

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

The Canadian Music Competition – Canimex, on the road to Drummondville

The 58th edition of the Canadian Music Competition – Canimex National Final, as well as the 2016 Stepping Stone, will be held in Drummondville. For the first time in its history—through the collaboration of Drummondville firm Canimex, the City of Drummondville, and the Maison des arts Desjardins Drummondville—, the region will play host to this prestigious musical gathering.

Information on the Competition and the Stepping Stone

Recognized as a key element of Canada’s heritage for close to 60 years, the Canadian Music Competition – Canimex is an essential step for the country’s next generation of classical musicians.

Ardour, perseverance, and discipline within life. Year after year, this is what some 500 performers of ages 7 to 30 choose to experience in signing up for the Competition. Over a period of three months, in 13 Canadian cities, these emerging artists will take part in various regional and provincial rounds before making their way to the big National Final. During this last round, over 200 young artists from across Canada will come together in Drummondville, from June 18 to July 4, 2016. *“Throughout each of the rounds, motivated by the desire to go beyond their limits, these young people will vie with virtuosity in order to win top honours in the 58th edition of the Competition. The best among them will be rewarded with a Grand Prize and the opportunity to perform as soloists at the gala concert presented in collaboration with the Orchestre symphonique de Drummondville. For the CMC team, the greatest reward is to witness the laureates’ progress and exceptional achievements throughout the process,”* stated Yolande Cardinal, President of the CMC.

The 2016 Stepping Stone will take place in Drummondville from June 12 to 20, 2016. This is a high-calibre competition intended for thirty of the finest Canadian musicians in the early stages of their careers. Through the Canada Council for the Arts’ Commissioning of Canadian Compositions program, the CMC is returning to the tradition of including a compulsory Canadian work as part of the required repertoire in 2016. This year, candidates will perform an original work by Canadian composer Simon Bertrand.

Over the years, both the Competition and the Stepping Stone have been witness to some of the best that Canadian classical music has to offer, including Marc-André Hamelin, Louis Lortie, James Ehnes, Angela Hewitt, and Drummondville native Anne-Marie Dubois.

Event Partners

A competition of this scale could not take place without the support of its financial and artistic partners. A loyal partner of the CMC for over 40 years, Canimex is reiterating its support this year as the principal national sponsor of the Competition and the 2016 Stepping Stone. The CMC acknowledges the invaluable contribution of Canimex and of its president, Mr. Roger Dubois, to the Canadian Music Competition, as well as to the artistic community of Quebec and Canada.

The CMC is also delighted to be benefitting from the support of the City of Drummondville and the Maison des arts Desjardins Drummondville, which will host the rounds of the National Final and Stepping Stone for over three weeks this coming June and July. Mr. Roland Janelle, Honorary President of the National Final and the Stepping Stone states: *“The importance of this event convinced me to contribute to it, all the more so because it was Mr. Roger Dubois—a patron par excellence of home-grown musical activity—who offered me the honorary presidency. It was only natural for me to accept this proposal from a man who gets involved with such conviction. It is therefore with pleasure that I will offer my collaboration, and I hope with all my heart to be able to make an effective contribution to the success of this great competition.”*

The CMC would also like to acknowledge the participation of the Cégep de Drummondville, which will provide rehearsal space for the national finalists from across the country.

At the national level, the CMC can also count on the invaluable collaboration of Steinway & Sons for the Competition and the 2016 Stepping Stone, and on the help of some 200 volunteers who, each year, join together to celebrate and promote the talent of young musicians.

Please note that the performances in the Competition’s National Final are open to the public. We’ll see you there!

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