Piano Achievement Awards Competition 2025

Narciso Solero, chair

Co-chairs: Amy Rothstein, Patricia Huff –Palumbo, Margarita Gramaticova

PAA took place on Saturday, May 3, at Burke Presbyterian Church, Jordan Kitts Music, and at United Christian Parish. A record number of students – a total of 109-- registered, with 10 withdrawals and the breakdown of levels as follows, including specific changes for each level from last year, since some of the increases were significant:

Level 1 – 30 students (8 more than last year)

Level 2 – 18 students (11 more than last year)

Level 3 – 21 students (2 more than last year)

Level 4 – 18 students (2 more than last year)

Level 5 -- 2 students (6 more than last year)

Judges were Teodora Adzharova, Topher Ruggiero, and Zhirui Zhou for level 1, Johan Botes, Jocelyn Swigger, and Anna Soukiassian for level 2, Johan Botes, Jocelyn Swigger, and Hyewon Ryu for level 3, and Jiin Kim, Igor Resnianski, and Henning Vauth for levels 4 and 5. Judges' bios and programs available from me (Narciso) upon request.

The event ran smoothly at all three venues, and there have been no post-competition complaints received thus far. Comments emailed after the event were positive – from both teachers and judges.

I have already requested the date for PAA for 2026 and will immediately arrange venues upon confirmation of the requested date, and I already have begun work on securing judges for 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Narciso Solero, PAA chair