

CHARISSA VANDIKAS

Praised for her “fabulous sense of style and musical expression well beyond her years”, Charissa Vandikas has established herself as a pianist with a promising future. She has been featured in CBC’s prestigious list, “30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30” and most recently won a prize in the Orchestre de l’Université de Montréal Concerto Competition. Representing Ontario after completing a recital tour around the province, she won the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association National Piano Competition in 2015. She has been the recipient of awards in various competitions, including the Canadian Music Competition, the OMFA Provincial Competition, and the Glenn Gould School's Chamber Competition and Concerto Competition.

Charissa has appeared as a soloist in Koerner Hall, the Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Music Society concert series, and in the Canadian Opera Company’s lunchtime concert series. In 2016, she was selected to be a Stockey Young Artist for the Festival of the Sound. Charissa made her orchestral debut with the Greater Toronto Philharmonic Orchestra in 2013 under the baton of David Fallis, and has since performed with the Haydn Jeugd Strijkorkest, the Toronto Sinfonietta, the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony, and the Royal Conservatory Orchestra. Charissa is honoured to have been awarded the 2018 Developing Artist Grant from the Hnatyshyn Foundation for Classical Music - Piano.

At the age of 13, she received her ARCT Diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and completed her Licentiate Diploma in 2015, receiving First-Class Honours with Distinction. Charissa currently studies with Professors Jean Saulnier and Charles Richard-Hamelin at the Université de Montréal, and is a former student of John O’Conor, Dr. Michael Esch, and Janice Lin. She is honoured to be a recipient of a scholarship from the André Dubois Fund.