

**The 24th International Chopin Piano Competition in ASIA**  
**Feedback from the Jury**  
**High School Category**

● **Jury A**

As these 30 participants (including 1 overseas participant) were shortlisted from 123 in the Second Round, I was very impressed by the high level of their performances. I found both the required pieces and freely chosen repertoire musical and well-prepared, showing a high degree of perfection. I hope that all the participants will continue to grow steadily as a musician and I look forward to their future.

● **Jury B**

To create a beautiful sound, you have to get each note from shoulder, then the sound is full, round and singing. Avoid playing from elbows. Only contact shoulders with tip of fingers. Never attack with blocked hands. Do not press, only balance with your mass. – deeper, lighter, depends on dynamics. Pay attention to articulation. It depends on the quality and notes places in the bar.

● **Jury C**

All of you showed excellent skills as finger technique is concerned; velocity and precision. However, regarding sound quality, I suggest further study, please always think of Chopin as an operatic composer, avoid playing with too much effort and overloaded tone, take care of dolce cantabile.

● **Jury D**

I enjoyed listening to the impressive performances presented by those who made it all the way to the Final Round. As a juror, I paid attention mainly to whether the participants were trying to understand Chopin's feeling, whether the notes are projected with expression, and whether the pianists had something to say with their playing, beyond merely playing the right notes without making mistakes. I also felt that finding the balance between left and right hand was challenging. Taking some time to reflect on it might help you create organized and multi-dimensional music. I hope you'll continue to pursue your own music going forward.

● **Jury E**

Since all of the finalists had successfully passed the very competitive 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds, they all showed many good qualities and performed at a high level.

However, there were some performances that were technically excellent, but the energy was not fully conveyed to the audience because the expressions were rather superficial and shallow. If expression is produced automatically as if it were to fit in a set frame, such performances cannot speak deeply to the hearts of the listeners. Performances that are natural and full of imagination and played with freedom and joy, as well as performances that speak and express music in their own words with a deep understanding of the work always fascinate me.

● **Jury F**

It was hard to believe that many of these wonderful performances were presented by senior high school students. They look very professional on stage, and their musical expression was free and unique, and I didn't see any technical difficulties. I'm sincerely looking forward to seeing how they grow as a musician, If I may say something, please try to discover a well-balanced beautiful sonority when playing chords. Please pay more attention to the sound you produce. Also, try to learn many more pieces by Chopin. I hope you all will continue to work hard and also to learn to better understand Chopin's music on a deeper level.