

COMPETITIONS

a musical america guide to top competitions

 <p>The Banff Centre inspiring creativity</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS BESANÇON</p>	 <p>CONCOURS INTERNATIONAL D'ORGUE DU CANADA CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION</p>	 <p>THE FRYDERYK CHOPIN INSTITUTE</p>	<p>concertartistsguild</p>  <p>THE CLIBURN</p>	
 <p>FESTIVAL OF THE VIOLIN INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION OF INDIANAPOLIS AND THE VIOLIN SOCIETY OF AMERICA</p>	<p>THE 11th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2015 in Karuizawa 第11回 国際オーボエコンクール・軽井沢</p> <p>bamberger symphoniker gustav mahler dirigentenwettbewerb</p>	<p>VOICE 2015</p> <p>THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION</p>	<p>2015 MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL COMPETITION VOICE</p>	 <p>honens Bienen School of Music NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY</p>	 <p>THE CARL NIELSEN 150 YEARS International Chamber Music Competition for string quartet and wind quintet 2015</p>
<p>THE WALTER W. NAUMBURG FOUNDATION, INC.</p>  <p>Young Concert Artists, Inc. The Future of Music®</p>	<p>SPHINX Transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts Aaron P. Dworkin • Founder Yo-Yo Ma, Special Artistic Advisor</p>	<p>musical america SPECIAL REPORTS February 2015</p>			
 <p>QUEEN ELISABETH COMPETITION</p>	<p>PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY PARKENING INTERNATIONAL GUITAR COMPETITION</p>	 <p>THE XV INTERNATIONAL TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITION http://tchaikovskycompetition.com/en/#!/p</p>			

A Musical America Guide to Top COMPETITIONS

Editor's Note



The field of classical music is not known for controversy, except in one area: competitions. Rarely is the top winner an unanimous choice among judges; rarer still does the audience agree with the jury's decision. The moment the winner is announced, the accusations fly: He must have studied with one of the judges; the voting is biased toward men, woman, Asians, Caucasians, Russians, fill in the blank. Then there's the argument that competitions reward technical whiz kids with nerves of steel rather than sensitive artists who have yet to reach their full potential.

We asked author, pianist, and well-travelled jury member Stuart Isacoff to write about his own experiences behind closed doors (see [Confessions of Seasoned Jurist](#)) and to discuss some of the different ways competitions are judged in [Competition Judging: Keeping Evil out of the Jury Room](#).) Are the jury members allowed to discuss their opinions amongst themselves or is everything done by secret ballot? Does the jury change from round to round or is it the same one from the beginning of the screening process to the end of the finals? Is a computer used to shave off the highest and lowest ratings?

Regardless of their respective methods, what's clear from each of the four competitions Isacoff covers is their concerted efforts to be fair. Even at that, there's going to be a dissenting opinion. Count on it.

The information in the Guide was gathered from select competitions chosen from the more than 1,500 in the Musical America festivals database. Most (but not all) of which have first prize winnings between \$10,000 and \$50,000, and a considerable number more than that. We asked them to tell us about their purpose and background, about their prizes, including performances, their application deadlines, artistic disciplines, eligibility guidelines, number of jurors and name of the chair if known, the dates and locations of the finals and semifinals and whether they were open to the public.



While all of the competitions in the Guide are special, a number have been further designated as Editor's Picks. This was done on the basis of each competition's mission, discipline and industry profile. Look for the special icon at the top of the listings.

Whether an artist going for the gold, an observer lured by the thrill of a tough contest, or a laureate of competitions past, we hope you'll find this latest Special Report as interesting to read as it was to put together.

Regards,

Susan Elliott
Editor, Special Reports

COMPETITION

JUDGING

Keeping Evil Out of the Jury Room

By Stuart Isacoff

Stuart Isacoff's latest book is A Natural History of the Piano (Knopf/Vintage).

If you want to set off a wave of conspiracy theories, just start a music competition. Suspicion and gossip—especially speculation about sinister dealings behind the scenes—will be virtually unavoidable.

Such controversies have a long history. Celebrated Soviet dancer Maya Plisetskaya complained in her memoirs about “clandestine hermaphrodites” being placed in Soviet athletic contests in the 1950s, and reported that dance and music competitions within the Soviet orbit were regularly fixed. Until recent years, the Tchaikovsky Competition has been smeared for long stretches with that legacy.

So the griping can be justified. Sometimes.

When a Scandal Is Not a Scandal

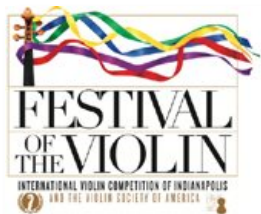
A few months ago, Musical America reported on pianist [Pascal Rogé's accusations of bias](#), made against his fellow judges at the Rina Sala Gallo piano competition in Monza, Italy. Rogé had turned to Norman Lebrecht to broadcast his complaints through his “Slipped Disc” blog, which Lebrecht did quite happily. But the pianist was factually wrong and, it turned out, ethically flawed.

The competition's response was to depart from its own rule of confidentiality and reveal all the judges' scores, including Rogé's. The scorecard showed that he gave high marks to the pianist he claimed was unworthy of the ratings she had received from the rest of the jury. Shooting himself in the other foot, Rogé had ignored the rules that automatically dropped the highest and lowest scores from the totals. So he had actually guaranteed the results to which he objected.

