

Junior & Intermediate Piano Adjudicator

Anneli Loepp Thiessen

Anneli Loepp Thiessen is a passionate music educator, researcher, and performer. She is a PhD student in the Interdisciplinary Music Research program at the University of Ottawa, where her studies with Dr. Jada Watson promote an interdisciplinary musicological approach to issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion in music industries and music education. Prior to beginning her PhD, Anneli completed a Master of Music in Piano Performance at the University of Ottawa, where she studied with David Jalbert and primarily performed solo piano works by women. One of Anneli's last performances before COVID-19 was a recital at St. John's Kanata Anglican Church, featuring an all-women program. She has won multiple piano competitions and holds her ARCT in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music.

As an educator, Anneli has become interested in examining music picture books as an educational resource for children to learn about women in music history. Her first picture book, *The ABCs of Women in Music* was published in early 2022. She has been trained as a teacher in the Suzuki method and with Music for Young Children and is passionate about teaching improvisation and composition skills to her students. Anneli has presented her research at conferences in Canada, the United States, Australia, and the UK, and has had her research published in multiple academic journals. In 2021, Anneli won the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association doctoral essay competition. She is glad to be joining the Guelph music community to adjudicate at this year's festival.