

Vocal Adjudicator: Dr. Patricia Au



Known for her vivacious energy, Dr Patricia Au is a versatile collaborative pianist, music director, and teaching artist. She has held positions at Boston Conservatory at Berklee, New England Conservatory, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and Victoria Conservatory of Music, as well as conducted masterclasses at Bucknell University and New World School of the Arts. As music director, she has led productions at Boston Conservatory at Berklee,

HeliosOpera, OperaHub, and Boston Opera Collaborative. A frequent interpreter of contemporary music, she has workshopped with living composers, including Sofia Gubaidulina and John Harbison. Dr. Au currently serves as Resident Teaching Artist and Education Pianist with Boston Lyric Opera where she has a passion for introducing young people to opera as a storytelling art. She is also an active Collaborative Pianist member of the National Association of Teachers of Singers (NATS). She has studied at University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, and University of Toronto and received her DMA in Collaborative Piano from New England Conservatory of Music. For more information: www.patriciaau.com

Piano Adjudicator: Dr. Jackie Leung



Canadian pianist Dr. Jackie Leung is a performer, instructor, and workshop facilitator of international scope, having made professional appearances in North and South America, Hong Kong, Europe and the Middle East.

Dr. Leung is an active soloist and chamber musician. She was featured in several episodes for Toronto based Continuum Contemporary Music. She has performed in concert with members of New York based International Contemporary Ensemble in both improvised and notated music, including the premiere of *Multitudinis* by George Lewis at the Banff Centre for the Arts. She was also a piano soloist performing under the baton of Steven Schick for Olivier Messiaen's epic orchestral work, *Canyons des étoiles* at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Marshall Williams Endowment of Banff Centre. She was recently featured on the "From the Artists Bench" series for the Frances Clark Center for Piano Pedagogy on solo piano music by Alvin Singleton, earning praise from the composer himself and Schott publisher.

Dr. Leung has given solo piano masterclasses, workshops, papers, and lecture-recitals at various festivals and schools. Dr. Leung is honored as a

Gold Medal teacher, and is currently a piano examiner and member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Dr. Leung has a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from Stony Brook University. She also holds Masters and a Bachelor degree in piano performance with a Minor in Management from the Schulich School of Music at McGill University.

Piano Adjudicator: Jialiang Zhu



Jialiang Zhu is a native of China and currently calls Toronto, Canada her home. Currently pursuing a Doctoral of Musical Arts Degree, she studies with Lydia Wong at U of T, where she has previously received Master's Degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy and Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance with Honours with Marietta Orlov. Jialiang passionately embraces both collaborative and solo performance. She is a featured pianist and Project Assistant on Chinese-Canadian composer Alice Ping Yee Ho's latest album *A Woman's Voice – Songs and Duets for Voice and Piano*. Her

doctoral thesis is a performance guide for non-Mandarin speakers on how to tackle Chinese art song and poetry.

Jialiang is a co-founder of classical ensemble Bedford Trio. Since 2016, they have performed in Canada, USA, Germany, and appeared in virtual concerts in Italy and China. She was a winner of the University of Toronto DMA recital competition. In 2023-2024, she will be curating and performing in two concert series, "The Power of Words" and "Empowered by Friendship," to explore her friendship and connections with her Canadian artist friends and to showcase their solo, chamber music, and vocal works. Jialiang has been teaching at U of T's Piano Pedagogy Program, where she works with students from elementary to undergraduate levels. She strives to help students establish a solid technical foundation and improve their musicianship.

To follow Jialiang's updates, please visit www.jialiangpiano.com.