A similar “non-scandal” erupted last year at the Indianapolis Violin Competition, again triggered by Lebrecht's column, when tempers flared over the fact that three of the six finalists were students of a single jury member, Miriam Fried. According to Glen Kwok, the competition's executive director, and president of the World Federation of International Music Competitions (the governing body of over 100 competitions), “One of the hallmarks of the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) has always been the integrity of its judging process. From a strict no-discussion policy amongst the jury members, to abstentions by any jury member who has a student in the competition, to a sophisticated computerized scoring system which eliminates any possibility of score manipulation, multiple safeguards have been implemented to ensure a fair, honest, and transparent process.” In this instance, the competition asked Fried to recuse herself from voting during the finals.



Indianapolis Violin Competition: One jury fits all



Kwok's procedures to guarantee fairness have been widely adopted, though not universally. "We hope we are setting the bar," he says. "We know that our competitors are trying to launch a career, so the stakes are high."

Among Indianapolis's policies to ensure fairness:

- **Recorded entries must be video, rather than audio alone**, where subtle editing might enhance the performance.
- **The jury does not change over the course of the event.** "If a juror has sat there for days through all the rounds," says Kwok, "they have a clearer understanding of the competitors."
- **Each round counts.** The results of each round are considered in determining the finals, unlike some competitions where, once a round is over, only the winner moves on (although the preliminaries are weighted differently than the semi-finals and finals).
- **The computer doesn't lie.** Indianapolis uses a computer program designed by John McBain to calculate the scores. Each score is adjusted to fit the jury's overall statistical voting distribution—eliminating weird spikes and craters, abnormal highs and lows. "If someone tries to game the system, the program catches it," says Kwok. The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition used to use the same program; the Cleveland Piano Competition and the Tchaikovsky still do.
- **No talking in the jury room.** Finally, no discussion is allowed among jurors, so the loudest and strongest among the pool can't influence the others. (I was on a jury once where one veteran judge stood up and lectured all the others on what they were failing to hear.)



The American Pianists Association: Different juries for different rounds

Unlike Indianapolis, the American Pianists Association, which alternates annually between classical and jazz, uses three separate juries for selecting the five finalists. First, one jury screens all of the applications to pick the five competitors. Then, a second jury hears those five play solo and chamber performances and ranks them, one to five.

Then a third jury hears the five in chamber and concerto performances, the latter with the Indianapolis Symphony, and ranks them, one to five. Scores from juries two and three are tallied and the highest number of votes wins. "The only influence I have," says President and Artistic Director Joel Harrison, "is in choosing the jury."



The Cliburn: A simple yes or no

The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition likes an even simpler system, says CEO Jacques Marquis. In 2002, as head of the Montreal Competition, he used a 100-point scoring method in which the highest and lowest rankings were discarded. But it created confusion: assigning a numerical value to a performance has an arbitrary quality, and "some jury members don't deal well with numbers," says Marquis.

So he switched to a simpler system. "My last seven years in Montreal," he reports, "we used a yes-no process." He liked the straightforwardness of it, and the fact that it could be explained to any judge, whether French, Chinese, or Italian. It poses one basic question: "Do you want to see this candidate in the next round?"



He now applies these experiences at the Cliburn. "In the finals," he says, "we ask the jurors to vote for the Gold Medalist—submitting just one name. Then, we ask for them to vote for the Silver Medalist. There is no discussion." And no worries about manipulation through fancy number work.



Cincinnati World Piano Competition: Tennis, anyone?

The most radical re-configuring of a music competition is taking place at the Cincinnati World Piano Competition, where the event will be held every three years instead of annually, under new Artistic Director Awadagin Pratt.

Among the changes: if you have ever studied with one of the jurors, don't apply. "I've witnessed two- and five-year exclusions," says Pratt. "But if someone was your student 12 years ago, he or she is still sort of your child. Besides, when you walk out on stage, if you see your teacher you have a different feeling. I think it's bad for a competition."




Cincinnati World Piano Competition leaders, left to right: Awadagin Pratt, artistic director; Mark Ernster, executive director; Trey Devey, Cincinnati Symphony and Pops president; Peter Landgren, dean, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

More dramatic is Pratt's idea to make the competition structure "more closely resemble a sports tournament," setting up brackets. "Persons A and B will play against one another. The first round winners will continue competing on the A side; the rest will continue competing on the B side. Each side will make it to the semifinals." Therefore, everyone gets to be heard numerous times. It is good not only for the musicians, he believes, but for the audience and for conveying a feeling of transparency.

"Say somebody attends in the afternoon, and they listen to six or seven people. In most competitions, they find out that none of the people they heard made it farther. Then they hear another round, and decide that the best pianists were eliminated. Something seems wrong. This way the person who lost gets to play again, but you know the judges thought one was better.

"This kind of matchup is essentially what happens in the final rounds of every competition," he says. "Why not have it happen throughout the competition?"

One of the motivations behind these changes—and for the creation of shorter playing sessions, so more participants can be heard in the limited amount of time—is an interest in attracting an audience. As Pratt points out, "You want people to come to a competition, and competitors want to play for an audience. The single most important aspect of competition is the opportunity to be heard." 

