MEDIA RELEASE

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Pianist from Salmon Arm, British Columbia takes \$8,000 Top Prize

Edmonton, AB – On **Saturday, May 21, 2022** – after two days of amazing and very high calibre competition – pianist **Jaeden Izik-Dzurko** (23 years old), from Salmon Arm, British Columbia, who currently pursuing a Master's of Music at the University of British Columbia with Dr. Corey Hamm, was awarded the **\$8,000 top prize** in **The Shean Piano Competition**. Mr. Izik-Dzurko has also won the opportunity to play with the **Edmonton Symphony Orchestra** at a future date. Mr. Izik-Dzurko was one of 6 finalists chosen from the 10 submitted entries to compete in The 2022 Shean Piano Competition on May 20 and 21 in Edmonton, AB, Canada.

The complete results of the Competition are as follows (hometowns in parentheses):

- First Place and \$8,000, plus the opportunity to play with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra – Jaeden Izik-Dzurko (Salmon Arm, BC)
- **Second Place** and \$5,000 **Hamilton Lau** (Coquitlam, BC)
- > Third Place and \$4,000 Paul Williamson (Mission, BC)
- **Fourth Place** and \$3,000 Michelle Jia Yun Xu (Vancouver, BC)
- Fifth Place and \$2,000 Simiao (Helen) Pei (Richmond, BC)

Due to illness, Ms. Jessica Yuma (Edmonton, AB) had to withdraw from the Competition.

Hamilton Lau also won the **\$1,000 Paul J. Bourret Memorial Award for Best Performance of** the Test Piece – Du und Du, waltz transcription for piano (after Johann Strauss II's "Die Fledermaus") by Ernst von Dohnányi.

The adjudicators for this year's Shean Piano Competition were **David Hoyt**, Chair; **Jane Coop**, and **Janet Scott-Hoyt**.

The 2023 Shean Strings Competition (for violin, viola, and violoncello) takes place May 19 and 20, 2023 in Edmonton with an \$8,000 Top Prize and the opportunity to perform with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. The \$1,000 Paul J. Bourret Memorial Award for Best Performance of the Test Piece will also be awarded.

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Media Contact: Kent Sutherland Sutherland Productions P: 780.982.9916 E: <u>sutherlandproductions@shaw.ca</u> Twitter: <u>@SutherlandProd</u>