



Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra 2024-2025 Young Artists Concerto Competition

GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition. **Please read this document in its entirety before beginning your application process.** This competition comprises two rounds. The first round is completed via a video submission, and selected candidates will move onto the final round. The final round is in person and will take place on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at First Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro. The prize winner(s) will perform their selection with the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra in concerts in February, 2025 and will receive a cash prize subject to the outcome of the final round. Please refer to the "Awards" section below for specific cash award information and dates of rehearsals and concerts.

Eligibility

1. This competition is open to all instrumentalists (piano, strings, woodwinds, harp, guitar, brass and percussion) between the ages of 13 and 18 who have not yet graduated high school in the 2024-25 academic year.
2. Participants may enter on ONE instrument only.
3. Winners of a previous WSO Young Artists Concerto Competition are ineligible to compete again.
4. Contestants must reside in any of the following counties or cities (as shown by your home address and/or location of school currently attending):
 - Albemarle (including Charlottesville)
 - Amherst
 - Augusta (including Waynesboro and Staunton)
 - Bath
 - Buckingham
 - Culpeper
 - Fluvanna
 - Greene
 - Highland
 - Louisa
 - Madison
 - Nelson
 - Orange
 - Rockbridge
 - Rockingham (including Harrisonburg)

Application Requirements:

The application has the following three components that must be received electronically no later than Monday, October 14, 2024 at 11:59 PM.

1. **Online Application Form:** Fill out and submit all required information on the [online application form](#).
2. **Application Fee:** \$15 (payable directly on the online application form).
3. **Video Recording Submission Information**
 - Applicants must submit a performance with piano accompaniment of ONE work in **video format** from the [repertoire list](#). Your selection must be a minimum of eight minutes and not exceed 25 minutes in length. Complete works are not required--it is fine to perform just one movement, as long as your selection is at least eight minutes in length. Acceptable entries may contain multiple movements as long as the performance time does not exceed the time limit of 25 minutes. The piece must be memorized. If a contestant wishes to submit a piece not found on the provided list, it must be pre-approved by the WSO Music Director, Peter Wilson. To do so, please send an email with your proposed selection to Gabi Dech at gabidech@gmail.com no later than September 1, 2024, and it will be forwarded to Maestro Wilson. (link to [repertoire list](#))
 - The performance video should be uploaded to YouTube as an Unlisted video, and the applicant should include the link on the Concerto Competition Application Form. Please follow the **Video Submission Instructions, located below**.
 - ***Please note that we will NOT accept audio-only entries.***
 - Applicants will also need to upload a pdf scan of the score (it should be a piano reduction) in the appropriate spot on the Concerto Competition Application Form.

Final Round:

Our panel of judges will select finalists from the first round video recordings. All entrants will be notified no later than November 1st if they have advanced to the final round. Finalists will be invited to First Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro (249 S. Wayne Avenue), to compete in a final round in person on Saturday, November 16, 2024. Finalists will perform the same selection submitted with their application materials from the first round in front of a panel of judges. Please be reminded that entrants must memorize their music.

Applicants must provide their own piano accompanist. Accompanists should take appropriate cuts in tutti sections. If an applicant is in need of an accompanist, please contact Dr. Lise Keiter at lkeiter@marybaldwin.edu, and she will be happy to assist in finding one.

Awards:

The competition prize winner(s) will be awarded a cash prize as outlined below as well as invited to perform their solo selection in concert with the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Staunton **and** on Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 3:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro. The symphony holds two dress rehearsals (one at each performance venue) which the prize winner(s) **must** attend; the first is on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 starting at 7 PM

(Waynesboro) and the second is on Thursday, February 20, 2025 (Staunton) starting at 7 PM. The specific rehearsal order for February 18 and 20 will be determined closer to the dates.

The prize winner(s) will also receive a cash prize subject to the outcome of the final round. The top prize winner will receive **\$1,000**. Should there be a 2nd place recipient, this prizewinner will receive **\$500**. And should there be a 3rd place recipient, this prizewinner will receive **\$250**. Honorable mentions may also be recognized at the discretion of the judges.

Judges:

A panel of professional musicians will judge the competition.

Travel:

Applicants and winner(s) are responsible for their own travel expenses.

Final Reminder:

All materials must be submitted to Gabriela Dech at gabidech@gmail.com no later than **Monday, October 14, 2024 at 11:59 PM**. These materials include filling out the application form online, paying the participation fee, uploading your score, and submission of a **video recording** of your performance as your first-round entry.

If there are any questions, please direct them to the Gabi Dech at gabidech@gmail.com.

Video Submission Instructions

1. All videos must be submitted as an unlisted YouTube video link (see **Instructions for uploading to YouTube** below).
2. High-quality audio is recommended.
3. Videos can be made in the student's home, in the teacher's studio, in a performance hall, or other appropriate location. The quality of instrument, location, or quality of video will not be a factor in judging. However, please dress professionally, as you would in a "live" competition.
4. To ensure quality and consistency of the videos among entrants, set up the camera from the audience perspective, limit background noise, and make sure the performance space is well lit.
5. Video recordings should be made with one fixed camera angle/location, focused such that the performer is visible at all times.
 - a. Pianists should have face, fingers and feet visible at all times, and the video angle must clearly show that no music is being used.
 - b. For non-pianists, a full view of the performer is required, as well as a complete view of the instrument being played. Please avoid having any part of the instrument blocked by a stand or cut out of the frame. Also, the video angle must clearly show that no music is being used.
6. The finished video submission must be one continuous file from one fixed camera. **No editing is allowed**, except for trimming excess time before and/or after your performance.
7. **Please see guidelines below on how to label and upload each video.**

8. Students and teachers should review videos before submitting to check sound quality and microphone placement.
9. A high-speed internet connection is recommended.
10. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO.** It can take a long time to upload videos, and there is always the possibility of an untimely technology glitch or internet problem. Please plan ahead so that you get your videos in on time.
11. **All videos must be submitted by the deadline of October 14, 2024. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS will be accepted.**

Instructions for uploading to YouTube:

All recordings for the WSO Concerto Competition must be uploaded to YouTube. After your recordings are finished, upload them as an “unlisted” video on YouTube, using the instructions below. You can do this through the YouTube App or on a computer.

Video Format: YouTube accepts any of the following video formats: .MO, .MPEG4, MP4, .AVI, .WMV, .MPEGPS, .FLV, 3GPP and WebM.

1. Go to www.youtube.com and sign in. If you don't already have an account, create one.
2. Click the “UPLOAD” button at the top.
3. Either click on the “Select files to upload” box and select your video file from your device or drag/drop your video file into the box.
4. Under “Title,” name your file using this format:
Your Last Name_First Name_Instrument_Composer_Name of Piece
(with movements if applicable) (i.e. Smith_John_Clarinet_Mozart
Concerto_Allegro)
5. Change the visibility setting from “Public” to “**Unlisted**” and click “Done.”
6. Click “Save.”
7. Submit your link on the Concerto Competition Application Form, found on our website (wsomusic.org), under the Concerto Competition tab.
8. By submitting the video links, you are granting consent for these videos to be viewed by an adjudicator for evaluation purposes.

If applicants need further help uploading their videos, please visit:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407>