CONFESSIONS OF A SEASONED JURIST



I've served on many juries, and each of the issues raised here seems to come into play every time. Take the admonition not to talk: Perhaps it's designed to keep things from getting too far out of hand, but it simply doesn't work. Talking to a fellow juror is usually not a matter of debate or of seeking consensus. If a juror is expert enough, there is no need for any of that—we all know exactly what we are hearing and where we stand, and any talking is usually simply a social amenity and a signal of a shared experience.

Other issues are less easy to resolve. Should one vote for level of accomplishment or potential for greatness? The two are sometimes far apart, especially if one of the contestants is younger than the others. I found myself struggling with this question at a competition just last year.

Then there are issues of pitting stylistic rectitude versus imaginative brilliance; would you vote for Vladimir Horowitz's Mozart or fine him for violating the rules of historical propriety? And while we're on the subject, which is more important: technical accuracy or expressiveness? Most jurors don't mind a wrong note or small memory slip. And how much expressiveness is too much? Some musicians go overboard, exaggerating pauses, outlining cadences, and the like, without realizing that they are detracting from the music rather than enhancing it.

Amateur competitions and competitions designed specifically for young people pose additional difficulties. How do you manage your expectations? Do you keep the high bar of professional players in mind, or simply survey the field to determine a reasonable level? I was on the jury of the very first Cliburn Amateur Competition, and the winner was a French dealer in rare coins (thus, an amateur), but he regularly traveled to Moscow for lessons, and obviously practiced like crazy. This was one serious dude, and his playing—well, it really doesn't ever get much better. Pity the doctors, lawyers, housepainters and one newspaper critic who had the misfortune to come up against him.

COMPETITIONS

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Competition Judging: Keeping Evil Out of the Jury Room..... 2

Users' Guide to International Competitions

AMERICAN PIANISTS ASSOCIATION'S JAZZ FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Competition is open to extraordinary pianists with the potential to make strong contributions to the music profession in general and jazz in particular.

MAIN OFFICE
4603 Clarendon Road, Suite 030
Indianapolis, IN 46208
317-940-9945
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY
Candidates must be citizens of the U.S., between ages 18 and 30 on March 28, 2015.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Quadrennial
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances Management
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	December 20, 2014**
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)	March 27, 2015
FINALS (live rounds)	March 28, 2015
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Live	✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS   

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

THE AZRIELI MUSIC PROJECT

The AMP celebrates fosters and creates extraordinary opportunities for new orchestral works on a Jewish theme. There are two prizes: The Azrieli Prize in Jewish Music (international, works composed after January 2005) and the Azrieli Commissioning Competition (Canadian residents, proposals for new works).

MAIN OFFICE

1010 rue Ste-Catherine Ouest, Suite 1200
Montreal, QC H3B 3S3, Canada
514-282-1155 ext. 235

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Composers of all faiths, backgrounds, and affiliations are invited to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Composition



DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5

Application deadlines:

Commissioning Competition	March 15, 2015
Prize in Jewish Music	January 1, 2016

FINALS (live rounds)

October 19, 2016, The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Maestro Kent Nagano, Maison Symphonique de Montréal, Montreal, Canada.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION LAUNCHES THE INAUGURAL
AZRIELI MUSIC PROJECT
CELEBRATING, FOSTERING, AND CREATING EXTRAORDINARY
OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW ORCHESTRAL JEWISH MUSIC



TWO \$50,000 (CAD) PRIZES FOR NEW ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

THE AZRIELI PRIZE IN JEWISH MUSIC

THE AZRIELI COMMISSIONING COMPETITION

WINNERS GALA CONCERT

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ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL
CONDUCTED BY KENT NAGANO

THE AMP INVITES SUBMISSIONS FROM COMPOSERS OF
ANY AGE AND OF ALL FAITHS, BACKGROUNDS AND AFFILIATIONS

www.azrielifoundation.org/music



GINA BACHAUER INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR AND YOUNG ARTIST PIANO COMPETITIONS

More than 1,000 pianists from 40 countries have competed in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competitions. Candidates are accepted through a live audition at a selected worldwide site of their choice. Each person selects his or her own repertoire for audition competition rounds and finals.

MAIN OFFICE

Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation
138 West Broadway, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
801-297-4250

Email Website

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

ELIGIBILITY

11-14 years old for Juniors; 15-18 years old for Young Artists (must be at least 11 years old and not older than 18 at the start of the competition).

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Quadrennial
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances Management
Jury chair(s)	Undecided
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline October 1, 2015

Application notes

Applications will be accepted as of March 1, 2015. Applications are only accepted online at www.bachauer.com.

FINALS (live rounds)	June 18, 2016 (Junior finals) June 25 or 27 (Young Artists)
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COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



BANFF INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

Since 1983, BISQC has celebrated the art of chamber music while providing career support for emerging string quartets. The 2016 competition will continue this experience allowing for an unprecedented number of public performances and an exploration of a wide variety of music, creating a festival atmosphere.

MAIN OFFICE

107 Tunnel Mountain Drive
PO Box 1020, Station 23
Banff, AB T1L 1H5, Canada
403-762-6231

Email Website

ELIGIBILITY

1) The competition is open to string quartets of all nationalities whose members are under the age of 35 on September 4, 2016. 2) First- and second-prize winners of any previous Banff International String Quartet Competition (BISQC) are ineligible to apply.* 3) Quartets that have already competed twice in BISQC are excluded from participation.*

**For the purposes of rules 2 and 3, a quartet will be considered the same quartet if 50 percent of the personnel are returning.*

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline March 3, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) August 29-
September 4, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



BARLOW ENDOWMENT FOR MUSIC COMPOSITION—PRIZE COMPETITION

The 2015 winning composer receives a \$20,000 commission from Barlow Endowment to compose a major new work for symphony orchestra. An international consortium of two to five orchestras performs the work in 2017. The 13- to 15-minute work is expected to meet the highest artistic requirements for the medium.

