MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PIANIST FROM OTTERBURN PARK, QUÉBEC TAKES $8,000 TOP PRIZE

Edmonton, AB – On Saturday, May 19, 2018 – after two days of amazing and very high calibre competition – pianist Élisabeth Pion (22 years old), from Otterburn Park, Québec, who just finished at the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal and will be going to study at Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, UK, was awarded the $8,000 top prize in The Shean Piano Competition. She has also won the opportunity to play with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra at a future date. Ms. Pion was one of 6 finalists chosen from the 16 submitted entries to compete in The 2018 Shean Piano Competition on May 18 and 19 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 – Élisabeth Pion (Otterburn Park, QC)
- Second Place and $5,000 – Kerry Waller (Ardrossan, AB)
- Third Place and $4,000 – David Potvin (Toronto, ON)
- Fourth Place and $3,000 – Bryn Blackwood (Simcoe, ON)
- Fifth Place and $2,000 – Karnsiri Laothamatas (Chiang Rai, Thailand)
- Sixth Place and $2,000 – Nicole Linaksita (Vancouver, QC)

Bryn Blackwood won the $1,000 Paul J. Bourret Memorial Award for Best Performance of the Test Piece – Paraphrase de concert sur Rigoletto, S.434 by Franz Liszt.

The adjudicators for this year’s Shean Piano Competition were David Hoyt, Chair; Brian Preston, and Elier Suárez.

The 2019 Shean Strings Competition (for violin, viola, and violoncello) takes place May 17 and 18, 2019 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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- 30 -

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