



'CELLIST FROM LOS ANGELES TAKES \$8,000 TOP PRIZE

Edmonton, AB – On **Saturday, May 17, 2025** — after two days of amazing and very high calibre competition — violoncellist **Mira Kardan** (18-years-old), from **Los Angeles, CA** was awarded the **\$8,000 top prize** in **The Shean Strings Competition**. She has also won the opportunity to play with the **Edmonton Symphony Orchestra** at a future date. Ms. Kardan was one of 6 Finalists chosen from the 18 submitted entries to compete in The 2025 Shean Strings Competition on May 16 and 17 in Edmonton, AB.

The complete results of **The Shean Strings Competition** are as follows:

- **First Place** and \$8,000, plus the opportunity to play with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra – **Mira Kardan**, violoncello (Los Angeles, CA)
- **Second Place** and \$5,000 – **Justin Saulnier**, violin (Ottawa, ON)
- **Third Place** and \$4,000 – **Grace Lau**, violin (Toronto, ON)
- **Fourth Place** and \$3,000 – **Elliot Sloss**, violoncello (Toronto, ON)
- **Fifth Place** and \$2,000– **Gordon Giang**, violoncello (Edmonton, AB)

Ms. Tessa Nysetvold, violoncello (Calgary, AB) withdrew from Competition before it began.

Justin Saulnier also won the **\$1,000 Paul J. Bourret Memorial Award for Best Performance of the Test Piece** – *Caprice*, op. 1, no. 5 by Niccolò Paganini.

The adjudicators for this year's Competition were: **David Hoyt**, Chair; **Steven Dann**, viola; and **Gil Sharon**, violin.

The 2026 Shean Piano Competition takes place virtually on May 15 and 16 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. Results and videos will be posted on our website after the Competition.

www.sheancompetition.com

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