Expense | 1,500 | _ | 1,500 |
| | Paris | 1,000 | _ | - |
| Tota | l CIPC Production Costs | 1,500 | 5,575 | 1,500 |
| | | | | - |
| Offic | ce Costs | | | - |
| | Interest expense - Capital Lease | | | - |
| | Bad Debt Expense | | | - |
| | Office Rental, Utilities | 46000 | 11,707 | 46,000 |
| | Equipment & Supplies | 30000 | 10,346 | 30,000 |
| | Insurance | 9600 | 2,190 | 9,600 |
| | Federation & Other Dues | 7000 | 3,269 | 7,000 |

| | 2025 Budget | 2025 YTD @ 3/31/25 | 2025 bud, 2026, 2027 Total |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Credit Card Fees | 14500 | 605 | 14,500 |
| Interest on PNC LOC | 0 | | - |
| Bank Fees | 3000 | 577 | 3,000 |
| Miscellaneous | | - | - |
| Parking | 500 | 80 | 500 |
| Depreciation Expense | 14000 | | 14,000 |
| Total Office Costs | 124,600 | 28,774 | 124,600 |
| | | | - |
| Payroll & Professional Fees | | | - |
| Administrative Salaries & Wages | 610,000 | 165,387 | 610,000 |
| Bonuses | | | - |
| ArtsConnect Artist Fee | | - | - |
| Independent Contractors | 3000 | 2,500 | 3,000 |
| Accounting | 25000 | - | 25,000 |
| Payroll Taxes | 42000 | 11,205 | 42,000 |
| Benefits | 18300 | 4,690 | 18,300 |
| Health Insurance | 19872 | 10,851 | 19,872 |
| Payroll Service Fees | 2400 | 1,456 | 2,400 |
| Legal Fees | 500 | 1,572 | 500 |
| Staff Education | 10000 | 448 | 10,000 |
| Total Payroll & Professional Fees | 731,072 | 198,109 | 731,072 |
| Promotional | | | - |
| Advertising | 100000 | 17,719 | 100,000 |
| Print & Design | 80000 | 15,451 | 80,000 |
| Web Related | 20000 | 3,901 | 20,000 |
| Postage | 3700 | 1,369 | 3,700 |
| Travel | 10000 | 4,235 | 10,000 |
| Hospitality | 9000 | 2,447 | 9,000 |
| Other Promotional | 0 | | - |
| Total Promotional | 222,700 | 45,122 | 222,700 |
| Non Competition Experses | | | - |
| Non-Competition Expenses | | | - |
| Camp Costs | 40000 | 40 500 | - |
| Fundraising costs | 13000 | 10,533 | 13,000 |
| Festival | 120000 | 15,100 | 120,000 |
| Gala Costs | 150000 | 60,482 | 150,000 |

| So St Total No Young A 1 Au 2 Cl 3 Cu 3 Cu 4 G 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | etail for Resale ocial Events trrategic Planning on-Competition Expenses Artists CIPC Production Costs | 10000 430,000 | 1,538 | - 10,000 |
|---|--|------------------|---------|-------------|
| Young A 1 Au 2 Cl 3 Cu 4 Gi 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | Artists CIPC Production Costs | 430,000 | | - |
| 1 Au 2 Cl 3 Cl 4 Gl 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | | | 141,151 | 430,000 |
| 2 C 3 C 4 G 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | | | | - |
| 3 C 4 G 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | udio & Video Services | | | - |
| 4 G 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | hamber | | | - |
| 5 In 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | ontestant Costs | | | - |
| 6 Ju 7 O 8 Pr | uest Artists | | | - |
| 7 O 8 Pr | istitute Housing Iry Costs | | | - |
| 8 Pr | rchestra/Conductor | | | - |
| | rizes expense | | | - |
| | election Process | | | |
| | ocial Competition Events | | | |
| | cket Expense | | | - |
| | ranscriptions | | | |
| | uning and Medals | | | |
| | enue & Valet Costs | | | - |
| Total Yo | oung Artists CIPC Production Costs | | - | - |
| Total Ex | (pense | 1,509,872 | 418,731 | 1,509,872 |
| Net Inc | ome | 8,597 | 48,271 | 8,597 |
| В | onus pool based on 3-yr net | | | |

12:36 PM

04/10/25

Accrual Basis

Piano International Association of Northern Ohio Profit & Loss January through March 2025

| | TOTAL |
|--|--|
| Ordinary Income/Expense Income | |
| Contributions Foundations Board Giving | 85,000 |
| Board Minimum Board Beyond | 15,000 73,208 |
| Total Board Giving | 88,208 |
| Individuals Prizes | 153,145 10,000 |
| Government Sources Endowment Dist. Unrestricted | 58,031 22,297 |
| Total Contributions | 416,681 |
| Other Income Interest Income Gala Income | 1,867 48,104 |
| ArtsConnect | 350 |
| Total Other Income | 50,320 |
| Total Income | 467,002 |
| Gross Profit | 467,002 |
| Expense Competition Production Costs Artist Development | 5,575 |
| Total Competition Production Costs | 5,575 |
| Office Costs Office Rental, Utilities Equipment & Supplies Insurance Federation & Other Dues Credit Card Fees Bank Fees Parking | 11,707 10,346 2,190 3,269 605 577 80 |
| Total Office Costs | 28,772 |

