

ANDREW J. YANG

PIANIST, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



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PROFILE

American pianist and musician who moved to Iceland in 2020. Active with an international performance career, a passion for music pedagogy, and a deep interest in creating music and art of different genres and forms. Founder and Artistic Director of Westfjords Piano Festival & Iceland Piano Festival.

EXPERIENCE

2021 - present **International Westfjords Piano Festival & Iceland Piano Festival**
Artistic Director & Founder

- Manage all aspects of festival including artistic direction, budgeting, marketing, ticketing, performing, and coordination with guest artists

2020 - present **Tónlistarskóli Vesturbyggðar**
Music Teacher

- Teach piano students (22), violin students (2), rap/music production student, and music theory group class

2019 - 2022 **University of Southern California - Thornton School of Music**
Studio T.A., Graduate Teaching

- Top graduate assistantship position: teaching private studio lessons to undergraduate and graduate piano major students
- Other tasks: teaching group piano class, music theory and history classes, and sitting on music minor juries

2018 - 2019 **American Classical Orchestra**
Competition Manager and Coordinator

- Managed all aspects of flagship historical-performance competition in New York City, SFZP International Fortepiano Competition, working directly with Founder and Director, Tom Crawford

PERFORMANCES

- Recent Performances in Iceland: Harpa (Kaldalón), Tálknafjarðarkirkja, Hamrar Tónlistarskóli Ísafjarðar, FHP Patreksfjarðar, Sumartónleikar Hallgrímskirkju í Saurbæ
- Recent Performances Internationally: Mozarthaus (Vienna), Judaica Center (Krakow), Hoheikan (Sapporo, Japan), Murphy Recital Hall (Los Angeles), Carnegie Hall and Victor Borge Hall (NYC), North Carolina Museum of History for Paderewski Festival in Raleigh.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California - Thornton School of Music (Los Angeles)
2019-present (on leave) | D.M.A. in Piano Performance | Full scholarship & stipend with one of two Studio TA positions

Mannes School of Music (New York City)
2015-2017 | M.M. in Piano Performance | Graduated with Steinway & Sons Award to top graduating pianist

Northwestern University (Chicago Area)
2010-2015 | B.A. in Economics, B.M. in Piano Performance

Teachers and mentors: William Wellborn, Antoinette Perry, James Giles, Dang Thai Son, Ruth Slenczynska, Robert McDonald, Audrey Axinn, and Dominique Weber

PRIZES & AWARDS

- Winner of many international piano competitions including: 2019 FLAME Piano Competition (Paris), Heida Hermanns Competition (Connecticut), Metropolitan Piano Competition (NYC), Thaviu-Issac Piano Competition (Chicago), Los Angeles Liszt Competition, etc.
- "White Rose" Presidential Award for musical excellence from President of Finland, Sauli Niinistö
- Grants from Iceland: Listamannalaun (2023), Westfjords Development Fund (2022, 2023), Rannís Music Fund (2022, 2023), SUT - Ruth Hermanns (2023), Ýlir Harpa Music Fund (2022)

OTHER SKILLS

- Languages: English (native); Spanish, Mandarin, Icelandic (conversational)
- Other instruments: Violin, guitar, vocals, music production
- M.M.A. and Boxing (formerly on Northwestern University Boxing Team)