MAIN OFFICE

A-501 HFAC
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT 84602
801-422-2818

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

There are no restrictions with regard to musical style, nationality, age, gender, race, religion, or political persuasion. The only limitations are: 1) Composers who have won the Barlow Prize in the previous five years will not be considered, and 2) Members of the Barlow Boards are not eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Composition

DETAILS

Travel covered?

No

Frequency

Annual

Cash prizes

\$10,000 to \$50,000

Jury chair(s)

Not provided

Jury size

6 to 10

Application deadline

June 1, 2015

Application notes

This deadline is a receipt deadline, not mailing deadline.

FINALS (live rounds)

Notification of winners will be announced on website and Facebook by September 15 annually.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



Ettore Pozzoli

Città di Seregno



XXXIX International Piano Competition

Seregno (Italy)
23th - 29th
September 2015

Biennial musical event
"Gina Gambini" Foundation

The competition is open to pianists
of all nationalities born after 1st January 1983
Pre-selection deadline: 31st March 2015

NEW COMPETITION

WORLD PIANO COMPOSITIONS FOR CHILDREN 2015

Application deadline: 14th June 2015



www.concorsopozzoli.it

Secretariat: Piazza Martiri della Libertà, 1 - I-20831 Seregno (MB) - Italy
Tel. and Fax (+39) 0362 - 222.914 (answering machine) - e-mail: staff@concorsopozzoli.it
Member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation since 2004



BESANÇON INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS

Established in 1951 by the Besançon International Music Festival, the Besançon Competition quickly became the most prestigious event of its category. It took place every year until 1992 and thereafter every two years.

MAIN OFFICE

Concours international de jeunes chefs d'orchestre
Festival de musique de Besançon Franche-Comté
2 rue Morand
F-25000 Besançon, France
+33 3 81 25 05 85

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all artists who wish to become professional conductors, regardless of their career, training, or experience; no prior diploma is required. Open to candidates of all nationalities born between September 20, 1999 and September 20, 1980. After the pre-selections that take place around the world, only 20 candidates are admitted to the rounds with orchestra Besançon in September.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Conducting
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	€10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Dennis Russell Davies, Conductor
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	January 29, 2015**
Application notes	According to availability (the competition limits nominations to 270 people)
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)	
China: April 18-19, 2015; France: April 21-23, 2015; Germany: April 25-29, 2015; Canada: May 1-2, 2015	
FINALS (live rounds)	September 20, 2015
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Finals only (live)	
SOCIAL LINKS	 



CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

All of the talented young organists from around the world who participate in the CIOC are immersed in an intensive program, with an international jury and supportive CIOC team, allowing them to leave Montreal as more confident musicians with an enhanced skill set and better understanding as a performing artist.

MAIN OFFICE

606 Cathcart, Suite 335
Montreal, QC H3B 1K9, Canada
514-510-5678

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The CIOC is open to organists of all nationalities born after October 19, 1982. To be admitted to the CIOC, candidates must send a completed registration file bearing a postmark prior to January 30, 2017. Only complete files will be processed. The first prize winner of any previous CIOC competition is ineligible to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES	Organ
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances Management
Jury chair(s)	John Grew, Artistic Director, Canadian International Organ Competition
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	January 1, 2017
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)	October 15 and 17, 2017
FINALS (live rounds)	October 19, 2017
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Live	✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)
SOCIAL LINKS	  

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

GINA BACHAUER INTERNATIONAL PIANO FOUNDATION



JUNIOR & YOUNG ARTISTS PIANO COMPETITIONS

International Auditions; Junior Ages: 11-14; Young Artists Ages: 15-18

Application Deadline: October 1, 2015

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH | ROSE WAGNER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

www.bachauer.com

CINCINNATI WORLD PIANO COMPETITION

The 2015 CWPC Artist Division will feature bracket-style first rounds, where artists will compete head to head for a chance at a spot in the semifinals. Three finalists will be selected to perform with the renowned Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Please check the CWPC website for more information.

MAIN OFFICE

Music Hall
1241 Elm Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
513-744-3501

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2015 Artist Division is open to pianists between the ages of 18 and 32 as of June 7, 2015. The competition is not open to previous winners of the Gold Prize. No competitor will be admitted who has 1) ever studied in any capacity with a jury member, 2) been coached by a jury member in preparation for the competition, or 3) is a relative of a jury member.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5

Application deadline January 1, 2015**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) June 11, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) June 13, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The Cleveland International Piano Competition and Festival consists of four rounds of performances, symposia, films, and social events, offering something for casual listeners and music aficionados. Finalists perform concerti with The Cleveland Orchestra, an experience unmatched by other competitions and one afforded to only a few pianists in the world.

MAIN OFFICE

20600 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 1110
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
216-707-5397

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Ages 18 to 30 as of August 6, 2016.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
	Management
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline December 1, 2015

Application notes

Late application deadline December 15, 2015 (late fee applies).



