

Testimonials

The Adamant Music School seemed to be everything all at once. It was secluded and peaceful but never felt lonely. It was relaxing, like any summer getaway, yet inspired me to work even harder than I had already anticipated. I was surrounded by a diverse and somewhat unexpected group of people. We fit together like a strange (in a good way!), loving family and being in it taught me about myself, music and beyond.

Vivian Chen

The Adamant Music School provided me a stress-free and comfortable environment that allowed me to thoroughly enjoy my 3-week session. Although it was a non-competitive environment, it was definitely a very encouraging one. From morning classes to concerts, I was constantly pushed to be at my best. The teachers and other participants were always there to motivate me. The community of the entire staff and the participants was so great that it really felt like we were a big family. The Adamant Music School is a place where you can be inspired to be a better version of yourself- not just as a musician, but also as a human being.

George Hua

I had a wonderful week at Adamant Music School. It is located in a great place to experience the nature, to focus on practice and music, and homemade food. The week is intense in a very good way, and I really enjoy it a lot and plan to come back in the near future.

Cong Ji

I enjoyed the atmosphere within the organization, of the participants, as well as the listeners. Everybody present was welcoming and open towards each other. It was very special to live for an entire week in the small village of Adamant to learn and practice music. It is a unique chance to find yourself, situated in a beautiful natural setting, with access to high quality concert grand pianos.

The many masterclasses with Doctor O'Connor were revealing and of great interest to me. I met him for the first time during my trip to Adamant, and immediately knew I would progress quickly under his tutelage for the coming two years. We had many exchanges of knowledge, experiences, and ideas. There was also a feeling of intent listening from the audience during the public performances.

In addition to this, I was able to create several connections with other interns involved. It was the first time I shared an experience of this kind with people of all ages, further proof that there is no age to learn music, and that it can bring people together in a truly meaningful way.

Antoine Laporte

My experience at Adamant has been among the most rewarding experiences of my life. The "unpretentious and non-competitive" phrase in the publicity to describe the place is no exaggeration. Working with John O'Connor and André LaPlante during their master classes has propelled me forward as a pianist. Working with the other performers and auditors has been nothing short of spiritual experience of ecstasy. I can't wait for next summer.

Alexander Last

I had a wonderful experience at the Adamant Music School, excellent facilities, and really nice environment. People are so supportive and friendly here it's so easy to make friends with each other, and we get to have lessons almost every day, it's not something you can find in many other summer institutes. Plus, Franklin Larey is an amazing teacher! It's a place pianists can definitely improve their artistry.

Wuna Meng

My experience at the Adamant Music School covers a span of 20 years. I first attended as an auditor during Menahem Pressler's Master Class Session in 1996, and subsequently participated as a performer in 1997. In 1998, I was offered the position of Executive Director. I served in this role until 2002, bringing new faculty and guest artists to the school. Edwine Behre's mission of the Adamant Music School, "a wonderful, small, unpretentious, cooperative, supportive school for pianists" continues to thrive today. It is a summer piano retreat, where one can indulge in the beauty of nature - a place for pianists to nurture and celebrate their art. I continue to attend as both a performer and auditor in both the John O'Connor and Menahem Pressler master classes.

Sandra Heikel

Where do you find a music school tucked away in the green hills of Vermont with beautifully maintained grand pianos in cabins waiting to be practiced and enjoyed - where there are amazing master teachers inspiring every pianist who seeks to learn and understand this great instrument and its profound literature. I found it at the Adamant Music School where I've been privileged to reach new heights as both a performer and teacher through the guidance and inspiration of the amazing Menahem Pressler. How lucky I have been!!!

Janet Hickey

This past summer I had the pleasure of attending three priceless weeks at the Adamant Music School. During my few weeks there, I was able to pursue and further explore my passion in music. The living spaces were extremely cozy and the surrounding scenery in Vermont was conducive to my overall appreciation of Adamant. I was able to learn through the regularly scheduled masterclasses and listen to great teachers and renowned artists such as John O'Connor, André Laplante and Menahem Pressler. It was a non-competitive environment and everyone was extremely welcoming and eager to be there. I felt welcomed the moment I arrived and my opinions and intellect were both challenged and accepted. Everyone was eager to hear what I had to say and likewise I found myself learning a lot through other people's ideas and suggestions. Overall, I had an extremely pleasant and educational time at Adamant and I would highly recommend it to anyone with a passion in music making.

Chris Soong

When I arrived to the Adamant Music School in the summer of 2016 the first thing that caught my attention was the absolute beauty of the campus. I have been honored to attend many top notch piano festivals. However, the combination of their world renowned faculty, the warmth of the people and the unique practice facilities make Adamant a very special summer program. I am looking forward to attend the 2017 edition.

Clinton Velman

Adamant is a place that is incredibly close to my heart. I first went to their Traditional Session in 2015 as an upcoming junior in high school, where I immediately fell in love with the natural beauty of the surroundings and the uniquely exuberant musical atmosphere. Whether it's the daily lessons in the morning with the incredible teachers there, the sound of people practicing in little secluded studios all around, or the lively and special camaraderie amongst the students, Adamant brims with a true passion for music and is the perfect environment for artistic discovery. It's also the place that made me decide that music was what I wanted to major in in the future – being in that incredible environment convinced me that music was truly my greatest passion, and that I could definitely see myself doing music professionally. I will always be grateful to Adamant for enabling me to have that realization, and for enriching in countless ways my relationship with music.

Michele Wong