

*"I am very excited to hear such a fabulous pianist and musician. Thanks for your Music!"* - Martha Argerich, 2013

Born in 1995 in Altamura, Italy, Leonardo Colafelice is currently a piano professor at the "N. Piccinni" Conservatory of Music in Bari, where he graduated with highest honors, distinction, and special mention, under the guidance of Pasquale Iannone.

In 2016, he was awarded 2nd Prize at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, along with several special awards, including the Audience Prize, Best Performance of a Russian Piece, and the Junior Jury Prize. In 2020, he won 3rd Prize at the Gurwitz International Piano Competition in San Antonio, Texas, also earning the Audience Prize.

In 2019, Leonardo was one of the six finalists at the China International Music Competition in Beijing. In 2015, he received 6th Prize at the Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition in Bolzano. Earlier, in 2014, he reached the finals of the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Tel Aviv, where he received three special prizes: Best Performer of a Classical Concerto, Best Performer of a Chopin Composition, and Most Outstanding Pianist up to 22 Years of Age.

Between 2012 and 2013, he won 1st Prize in several international competitions, including the Gina Bachauer Young Artists International Piano Competition, the Thomas & Evon Cooper International Competition, the Eastman Young Artists International Piano Competition, the Yamaha USASU International Piano Competition, the Aarhus International Piano Competition (Denmark) and the Hilton Head International Piano Competition.

Leonardo has also received 1st prizes at the Young Pianist of the North International Piano Competition (Newcastle, United Kingdom), the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition for Young Artists (Szafarnia, Poland) and the Concours Musical de France (Paris, France).

He regularly performs in major cities across Italy, United States, Canada, China, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Denmark, Switzerland, Poland, Israel, Morocco, Chile, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Lithuania, and Georgia.

He has performed with numerous orchestras, including the Cleveland Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra, Morocco Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto, Orchestra Filarmonica Marchigiana, Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra Academia China.

Throughout his career, Leonardo has collaborated with distinguished conductors, including Asher Fisch, Tito Muñoz, Bramwell Tovey, Giordano Bellincampi, En Shao, Frederic Chaslin, Eugene Tzigane, Avner Biron, Jahja Ling and Neil Varon.

He is the Artistic Director of the Concert Season of “Teatro Mercadante” in Altamura. He is also the founder and Artistic Director of the “Festival dell’Alta Murgia”.

*“The young Leonardo Colafelice that I heard tonight impressed me for his qualities as a virtuoso of the keyboard. At only 12 years old, he is able to handle technically difficult pieces with an astonishing ease. It goes without saying that Leonardo Colafelice is a born pianist, destined for a brilliant career.” - Aldo Ciccolini, 2008*