12:36 PM

Piano International Association of Northern Ohio Profit & Loss

January through March 2025

| | TOTAL |
|--|----------|
| Payroll & Professional Fees | |
| Administrative Salaries & Wages | 165,387 |
| Independent Contractors | 2,500 |
| Payroll Taxes | 11,205 |
| Benefits | 4,690 |
| Health Insurance | 10,851 |
| Payroll Service Fees | 1,456 |
| Legal Fees | 1,572 |
| Staff Education | 448 |
| Total Payroll & Professional Fees | 198,108 |
| Promotional | |
| Advertising | 17,719 |
| Print & Design | 15,451 |
| Web-related | 3,901 |
| Postage | 1,369 |
| Travel | 4,235 |
| Hospitality | 2,447 |
| Total Promotional | 45,122 |
| Non-Competition Expenses | |
| Festival | 15,100 |
| Fundraising | 10,533 |
| Gala Costs | 60,482 |
| Education/Outreach | 23,960 |
| Concerts and Events | 20,218 |
| NY Debut | 9,320 |
| Social Events | 1,538 |
| Total Non-Competition Expenses | 141,151 |
| Total Expense | 418,727 |
| Net Ordinary Income | 48,274 |
| Other Income/Expense Other Income Endowment Fund Activity Distribution Unrestricted | (22,297) |
| Endowment Management Fees | (3,104) |

04/10/25 Accrual Basis 12:36 PM

04/10/25

Accrual Basis

Piano International Association of Northern Ohio Profit & Loss January through March 2025

| | TOTAL |
|---|------------------|
| Interest/Dividend Income Investment Gains & Losses | 4,350 (7,797) |
| Total Endowment Fund Activity | (28,847) |
| Total Other Income | (28,847) |
| Net Other Income | (28,847) |
| Net Income | 19,427 |

Piano International Association of Northern Ohio Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2025

| | Mar 31, 25 |
|--|--|
| ASSETS Current Assets Checking/Savings PNC Checking MM Savings Piano Lab & Restricted PayPal | 180,320 179,625 74,966 116 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 435,027 |
| Accounts Receivable Accounts Receivable Accounts Receivable Discount | 48,765 (1,210) |
| Total Accounts Receivable | 47,555 |
| Other Current Assets Undeposited Funds Prepaid Expenses | 11,057 1,131 |
| Total Other Current Assets | 12,188 |
| Total Current Assets | 494,770 |
| Fixed Assets Computer Equipment Furniture & Fixtures Office Equipment Pianos Accumulated Depreciation | 15,093 1,994 12,910 5,400 (24,849) |
| Total Fixed Assets | 10,548 |
| Other Assets ROU Asset PNC Endowment Acct Endowment - Money Market Endowment - Investments | 85,686 31,068 1,354,151 |
| Total PNC Endowment Acct | 1,385,219 |
| PNC - Prize/Young Artists Acct PNC Prize Money Acct PNC Young Artists Acct | 19,789 10,908 |
| Total PNC - Prize/Young Artists Acct | 30,697 |
| Total Other Assets | 1,501,602 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 2,006,920 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Accounts Payable Accounts Payable | 95,407 |
| Total Accounts Payable | 95,407 |
| Other Current Liabilities | 55,407 |
| ST Lease Liability | 40,976 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 40,976 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 136,383 |

Piano International Association of Northern Ohio Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2025

| | Mar 31, 25 |
|---|---------------------|
| Long Term Liabilities LT Lease Liability | 52,501 |
| Total Long Term Liabilities | 52,501 |
| Total Liabilities | 188,884 |
| Equity Net Assets Unrestricted (Deficit) Operating | 285,306 |
| Total Unrestricted (Deficit) | 285,306 |
| Temporarily Restricted Permanently Restricted | 83,097 1,122,886 |
| Total Net Assets | 1,491,289 |
| Retained Earnings Net Income | 307,319 19,427 |
| Total Equity | 1,818,036 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 2,006,920 |

Education and Community Engagement Committee Report Piano Cleveland Board of Directors April 14, 2025

The Education and Community Engagement Committee has not convened since the previous Board Meeting held on February 10. However, our second quarterly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16. Emily Shelley and Marissa Moore, in consultation with Linda McDonald, Iris Harvie, and Peggy Demitrack, have been developing a set of program evaluation rubrics, which will be the primary focus of discussion during this upcoming meeting.

In addition to rubric development, we are pleased to share several positive updates with the Board this month:

Arts Alive

Our annual collaboration with the Cleveland School of the Arts, *Arts Alive: A Space Odyssey*, was held March 17–19 at the Cleveland Museum of Art and proved to be a tremendous success. Nearly 1,000 students from 11 different schools attended the daytime performances on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the public performance on Wednesday evening drew an audience of over 350 attendees. Notably, this year's collaboration featured participation from four students in our Paul L. Dunbar PianoLab program for the first time. The students and their families expressed great enthusiasm and appreciation for the opportunity to be involved.