SEMIFINALS AND FINALS (live rounds)

July 24-August 7, 2016 at the Cleveland Museum of Art and Severance Hall, Cleveland, Ohio.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2013 Stanislav Khristenko
2009 Martina Filjak
2001 Roberto Plano
1999 Antonio Pompa-Baldi
1989 Sergei Babayan

SOCIAL LINKS



CLEVELAND
INTERNATIONAL
PIANO
COMPETITION

JULY 24 - AUGUST 7
2016

Final Round with The Cleveland
Orchestra in Severance Hall,
Bramwell Tovey, Conductor.

NEW for 2016: Chamber Music round
with the Escher String Quartet.

Winner receives the Mixon
First Prize of USD 75,000,
three years of management services,
a New York debut, and a CD
recording on the Steinway & Sons label.

Application deadline
DECEMBER 1, 2015
Apply online at
CLEVELANDPIANO.ORG

To engage the First Prize winner, contact
Joseph Castellano at 216.862.7835
or joseph@castellanoartists.com



Photo by Roger Mastroianni.



FIFTEENTH VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

All rounds are webcast live, including international screening auditions. Prizes include career management, international and U.S. concert tours for the three seasons, and a live recording.

MAIN OFFICE

201 Main Street, Suite 100
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-738-6536

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Age 18 to 30.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?

Yes

Frequency

Quadrennial

Cash prizes

More than \$50,000

Additional prize

Performances

Management

Jury chair(s)

Leonard Slatkin, Music

Director, Detroit

Symphony Orchestra

and Orchestre

National de Lyon

Jury size

11 or more

Application deadline

October 18, 2016

FIFTEENTH VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION, cont'd

ALL ROUNDS (live rounds) May 25-June 10, 2017

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live

✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



University of Louisville

GUITAR FESTIVAL & Competition

The UofL Guitar Festival and Competition welcomes a roster of top-rate guitarists, devoted students, and casual enthusiasts for intensive study and artistic development.

Artists: William Kanengiser, Julfo Alves, Isaac Bustos, Jeremy Collins, Dennis Davis, Stephen Mattingly

May 21-24, 2015 • louisville.edu/music/guitarfest

UL SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Festival Registration: \$150 for festival and competition • \$75 for youth weekend
\$50 for concert series, and \$20 for individual concerts.
Solo Artist Competition 1st Prize Guitar by Zebulon Turrentine

AMERICAN PIANISTS ASSOCIATION'S JAZZ FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

FINALS

LIVE WEBCAST!
MARCH 28, 2015 / 7:30 PM EST
AT AMERICANPIANISTS.ORG/LIVE

WATCH

FIRST CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR PIANO COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL

Top international jurors; media coverage and live webcast of all competition performances; finalists perform with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Mei-Ann Chen; festival atmosphere, which includes performance experience and professional career advice.

MAIN OFFICE

201 Main Street, Suite 100
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-738-6536

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Age 13 to 17 (Applicants must have been born on or between June 28, 1997 and before June 21, 2002).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair(s) Jon Nakamatsu, pianist and 1997 gold medalist, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline 9 January 2015**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) June 25-26, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) June 28, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCERT ARTISTS GUILD

The CAG Victor Elmaleh Competition is an annual competition open to instrumentalists and chamber ensembles performing classical and non-traditional repertoire. CAG offers comprehensive management services including concert bookings, commissioning, and recording opportunities, and marketing and publicity support. Competition winners are presented at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall.

MAIN OFFICE

850 Seventh Avenue, PH-A
New York, NY 10019
212-333-5200

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Suggested age limit is 30 for instrumentalists and ensembles (average age). Ensembles should have been in existence with the same membership for at least 12 months prior to the competition. Non-traditional ensembles and instruments are invited to apply. CAG welcomes a statement of purpose and information on repertoire and technical requirements, if appropriate. The 2015 competition is closed to the following: solo harpsichord, early music forte-piano, organ, two-piano duo (four-hand piano duos may apply), saxophone quartet, voice. Applicants with North American management are not eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes None
Additional prize Performances Management

Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline April 1, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Finals only (live and online)

SOCIAL LINKS



**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

THOMAS AND EVON COOPER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Cleveland Orchestra collaborate on this international competition for musicians ages 13 to 18, which alternates annually between violin and piano.

MAIN OFFICE

Oberlin Conservatory of Music
77 West College Street
Oberlin, OH 44074
440-775-8044

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to musicians between the ages of 13 and 18 at time of competition, and who have not won one of the top three prizes in a previous Cooper Competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize Full four-year tuition scholarship to Oberlin Conservatory.

