

Media release

September 2020

Christ Church Musicians Strike a Winning Chord

A trio of young musicians from Christ Church Grammar School and Hale School have just been awarded first place in the 30th Young Musician International Competition 'Citta di Barletta' which took place on Wednesday 23 September.

The trio – who perform as 'The Millennium Trio' – consists of Christ Church students William Ji (Year 10, cello), Daniel Zhou (Year 11, violin) and Hale School student Kaining Wang (Year 10, piano) received an extraordinary score of 97/100 for their ensemble, winning First Prize in the Italian music competition.

They were also awarded the Special Prize in their category on account of the fact that they were the youngest participants in 'Category B', which is for musicians between the ages of 15 and 19.

The remarkable achievement comes off the back of their recent performance in the Musica Viva 'Strike a Chord' competition, which this year allowed secondary chamber ensembles across Australia to perform virtually. The trio were chosen as one of 12 finalists from 104 entries and were the only West Australian ensemble to be selected in the Grand Final, which was held as a livestreamed event, broadcast from six cities across Australia.

The boys performed the first movement of Felix Mendelssohn's *Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor*, live in front of an excited audience who were present to support the boys.

Director of Musica Viva and vocalist Fiona Campbell commented on the boys' performance, saying "Music is a journey after all, there is rarely one moment that defines us, but rather a series of learning experiences that grow into an extraordinary life. You played so beautifully and made us all very proud. We are truly thrilled to call you our WA Champions – congratulations!"

William Ji (Year 10) recently received his Associate Diploma of Music on piano – to partner his Licentiate of Music on cello – a level of musicianship equaling that of a tertiary graduation on the instrument.

For further information:

Joanne Wheeler

Director Communication & Engagement Christ Church Grammar School Phone 9442 1531 jwheeler@ccgs.wa.edu.au