

Carey Byron, piano

Carey Byron is an exceptional young talent who touches the hearts of audiences with her intensity and emotional performance style.

Carey Byron, 17, began her formal piano lessons at age 4. She won the Prodigy Award by the Atlanta Steinway Society at age 10 and was featured in the Atlanta's Young Artist series at the Emory Chamber Music Society. At the age of 12, she left her home in Georgia to attend the Colburn Music Academy in Los Angeles to pursue rigorous music studies under prominent musicians. At the age of 13, she was selected as a Young Scholar by the prestigious Lang Lang International Music Foundation, and at the age of 14, she was chosen as a scholarship recipient of the Chopin Foundation of the United States where she is currently a 3<sup>rd</sup>-year scholarship recipient. Recently, she became a Finalist at the 2021 YoungArts' National Arts Competition which identifies the most accomplished young artists at the national level.

She has received top prizes in numerous piano competitions including the Grand Prize and Audience Favorite Award at the 2019 MostArts Festival Young Pianist Competition, First Prize at the Los Angeles Young Musician International Competition, the Franz Liszt International Competition, the California Association of Professional Music Teachers Concerto Competition State Finals, the Atlanta Romantic Music Competition, the Georgia Music Teachers Association competition (for three consecutive years), and Second Prize at the Music Teacher's National Association (MTNA) competition to name a few. She also won Third Prize at the Ronald Sachs International Music Competition Senior Category (ages 17–22) and the Lee University Int'l Piano Competition (ages 15–24), both as the youngest contestant. She also won Third Prize at the Redland Bowl Concerto Competition (ages 13-30) at the age of 13.

Carey has performed solo recitals at prestigious concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, Krzysztof Penderecki Concert Hall in Lusławice, Poland, Ignacy Jan Paderewski center in Kaśna Dolna, Poland, Jay Pritzker Pavilion at the Millennium Park in Chicago, Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, Zipper Concert Hall, Miller Theater, Thayer Recital Hall, Warner Concert Hall, Richard Nixon Presidential Library, Cantigny Park, Redlands Bowl, Beckwith Recital Hall, and many more. She has also attended various music festivals such as the Colburn Piano Festival, Cooper Piano Festival at Oberlin, Aspen Music Festival, Lee University Piano Festival, Art of the Piano, and Frost Chopin Academy and Festival.

She has been an avid collaborator who regularly performs in ensembles such as piano trios, duos, and collaboration with ballet dancers; She also has performed piano duo with the world-renown pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. In 2021, she was invited by the Lang Lang International Music Foundation to collaborate with the Trans Chorus of Los Angeles where she showcased her arrangement of "More Friends Than You Know" as well as her solo works.

Carey performed as a soloist with several orchestras since her orchestral debut in Italy with the Brunesis Virtuosi Orchestra under Uri Segal at the age of 12. Since then, she has performed with

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the Hollywood Chamber Orchestra under Frank Paul Fetta, Midwest Young Artists Orchestra under Allen Dennis, and MostArts Festival Orchestra under Steven Thomas.

Chicago Music Report praised her concerto performance at Millennium Park for presenting “a searching, warm reading...tracing the melancholy melodic contours with grace and sensitivity...”. Her virtual concert arranged by the Lang Lang International Music Foundation in June 2020, featuring an all-Chopin Program, was selected as “5 Favorite Online Piano Performance” by Pianist Magazine. The live streaming of her concerts was featured in “Music Pick” of LA Weekly Magazine in 2020.

Carey has performed in masterclasses for renowned pianists, including Marina Lomazov, Angela Cheng, Dae-Jin Kim, Yoshikazu Nagai, John O’Conor, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Boris Slutsky, Steven Spooner, Jon Nakamatsu, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, and Yoheved Kaplinsky. She previously studied with Elena Cholakova, Myong-Joo Lee, Ory Shihor, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, and Fabio Bidini. She is currently studying under Ning An.

In her spare time, she enjoys developing an online piano teaching series on YouTube called “PlayPianoWithCarey” where she creates lessons for people of all ages who can use her program to learn to play piano and read music for free. Her greatest passion is giving back to society through performances as well as sharing the knowledge she obtained through years of music education with people who cannot afford such training.