Jury chair(s)

Gregory Fulkerson,
Director
Cooper International
Violin Competition;
Professor of Violin
6 to 10

Jury size

Application deadline

May 1, 2015



SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Solo violin: July 25-27,
Concerto: July 28, 2015
Oberlin Conservatory
of Music, Warner
Concert Hall, Oberlin,
Ohio

FINALS (live rounds)

Recital: July 29, 2015
Oberlin Conservatory
of Music, Warner
Concert Hall
Concerto: July 31, 2015
Severance Hall,
Cleveland, Ohio

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2014 Tony Yike Yang (Age 15, Canada)
2013 Kyumin Park (Age 16, South Korea) and
William Ching-Yi Wei (Age 18, Taiwan), violin.
Both awarded First Prize.
2012 Leonard Colafelice (Age 16, Italy), piano
2011 Sirena Huang (Age 17, USA), violin
2010 George Li (Age 14, USA), piano

SOCIAL LINKS



**THE THOMAS & EVON
COOPER
INTERNATIONAL
COMPETITION**

Violin 2015 July 23-31

For ages 13-18

\$10,000 first prize

Finals with The Cleveland Orchestra

Broadcast live on WCLV 104.9 FM

Application deadline: May 1

More information at www.oberlin.edu/cooper

OBERLIN
COLLEGE & CONSERVATORY

**THE CLEVELAND
ORCHESTRA**
FRANZ WELSER-MÖST
MUSIC DIRECTOR

GAWON INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Gawon International Award has been awarded since 2005 to a promising young pianist. The applicant must be able to demonstrate superb potential achievement in piano, such as exceptional recommendations from acclaimed musicians and awards at international competitions.

MAIN OFFICE

Sambo Hills 102
Pyungchang 12 Gil, Jongno-Gu
Seoul, Korea 110-847
+82 2 379 5698

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists of any nationality between the ages of 17 to 30.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Piano
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair(s)	Oksoo Han
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	December 31, 2015
FINALS (live rounds)	September 2016
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✗ Live	✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)
✓ Finals only (live and/or online)	



Con Brio Recordings

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Icicle Creek Piano Trio
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Quinteto Latino - woodwind quintet
James Greening-Valenzuela - violin
MusicaNova Orchestra

MICHAEL HILL INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The Michael Hill is known for the genuine care it shows all its participants. Professional development is provided to all competitors.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box 78-141, Grey Lynn
Auckland 1245, New Zealand
+64 9 360-6472

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Violinists between the ages of 18 to 28.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000

Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline November 25, 2016

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Rounds I and II, solo and piano accompaniment,
June 6-8, 2017.

Round III, chamber, June 10-11.

FINALS (live rounds) June 13, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



Cello • March 2016
Classical Guitar • March 2017
Violin • March 2018

FIRST PRIZE: \$8,000 & a solo performance
with the Allentown Symphony Orchestra

Diane Wittry, Conductor

Applications due December before competition

www.AllentownSymphony.org/schadt
(610) 432-7961 x206



2015 HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

First Prize: \$15,000, a recital at Weill Recital Hall (NYC), a return engagement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, a CD recording on the Steinway & Sons label, and additional performance opportunities at other venues. Second prize: \$10,000; Third prize: \$3000; Medalists (2): \$1000; Sascha Gorodnitzki Memorial Prize: \$1000.

MAIN OFFICE

2 Park Place, Suite 300/301
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
843-842-5880

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists, ages 18 to 30 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Douglas Humpherys,
Chair Piano
Department, Eastman
School of Music
Jury size 6 to 10

2015 HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

First prize winner receives \$7,000 US plus summer scholarship, return engagement with Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra and other performance opportunities.

MAIN OFFICE

2 Park Lane, Suite 300/301
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
843-842-5880

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists ages 13 to 17.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes

Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Douglas Humpherys
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline September 30, 2014**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) March 7-10, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) March 14, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)
✓ Finals only (live and/or online)

SOCIAL LINKS



2015 HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION, cont'd

Application deadline September 30, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) March 12, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) March 14, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Finals only (live and/or online)

SOCIAL LINKS



HONENS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The Honens International Piano Competition takes place in Calgary, Canada, every three years. The competition searches for an emerging complete pianist: a 21st-century artist for 21st-century audiences. The Honens Prize Laureate is awarded \$100,000 (CAN) and an artistic and career development program valued at a half-million dollars.

MAIN OFFICE

888 10 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 2X1, Canada
403-299-0130

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists of all nationalities, aged 20 to 30 on September 3, 2015, with the exception of previous Honens Laureates and professionally managed pianists, are eligible to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes More than \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Management
Jury chair(s) N/A
Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline February 2, 2015**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) September 3-7 2015

FINALS (live rounds) September 10-11, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Applicants who are first prize-winners of World Federation of Music Competition members are automatically accepted to participate, entering directly into Round II.

MAIN OFFICE
Room 206 A, 2nd Floor, St. George's Building
No. 2 Ice House Street, Central Hong Kong
852-2868-3325 / 852-2868-3387
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY
All pianists born not earlier than September 26, 1986.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes, Round II only
Frequency Triennial

Cash prizes More than \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) No Jury chair
Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline June 1, 2016
The competition scheduled to take place in October 2014 was postponed to September-October 2016 due to social unrest in Hong Kong. The postponed competition will now take place between September 26 and October 11, 2016.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 6-7, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) October 8-9, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS 



Join us for the 2015 Finals on April 18th in Rochester, NY!

Lotte Lenya
LOTTE LENYA COMPETITION
A Program of The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music



kwf.org/LLC

The Lotte Lenya Competition is an annual, international theater-singing contest that recognizes talented young singer/actors, ages 19-32, who are dramatically and musically convincing in repertoire ranging from opera/opera to contemporary Broadway musicals, with a focus on the works of Kurt Weill.

HOUSTON SYMPHONY IMA HOGG COMPETITION

The Houston Symphony Ima Hogg Competition is one of the most prestigious instrumental competitions in the world. It is named to honor the memory of Miss Ima Hogg, a co-founder of the Houston Symphony, and is open to young musicians who play standard orchestral instruments, including piano.

