

The Pianist

Colin started playing the piano when he was four and gave his first live performance in a _____ (21) centre when he was six. He did not think about the _____ (22) of playing in front of a crowd. Instead, he enjoyed the audience's _____ (23) and quiet but positive remarks.

His friends' ever-changing dreams were a stark contrast to his unwavering resolve to become a pianist. In fact, he successfully _____ (24) this childhood ambition. He credits his sustained _____ (25) in music to playing the piano daily after school and feeling the same excitement every time he performed. Colin now holds a Masters in accompaniment and more frequently does _____ (26) or group performances.

These days, Colin practices for two hours in the morning before meetings clients who hold _____ (27) or offer contract work. On free afternoons, he practices some more while evenings off are spent _____ (28) with musicians he may get to perform with. Becoming a musician is a less _____ (29) career pathway. Nevertheless, Colin advises aspiring musicians to work hard for opportunities and cultivate _____ (30) mannerisms to find a mentor.