

Engaging audiences with his charismatic and moving performances, Aaron Kurz enjoys a burgeoning career. He has captivated audiences across three continents, in venues ranging from Carnegie Hall in New York to the Palace of Peace and Harmony in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. Mr. Kurz's performances have been lauded, with Belgium's *Le Soir* stating, "We'll remember...the musical journeys of a nuanced Aaron Kurz."

Kurz's playing has also garnered recognition in competitions, winning top prizes in the New York, Los Angeles, Virginia Waring, and World Piano Teachers Association International Piano Competitions, among others. An avid performer, he has played extensively in North America, Europe, and Asia. In recent years, his playing took him to China, where he performed, lectured, and gave masterclasses at the Xi'an Conservatory along with an orchestral performance.

Mr. Kurz believes artists have an obligation to use their craft to improve the world, and he has worked significantly in this capacity. Alongside concertizing, Kurz spent two years working for the Van Cliburn Foundation's "Cliburn in the Classroom," a program which teaches classical music principles to children in underprivileged school districts. The goal of the program's interactive seminars – to inspire a love of music and help educate the next generation of classical musicians – spoke to him. Through his playing, he hoped to connect with them and provide an experience they could benefit from and enjoy. He has also worked with the Lift Music Foundation, which provides mini-grants to help underserved musicians afford the costs of a musical education.

Mr. Kurz is currently studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying with Jon Nakamatsu and Jeremy Denk, and recently graduated from the Yale School of Music, where he studied with Boris Berman. Other previous teachers include Ethel Fang, Carol Leone, Logan Skelton, Alexander Kobrin, Ian Jones, and Norma Fisher. Kurz's own teaching experience encompasses private and university-sponsored instruction, having taught through both Yale and Eastman. In his spare time, he enjoys socializing and watching sports, never missing a Michigan Wolverines football game.