MAIN OFFICE
Houston Symphony
615 Louisiana Street, Suite 102
Houston, TX 77002
713-224-4240
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY
Candidate must be a citizen of the U.S., Canada or Mexico, or a foreign student currently enrolled in a U.S. college, university, or conservatory. Candidate must not be younger than 13 or older than 30 as of June 4, 2015. Candidate must agree to take part in competition rehearsals and events from June 1 to 6, 2015. In addition to the two concertos for the semi-finals, candidate must be amenable to prepare and perform a brief solo work (under five minutes) for a promotional or fundraising event within the June 1 to 6 time period upon request.

INSTRUMENTS
Piano • Strings • Woodwinds • Brass, Marimba • Harp

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair(s) Jennifer Gravenor
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline January 27, 2015**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) June 4, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) June 6, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Finals only (live and/or online)

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.



INTERNATIONAL FRYDERYK CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION

Competition was established in 1927 and runs every five years. Five previous Chopin Competition winners will serve on the 2015 competition jury.

MAIN OFFICE

ul. Tamka 43
00-355 Warszawa, Poland
+48 22 44 16 162

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Between 16 and 30 years old, with two recommendations.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Quadrennial
Cash prizes	€10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Professor Katarzyna Popowa-Zydrón
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	December 1, 2014**



THE
FRYDERYK
CHOPIN
INSTITUTE

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) April 13-24, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 1-23, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2010 Yulianna Avdeeva
2005 Rafał Blechacz
2000 Yundi Li
1995 Philippe Giusiano
1990 Kevin Kenner

SOCIAL LINKS



THE
FRYDERYK
CHOPIN
INSTITUTE

FRYDERYK
CHOPIN

XVIIth
International
Piano Competition
Warsaw 1-23 October 2015



For Transmission of the entire Competition visit our YouTube channel



**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.



THE INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2015 IN KARUIZAWA

Sony Music Foundation has been presenting this unique competition solely dedicated to the oboe since 1985. Member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions.

MAIN OFFICE

Secretariat of the 11th International Oboe Competition of Japan 2015 in Karuizawa/o Sony Music Foundation
SME Ichigaya Building, 8th floor
1-4 Ichigayatamachi
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0843, Japan
+81-3-5227-5233

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Age 18-30. Anyone born between January 1, 1985 and December 31, 1997 is eligible, except for past first-prize winners of the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Oboe

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Hansjörg
Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline March 31, 2015*

Application notes

*Application must arrive by this date, Japan time

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 6-7, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 10, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

29TH EDITION INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION ETTORE POZZOLI

Founded in 1959 by Gina Gambini, the piano competition Ettore Pozzoli is a famous biennial event that pays tribute to the great teacher and composer (Seregno, 1873-1957).

MAIN OFFICE

Secretary of International Piano Competition
Ettore Pozzoli
Piazza Martiri della Libertà n. 1
20831 Seregno (MB), Italy
+39 0362 222914

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

ELIGIBILITY

The piano competition is open to pianists of all nationalities born on or after the 1 January 1983.

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline July 15, 2015

Application notes

Pre-selection: applications deadline March 31st; Competition: applications deadline May 31; Repertoire changes: deadline July 15.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) September 27, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) September 29, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL SIR GEORG SOLTI CONDUCTORS COMPETITION

The competition founded in remembrance of the famous conductor Sir Georg Solti seeks young talents and wants to give them the opportunity to gather and exchange experiences using the Frankfurt Radio and the Frankfurt Opera orchestras.

MAIN OFFICE

c/o Frankfurter Museums-Gesellschaft e.V.
Goethestr. 32
60313 Frankfurt am Main, Germany
+49 1803 161719

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

For 2015: Conductors born between 1980 and 1995.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Lady Valerie Solti
Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline October 31, 2014**

Application notes

The deadline for the 2017 competition will be announced soon.

FINALS (live rounds) February 22, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Finals only (live and/or online)



INTERNATIONAL TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITION

One of the biggest music competitions in the world, founded in 1958.

MAIN OFFICE

Administration of the Int'l Tchaikovsky Competition
State Concert Company "Sodruzhestvo"
Arbat 35, # 557
119002 Moscow, Russian Federation
+7-499-2483494

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All nationalities. Instrumentalists 16 to 32 years old; singers: 19 to 32 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
Cash prizes More than \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Management
Jury size Not provided
11 or more

Application deadline February 1, 2015**

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Piano, Violin, Cello:
June 21-25, 2015

Voice: June 27-28, 2015

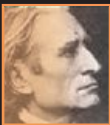
FINALS (live rounds) Piano, Violin, Cello:
June 28- 30, 2015
Voice: June 29-30, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

AMERICAN LISZT SOCIETY BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CHAPTER

2015 Liszt-Garrison Festival International Piano Competition



MAGYAR *Explores cultural traditions which inspired composers around the world, especially the Hungarian folklore evident in the works of Franz Liszt and Béla Bartók*



Notre Dame of Maryland University, Baltimore, MD October 21–25, 2015

THE 2015 COMPETITION

Nancy Roldán, Chair

For Pianists & Duo Ensembles with Piano

Features Three Categories: Artist, Young Artist, Collaborative Artists

Application Postmark Deadline: May 15, 2015

lisztgarrisoncompetition.org • P. O. BOX 1707, OWINGS MILLS, MARYLAND 21117

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

INTERNATIONAL TELEKOM BEETHOVEN COMPETITION BONN

The competition focuses on works by Beethoven from every phase of his creative life. The picture of his music is rounded off with compositions by his predecessors, contemporaries, and successors. Along with the compulsory pieces, candidates can put together a free program to show the jury their individual artistic potential.

