

WACIDOM



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Musical excellence in the heart of Warrington

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Registered Charity No. 1141750

Holy Trinity Church, Market Gate, Warrington

Saturday 21st March 2026 1:45pm – 2:30pm

Outstanding Young Pianists

Sam Lord, Melody Zhao and Natalia Mei

“Celebrating our 550th Concert”

Programme

Sam Lord	Beethoven Liszt	Sonata No. 26 in E-flat major, Op. 81a “Les Adieux” 1 st Mvt. Transcendental Étude No.8, “Wilde Jagd” (Wild Hunt)
Melody Zhao	Debussy Prokofiev	Reflets dans L'eau (reflections in the water) Images, Book 1 Piano Sonata No.2 in D Minor, Op. 14
Natalia Mei	Chopin Say	Nocturne in D-flat major, Op.27, No.2 Paganini Jazz, Op. 5c

Biographies

Sam Lord

Sam is 15 years old and is in year 11 at Chetham's School of Music, he has been there since year 8. He has been playing the piano since he was 7 years old. He first played at Rochdale Festival and got 100/100 marks. Sam entered the International Paderewski Competition in June 2025 and got 2nd prize in his class. He has also played at festivals in Ramsbottom, Hazel Grove and Blackburn winning classes in each. Sam has also played in multiple lunchtime concerts at school and concerts in Manchester Cathedral. He has played in two previous concerts in Warrington.

Melody Zhao

Melody is 16 years old and started playing the piano when she was 6 years old. She is in her fourth year at Chetham's School of Music where she is a pupil of Mr. Simon Bottomley. Melody has won prizes in several local music festivals and was a finalist in the EPTA piano competition in Belgium. Melody recently passed her LTCL diploma with a high distinction.

Natalia Mei

Based in Poynton, Natalia has been playing the piano since the age of five. She joined Chetham's School of Music for primary school, where she studied with Mr. Simon Bottomley, whose guidance remains central to her musical development. Alongside her academic studies, now at Withington Girls' School, Natalia has won multiple awards at the Hazel Grove Musical Festival and won the North-West EPTA UK Finals. In Year 9, she earned a Distinction in her ATCL Diploma and recently passed her LTCL Diploma with distinction. Now in year 12, Natalia hopes to study Mathematics at

University. She looks forward to continuing her musical studies alongside her future degree, carrying forward the passion for music that first took root at Chetham's.

Next week is the last concert in the current series and features the Northerly Winds Quintet plus piano.