PianoLab

Both PianoLab programs—at the Cleveland School of the Arts and Paul L. Dunbar—continue to operate successfully and yield strong outcomes. Three students from the Paul L. Dunbar program have recently applied to receive pianos through our Piano and Keyboard Donation Program, demonstrating the effectiveness of our "pipeline" approach in cultivating sustained student engagement.

Keys Unlocked

We have submitted a grant proposal to the Nord Family Foundation to support a two-year pilot of the *Keys Unlocked* initiative. This program aims to address barriers to piano accessibility by placing pianos within Cleveland Metropolitan School District buildings, thereby fostering a culture of curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm around the piano and its musical possibilities. The proposed grant would fund the purchase and maintenance of pianos, engagement tools, and live performances in three schools over two academic years. Pending approval, the pilot program would launch in Fall 2025.

Development Committee Board Report Piano Cleveland Board of Directors meeting April 14, 2025

1. International Piano Day (March 29) - \$14,297.34 raised

This fiscal year the Annual Fund solicitation, typically made in November was moved to March to coincide with our annual International Piano Day, day of giving. Annual fund solicitations began arriving in homes on 3/19. In addition, email blasts were scheduled a week out, the day before and several times on 3/29. Although this initiative raised over \$14k the majority of these donations came through the mail. Although email open and click-through rates remained consistent with other email campaigns, few donations came in online. This is likely because IPD fell on a Saturday with good weather and recipients were less likely to participate. Next year we will adjust our solicitation to avoid the weekend.

- 2. Donor Stewardship Events The Development Committee Leadership group has scheduled stewardship events around each of our Piano Cleveland Live, Arts Alive, and Piano Days Festival performances in 2025. The goal of these special events is to recognize donors for their commitment to Piano Cleveland particularly during our 50th Anniversary. Board hosts have been identified and are being partnered with a new board members as a mentorship opportunity. Guests at these events have the opportunity to connect directly with one or more of our performers in a more intimate setting.
- 3. Overture: A Grand Brunch Piano Cleveland's annual gala is being chaired Eric Barbato and Kathleen Coleman along with Honorary chairs Iris and Tom Harvie. The event will be held at the beginning of the Piano Days Festival on Sunday, July 20th in conjunction with the opening performance by The 5 Browns. Save-the-date cards have already been sent, and individual and corporate sponsorship opportunities have been shared with all former and likely purchasers. Seating is limited at this event and the State Theatre can only accommodate 450 guests. If you are interested in securing a table please reach out to the Director of Philanthropy and Marketing, Chris Fornadel. Invitations will be mailed during the first week of May.

Audience Committee Report April 14, 2025 Board Meeting

The Audience Committee met to discuss two main topics. The first dealt with the Audience Survey done during the 2024 CIPC.

What stood out about the responses to the survey:

- It was interesting to note the different perspectives of what was expected versus what was not expected.
- Holding the whole Competition at Severance was a huge success albeit there were certain concerns about Reinberger Hall that will need addressing.
- Some didn't like having to hear the same piece twice in a row, though Piano Cleveland made adjustments to the Competition to prevent that in the Concerto Round.
- There was some interest expressed about holding an audience Q & A.

Some of our responses to the above:

- The issues at Reinberger need to be addressed since safety is the big issue. The railings are not stable and are necessary for a large portion of our audience. Marissa is in conversation with Severance Hall staff about this. We can also request more ushers or have young Piano Cleveland volunteers help with this.
- Can we have a Q&A on the YouTube channel? This would be primarily for people who watch online to give a sense of community.
- Can the audience submit questions on their phones to be answered during the intermission?
- Can we have a prearranged audience Q&A that would be publicized. This would give audience members time to prepare their questions about competitions in general and our competition in particular.
- $\circ~$ It is important to educate people about concert/competition etiquette without talking down to them.

Marissa made several suggestions going forward that we can implement:

- A "what to expect" email to audience members
- FAQ for patrons
- Why no clapping? Indicate when to clap in the program
- Adding timings of pieces to the program

It was suggested that we explore income generation on livestreaming, for example a button for viewers to donate. Perhaps connect with consulates around the world to offer viewership for their countries.

Parking issues - we should plan ahead and offer as much information as possible to patrons ahead of the concert. This could be included in the "what to expect" email.

All Piano Cleveland concerts/events should be a social occasion that also builds community. We should encourage social interaction among patrons as Chamberfest does with the ice cream evenings after concerts.

We could send patrons a follow-up email after the concert recapping what they experienced and how they can stay/become involved. We want them to know we appreciate that they came to our event.

On the "when to clap" issue: perhaps we could record a short video to explain when to clap at the kinds of concerts/competition rounds that we present. It was suggested that Hyungki Joo (former juror and comedian) record a fun, lighthearted video that would be shown before each concert.

The next meeting will be on Monday, April 28 @5PM. These meetings are open to all who are interested in Audience development.

Submitted by,

Zeda Blau