



ZÁKLADNÁ UMELECKÁ ŠKOLA MÁRIE HEMERKOVEJ
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Report of XVI. edition of Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition in Košice 2019

Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition in Košice, which this year celebrates 26th anniversary since it was established (1993), has successfully finished its XVI. edition. Its promulgator is the **Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic** and its organizer is **Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková** seated in Hlavná 68 in Košice. It is an international competition for young pianists under 17 which is held in four age categories – under 11, under 13, under 15 and under 17 years of age in two rounds. The competition is organized under auspices of the Mayor of the city of Košice, Ing. Jaroslav Polaček.

At the general assembly in Oslo in 1998 the competition was admitted to the European Union of Music Competitions for Youth (EMCY), which has promoted its reputation due to the fact that each of its members has to fulfill demanding criteria for international competitions. During XVI. edition of the competition we were honoured by presence of the **Vice President of EMCY, Mrs Mária Slaninová**.

XVI. edition of International Piano Competition in Košice 2019 was held between 11-14 April 2019.

36 children from 12 countries of Europe had signed up for the competition and 29 children from 12 countries of Europe participated in it (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Austria, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine and Great Britain); their performances were judged by the 7-member international jury composed of renowned piano artists and pedagogues in this composition: Alena Vlasáková – Czech Republic /chairperson of the jury/, Mária Dravecká – Slovakia, Artur Jaroń – Poland, Jan Jiraský – Czech Republic, Marian Sobula – Poland, Venceslava Ilievska – Bulgaria, Ivo Kahánek – Czech Republic .

The artistic director of the competition is Peter Toperczer jr – Czech Republic.

Because the number of contestants was lower due to absence of 4 registered contestants, as mentioned earlier, from Serbia /Zemun/, one contestant from Lithuania and one contestant from Czech Republic, the professional committee had to reduce the number of jury members from 10 to 7. As a result, in comparison with previous editions of the competition the individual rounds were held solely at the concert hall of Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková /1st to 4th category/.

Slovak Radio and Television has been the main media partner and co-organizer of International Piano Competition Košice during all editions of the competition.

In the first round contestants play compositions from the period of Baroque and Romanticism, in the second round compositions from the period of Classicism and 20th or 21st century within the prescribed number of minutes for each age category. Playing by memory is a condition.

10-year-old **Pijus Pirogovas from Lithuania** won in the 1st category, second place went to **Sunny Maria Ritter**, who studies in **Vienna** but also has a Canadian citizenship, **Oleksander Andriyovich Fediurko from Ukraine** came third, fourth place went to **Kristina Karlosivna Avalian from Ukraine**, and fifth place to **Elisabeth Namchevadze from Germany**. The youngest participant of the competition was 8-year-old **Illia Kasyanenko from Ukraine**.

The winner of the 2nd category was **Elizaveta Maksimivna Pochebut from Ukraine**, **Filip Rumenov Iliev from Bulgaria** came second, **Izabelé Orlaité from Lithuania** finished third, fourth place went to **Filip Prievalský from Slovakia (Banská Bystrica)**, and fifth place to **Lisa-Marie Ehrenfried from Germany**.

In the 3rd category only 4 contestants qualified for the second round; the winner was **Roman Andriyovich Fediurko from Ukraine**, an outstanding talent with excellent music presentation who also became the absolute winner of XVI. edition of the competition and received EMCY prize and the prize of the State Philharmonic of Košice, second place went to **Pavol Bohdan Zápotočný from Slovakia (Martin)**, **Angel Dimitrov Yalachkov from Bulgaria** came third, and fourth place went to **Lara Arbajter from Serbia**.

The winner of the 4th category was **Eryk Parchański from Poland**, **Piotr Orłow** also from **Poland** came second, third place went to **Eliška Tkadlčíková from Czech Republic**, fourth place went to **Sofia Khvichia from Estonia**, and fifth place to **David Ruivo Craveiro from Portugal**.

The absolute winner of XVI. edition of the competition was **Roman Andriyovich Fediurko from Ukraine**, **1st place in 3rd category**.

