Dear Colleagues and Friends!
We are proud to invite 2 (two) of your best students to participate in the 1st Valletta International PIANO Competition, which is going to be held between 7th – 9th February, 2014 at the St.James Cavalier, City of Valletta in Malta.

Rules of the 1st Valletta International PIANO Competition
7th – 9th February, 2014 St.James Cavalier, Valletta, Malta

General Regulations:

The Competition is open to pianists of any nationality of age 7 to 23. Deadline for applications is: 15th December 2013.

Categories & Programme:
Piano SOLO & Piano DUETS
Young: Category A - 7 - 9 years programme duration: 4 min
Category B - 10 -12 years programme duration: 8 min
Junior: Category C - 13 - 15 years programme duration: 12 min
Category D - 16 - 18 years programme duration: 15 min
Senior: Category E - 19 - 23 years programme duration: 20 min

Repertoire:
Any Programme of your choice must include contrasting piano works of different styles: baroque, classical, romantic & contemporary. For example:
- a classical movement or baroque work
- a romantic work
- a XXth century or contemporary work
Competitors may include a piece written by any of Maltese composer.

Full details of each piece/work of the applicant’s repertoire must be listed and should include:
1.Name of composer
2.Full title of the piece
3.Catalogue/Opus Number
4.Movement
5.Approximate Timing

The repertoire may not be altered after Monday 1 January 2014. If competitors wish to make any changes to their repertoire before this date, they must post or email a typed copy of their full repertoire programme (individual changes cannot be sent separately). Repeats are left to the artistic discretion of the competitor. Repertoire preferred to be performed from memory.

Each participant can have an acoustic rehearsal in the Concert Hall (not longer than 10 minutes).

An application Fee:
An application fee of 65 EUR (Category A, B) and 100 EUR (Category C, D, E) for solo pianists and 110 EUR for Duets should be paid at the time of registration to the Competition by cheque or online by credit card. In case of participants’ resignations application fees will not be refund. All bank
charges/fees are the responsibility of the applicant and are not to be deducted from the EUR 65 and EUR 100.00 entrance fee. Applicants will be asked to pay any short fall if a total amount of application fee is not received.

Application documents:
1. An application form (online, see website)
2. Receipt of payment an application fee to be paid to Valletta Piano Festival (scanned copy)
3. Photocopy of your Passport
4. 2 (two) Photos in high resolution
5. Brief artistic curriculum / Biography
6. CD, DVD with your recordings or link in youtube with your performance (for Category C, D, E)

All documents sent by participants to the Organising Committee will not be returned.

Documents:
- Applicants should retain copies of all material sent, as the Competition cannot return any materials or accept responsibility for any documents lost.
- The Competition takes no responsibility if applications are lost; applicants are encouraged to use recorded delivery or registered post.
- An acknowledgement will be sent to each applicant by email upon receipt of the completed application.
- The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from an applicant.
- Biographical details will be checked by the selection panel. Inaccurate or misleading biographical information may lead to a Competitor’s disqualification.
- Only fully completed applications will be submitted to the selection panel.
- All parts of the application, including any references must be completed in English.

International Jury:
Prof. Pierre Réach
Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique de Paris / FRANCE
Prof. Balázs Szokolay
Ferenz Liszt Academy of Music / HUNGARY
Prof. Anatoly Katz
Concert Pianist, Composer, Honored Artist of RUSSIA
Antonio Di Cristofano
Concert pianist, Artistic director of Piano Festival / ITALY
Mro. John Galea
Head of Music Faculty, University of MALTA
Mro. Alan Chircop
Principal of the Music Department, Ministry of Education / MALTA

The International Jury selects its prize winners based on a combination of factors; musical refinement, versatility, sensitivity and passion, as well as commitment and the strength to take on an international concert career.

The Jury has the right to stop a participant’s performance or shorten the programme of the participant if it doesn't match the program regulations, exceeds the time limit or if the performance doesn't reflect the level of the Competition by common agreement of all members of the Jury. The numbers of competitors entering Gala-Concert will be decided by the Jury. All auditions of the Competition are open to the public.
Prizes & Awards:
Each category will have one Prize Winner. Second & third prize winners will receive Diploma & Trophy award. Both the participants and their teachers, who do not receive a prize, will receive a Certificate of Participation.

EXAMPLE OF THE PROGRAMME 5 days/4Nights:

6 February 2014 arrival in Malta, accommodation in hotel, registration. 7.00pm Evening Concert. "Getting Together" meeting after concert.
7 February 2014 Breakfast in hotel. Walking Tour around City of Valletta. Master Classes. Rehearsals. 4.30pm - Official Opening of the Competition at ST. JAMES CAVALIER.
8 February 2014 Breakfast in hotel. 10.00am - 6.00pm Competition Audition. 7.30pm Piano Concert in VALLETTA.
9 February 2014 Breakfast in hotel. 12.00am Competition Results. Award Ceremony. 6.00pm Concert of the winners. Festival closing party.
10 February 2014 Breakfast in hotel. 11.00am Departure from hotel.

Yamaha is the official piano brand of the Valletta International Piano Competition.
More info at: www.vallettapianofest.com

Best Regards,

Organization committee
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