The Young Artist Competition and Tour is a project of the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations and its provincial counterparts. The competition is open to pianists, singers, and instrumentalists who are studying with a Registered Music Teacher and who are residents of Canada. A biennial event, the ORMTA Young Artist Competition takes place in the summer, with the Tour in the fall.

The Young Artist Series was initiated in 1942 under the direction of Saskatchewan music educator Dr. Lyell Gustin, in order to give talented young performers an opportunity to gain concert tour experience. The Young Artist Series now operates in five regions of Canada: Atlantic, Ontario, Western, British Columbia, Alberta.

Many Young Artist soloists, who had their first major concert experience through the Series, have gone on to build careers in music. Our Ontario Young Artist winners have included:

2024 Adam Zheng
2022 Aidan Lao
2018 Juliana Krajcovic
2016 Andrew Fu
2015 Johann Derecho
2014 Charissa Vandikas

LONDON BRANCH
L'ASSOCIATION DES PROFESSEUR(E)S DE MUSIQUE DE L'ONTARIO
ORMTA
ONTARIO REGISTERED MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

and the

Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Association
present the

Ontario Young Artist Concert

Daniel Thiessen

piano

Sunday, November 8, 2026
3:00 PM

Siloam United Church
London, ON

Other Concert Dates:

North Bay	November 21, 2026
Windsor-Essex	March 21, 2027
Brantford	May 1, 2027
Niagara Falls	May 2, 2027

PROGRAM

Etude Op. 10, No. 8 in F Major	Frédéric Chopin
Sonata No. 50 in C Major, HOB. XVI 50	Franz Joseph Haydn
Scherzo (no.2), from "Six Pieces"	Robert Rival

- Intermission -

Toccata in G Major, BWV 916	Johann Sebastian Bach
Nocturne Op. 9, No. 3	Frédéric Chopin
Abegg Variations Op. 1	Robert Schumann

Daniel Thiessen is a young Canadian pianist whose recent honors include winning the 2026 ORMTA Young Artist Competition, which will take him on a concert tour across Ontario.

Daniel began his piano studies at the age of five and currently studies with Dr. Kyung Kim, Associate Professor of Piano at Western University. He has since received numerous awards at the provincial, national, and international levels. In 2025, he earned first prizes in both the solo and concerto categories at the OMFA Provincial Music Festival, as well as first prize and a scholarship at the ORMTA Provincial Competition. He was also a winner of the London Community Orchestra Young Soloists Audition, leading to his concerto debut with the orchestra in Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No. 1.

In 2026, Daniel received top honors in both the solo and concerto categories at the Ocean Music International Competition in New York. He subsequently attended the Ocean Music Summer Academy at the Manhattan School of Music as a scholarship student.

Daniel has been recognized for his musical achievements from an early age. He appeared in the 2024 and 2025 Stars of the Festival showcases following top placements at the London Kiwanis Music Festival, and in 2022 was invited to perform at the Royal Conservatory of Music Celebration of Excellence in Toronto after earning the highest RCM examination score in Canada.

A student at St. Mary's Choir and Orchestra Catholic School in London, Daniel also plays cello in his school orchestra. Outside of music, he plays competitive hockey with the Oakridge Aeros BB team.