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### Piano Cleveland Announces 2026 Young Artist Institute

**CLEVELAND, OH** – Piano Cleveland has announced the return of its Cleveland International Piano Institute (CIPI), a rigorous summer training program for advanced pianists ages 13-18, taking place July 22 – August 1, 2026, hosted by the Cleveland Institute of Music. Held concurrently with the Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists, CIPI offers young pianists a unique combination of high-level artistry and educational opportunities. Participants will study with artists at the peak of their careers while interacting with some of the finest competitors in their age group from around the world. During the institute, students will receive private lessons, participate in masterclasses, and attend workshops on competition preparation, conservatory applications, and building a professional career. The CIPI emphasizes the development of each student's unique musical voice in a holistic approach to professional study and performance.

Students will study with the esteemed jury of the 2026 Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists, including Shani Diluka, Ivaro Teixeira Lopes, Matti Raekallio, Alexander Schimpf, Ilana Vered, Xiaohan Wang, and Amy Yang. Jury Chair Olga Kern will also lead a masterclass. The faculty is rounded out by Piano Cleveland Artistic Director Yaron Kohlberg, select instructors from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and more guest artists to be announced later this fall. Students will also have the unique opportunity to see piano luminary Jean-Yves Thibaudet perform the complete Debussy Preludes in recital following his public masterclass with the competition finalists.

"The fact we have Jean-Yves Thibaudet as part of this year's festivities speaks to the quality of programming we offer," says Piano Cleveland's Artistic Director, Yaron Kohlberg. "Top professionals in the field see students as more than technicians; they treat students as artists and take a wholistic approach to fostering their talent."

Applications for the institute are open until February 6, 2026. Competition applicants may be considered for the institute as part of their competition application for an additional fee by checking a box in the online application. The deadline for competition applications is December 5, 2025. Applicants are encouraged to check [pianocleveland.org](http://pianocleveland.org) for further application details, audition requirements, and deadlines.

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#### About Piano Cleveland

Piano Cleveland promotes Cleveland as a premier piano destination by presenting world-class programming, community engagement, and education initiatives. The organization's four major programs and events include the Cleveland International Piano Competition, the CIPC for Young Artists, a mixed-genre piano festival, and year-round education and community engagement programming.