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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Piano Cleveland Launches Weekly Virtual Concert Series, "The Quarantine Concerts"

Virtual concerts bring music into the home and provide financial relief opportunities for local musicians.

CLEVELAND, OH – March 17, 2020 Piano Cleveland launches *The Quarantine Concerts*, a weekly live-streamed concert series, as a way to bring live music to Cleveland during a period of required social distancing and combat the financial losses that local musicians are experiencing. The concerts, streamed each Thursday from Steinway Piano Gallery Cleveland, will feature local artists and give the community a chance to offer their support through donations. *The Quarantine Concerts* will begin this Thursday, March 19 at 7:30 pm and will be virtually presented through Piano Cleveland's website and social pages.

The social distancing measures put in place to protect communities from COVID-19 have had a significant impact on the cultural life of Cleveland, as all performances have been canceled. In addition, many community artists are faced with severe financial repercussions due to lost performances. The current situation affects music lovers of all ages, especially the patrons of Piano Cleveland that are in assisted living centers, nursing homes, and schools, who are accustomed to having musicians come to their locations to perform.

The Quarantine Concerts, set to launch this Thursday, will feature incredible local musicians from a roster of artists who are dedicated to performing in the community. The musicians that will perform are actively involved in the community outreach and education initiatives of Piano Cleveland. The money raised during these live-streaming performances will go directly to supporting the musicians, many of whom are freelance artists who depend on income from performances that are currently struggling due to quarantine precautions surrounding COVID-19.



Bringing classical music to homes around Cleveland will also provide some added benefits during this time of uncertainty, as listening to classical music has been shown to help reduce stress levels, improving symptoms of depression and spike creativity. “We are looking to find innovative ways to provide comfort to the community and support to our local musicians,” said Yaron Kohlberg, President of Piano Cleveland. “We hope *The Quarantine Concerts* will bring a little joy into your home while financially supporting our local artists.

The Quarantine Concerts will be live-streamed from Steinway Piano Gallery Cleveland virtually on pianocleveland.org and Piano Cleveland’s Facebook page every Thursday, beginning March 19 at 7:30 pm. The first concert will be an all-piano program featuring Yaron Kohlberg and piano duo Natsumi Shibagaki and Irwin Shung. Visit the Piano Cleveland website for specific information regarding upcoming players and programs at pianocleveland.org/the-quarantine-concerts.

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About Piano Cleveland

Established in 1974, Piano Cleveland promotes Cleveland as a premier piano destination by presenting world-class programming and community engagement and education initiatives. The organization’s four major programs and events include the quadrennial Cleveland International Piano Competition, CIPC for Young Artists, Concert Series, and year-round education and community outreach programming. For more information, visit pianocleveland.org.