PRIZES awarded at XVI. edition of IPCPT 2019

Financial rewards: **1st-3rd place in all categories**

Gift prizes: **1st-5th place in all categories**

SPECIAL AWARDS

Prize for the absolute winner of the competition – financial reward – 100,- €

Roman Andriyovich Fediurko (Kyiv, Ukraine) –

1st place in 3rd category – absolute winner of the competition
pedagogue: Galina Kotsuba

EMCY Prize – diploma and support by EMCY

Roman Andriyovich Fediurko (Kyiv, Ukraine) –

1st place in 3rd category – absolute winner of the competition
pedagogue: Galina Kotsuba

Prize of the State Philharmonic Košice – concert with the State Philharmonic Košice

Roman Andriyovich Fediurko (Kyjev, Ukraine)

1st place in 3rd category – absolute winner of the competition
pedagogue: Galina Kotsuba

Prize of the Rizman family for the youngest contestant – gift prize

Illia Kasyanenko (Uzghorod, Ukraine)

1st category, 8 years old
pedagogue: Yevhenyia Pitsur

Prize of the Mayor of Košice for the contestant from Košice – gift prize

Emily Viktória Grígerová (Košice, Slovakia)

7th place in 1st category

pedagogue: Edita Kováčsová

Prize of the Mayor of Košice for the most successful Slovak contestant – gift prize

Pavol Bohdan Zápotočný (Martin, Slovakia)

2nd place in 3rd category

pedagogue: Karla Kočalková

Prize of the mayor of the city ward Ťahanovce – gift prize

Oleksander Andriyovich Fediurko (Kyiv, Ukraine)

3rd place in 1st category

pedagogue: Galina Kotsuba

Prize of the Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková in Košice for the school's contestant and student – gift prize

Emily Viktória Grígerová (Košice, Slovakia)

7th place in 1st category

pedagogue: Edita Kováčsová

Prize of the Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková in Košice for another Slovak contestant – gift prize

Filip Prievalský (Banská Bystrica, Slovakia)

3. place v 1. category

pedagogue: Natalia Serdyukova

Prize of Hudobniny Amadeo (music shop) – Judita Barthová – sheet music

David Ruivo Craveiro – (Santo Tirso, Portugal)

5th place in 4th category

pedagogue: Rosgard Lingardsson

Financial support: Ministry of Interior of SR – District Office of Košice, Section of Education, self-governing region of Košice, TORY Consulting, a.s., T-Systems Slovakia s.r.o., EJOT s.r.o., attorney's office of JUDr. Vladislav SISÁK

Other prizes and gifts donated by: City of Košice, Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková in Košice, city ward Košice-Ťahanovce, State Philharmonic Košice, Europapier spl. s.r.o., Kvety ZOYA, Rizman family, Hudobniny Amadeo (music shop) – Judita Barthová

The accompanying event of Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition Košice 2019 was the Concert of the Laureate of XI. edition of the competition in 2011, **Pavel Praženica from Czech Republic**, who is currently studying at Gymnázium a Hudební škola hl.m. Prahy (Gymnázium and Music School of the capital city Prague) and who had participated in two editions of our competition. Pavel gave a virtuoso performance, playing compositions from L. van Beethoven, R. Schumann and F. Liszt.

A great finale of Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition Košice was the Concert of Winners of XVI. edition of the competition and the prize award ceremony for both contestants and their pedagogues held in the Palace of Art.

A lot of gratitude goes to all sponsors, donors and contributors who had helped organisers to prepare the competition complying with international standards.

Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition Košice 2019 once again managed to keep a high professional level, with highly positive feedback and response from professionals as well as the wide public. During 26 years of existence of this competition Košice has been visited by contestants and pedagogues from as many as 34 different countries.

According to the international jury, Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition Košice is ranked among top European competitions in terms of brilliant performances by young talented pianists and also in connection with high level of organisation of the competition and its smooth course. Particularly heart-warming was participation of the three Slovak pianists in this challenging competition and top finish of two of them.

Peter Toperczer International Piano Competition Košice receives extraordinary feedback from professional as well as the general public, helps to promote the city of Košice and Slovakia in foreign countries and brings huge artistic potential to the city, as well as contacts and friendships. It deservedly belongs among most significant competitions in Slovakia and in Europe.

In Košice, 3 May 2019

Jana Fričová
Director of Elementary School of Arts of Mária Hemerková
Chairperson of professional committee of IPCPT