## Tinkling the ivories: Leeds welcomes international piano competition to the city

The city of Leeds is set to celebrate its diverse cultural offering as the city welcomes the 20th Leeds International Piano Competition. The heart of the North is about to get even more cultured as the city of Leeds welcomes the 20th Leeds International Piano Competition to the city.

Founded nearly 60 years ago The Leeds International Piano Competition, known as 'The Leeds', is returning to the city to host the Second Round, Semi-Finals and Concerto Finals of the competition at Leeds Town Hall.

'The Leeds' has a reputation for being a competition that above all cares for its musicians, where who you are as a musician and a person comes first, and gathers the best of the best from the world of music to cultivate and develop young artists, inspire audiences and build digital innovation and engagement.

This year's event will bring with it an array of musical and cultural events for people of all ages to enjoy. Five finalists will perform alongside the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the Leeds Piano Trail, developed in partnership with LeedsBID, will also be displayed to bring the passion out of the concert hall and across the streets of Leeds City Centre, including Kirkgate Market, Trinity Leeds and Leeds Playhouse, for everyone to enjoy.

This year's competition will also cultivate the widest ever diversity of countries in the history of 'The Leeds', with 24 pianists from 18 countries arriving to the city from Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Germany, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

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