MAIN OFFICE

c/o Beethovenfest Bonn
Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse 3
53113 Bonn, Germany
+49 228 181 11 181

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists from all nations, as well as stateless persons, who are between 18 and 32 years old at the time of the competition are eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Piano
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	More than €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Professor Pavel Gililov
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	May 15, 2015
ROUNDS I-III (live rounds)	December 4 -11, 2015
FINALS (live rounds)	December 12, 2015
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)	
SOCIAL LINKS	 



INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION OF INDIANAPOLIS

Hailed by musicians, media, and critics as one of the world's most important competitions for launching a career, the "Indianapolis" quadrennially attracts the greatest young talent in the world. For over 30 years, the competition has searched the globe for the latest violin sensations to emerge on the concert scene.

MAIN OFFICE

32 East Washington Street, Suite 1320
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-637-4574

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 29 during the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Strings
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Quadrennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Management
Jury size	Jaime Laredo
Application deadline	February 28, 2018
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)	September 2018 (Exact dates TBD)
FINALS (live rounds)	September 2018 (Exact dates TBD)
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)	
SOCIAL LINKS	 

51ST INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH

This is the sole classical vocal competition in the Netherlands that involves opera and oratorio, as well as art song for singer/pianist duos. Much attention is paid to 20th-century and contemporary music. Highlights include finals with symphony orchestra, master classes, media training, feedback from jury members, career development, possible travel reimbursement, and accommodation at host families.

MAIN OFFICE

Prins Bernhardstraat 8
5211 HE 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
+31-73-690-0999

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Voice • Lied Duo (singer + pianist)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to candidates of all nationalities. Singers must have completed conservatory training or have reached the equivalent level. Age limits: Singers: Born in 1985 or later (ladies); born in 1982 or later (gentlemen)

Pianists in the Lied Duo: Born in 1979 or later (applies to all)

All candidates must be at least 18 years of age.

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	More than €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10

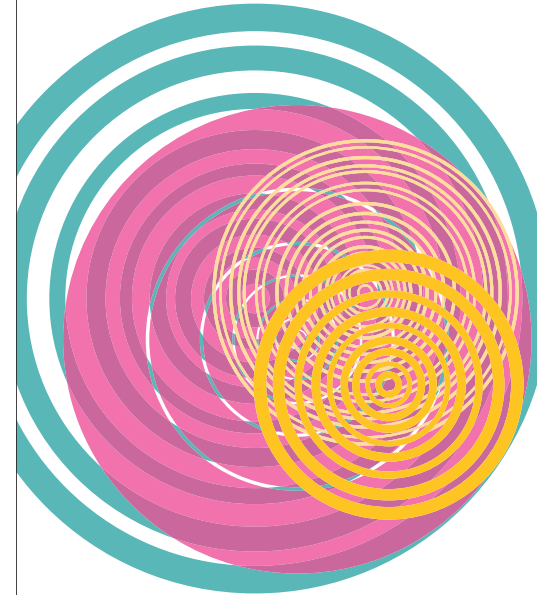
Application deadline April 15, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) September 8-18, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



12TH BANFF INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

August 29 – September 4, 2016

Save the Date!

Application Deadline: March 1, 2016

Over \$150,000 in cash and prizes including career development, international concert tours, as well as residency and recording opportunities at The Banff Centre.

Visit bisqc.ca
for more information

“Winning BISQC has been life-changing! The performance opportunities have been fantastic, and BISQC’s career support and counsel are truly invaluable.”

– Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt,
viola Dover Quartet
2013 First Prize Laureates

WORLD FEDERATION
OF INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC COMPETITIONS

 **The Banff Centre**
inspiring creativity

THE LOTTE LENYA COMPETITION

A unique international theater singing contest that emphasizes wide-ranging repertoire and the acting of songs and arias within a dramatic context. The competition recognizes talented young singer/actors who are dramatically and musically convincing in repertoire ranging from opera/operetta to contemporary Broadway, including the works of Kurt Weill.

MAIN OFFICE

The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music
7 East 20th Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10003
212-505-5240

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to singer/actors of all nationalities, ages 19 to 32.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Voice
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	January 5, 2015**

Application notes

The deadline to submit a video audition for the preliminary round is 2 February 2015.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) March 13-14, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) April 18, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



THE GERDA LISSNER FOUNDATION

The purpose is to provide young opera singers with the financial support they need to develop their craft and excel in the world of opera.

MAIN OFFICE

15 East 65th Street
New York, NY 10065
212-826-6100

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Singers ages 21 to 35 (general competition) or 30 to 45 (Wagnerian competition) who are completing their education and are ready to begin or have already begun a professional career in opera.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Jury chair(s)	Stephen De Maio
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	March 1, 2015

SEMIFINALS/FINALS (live rounds)

General Division preliminaries, March 23 to 26; finals March 28, 2015. Wagnerian Division preliminaries March 27; finals March 28, 2015.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

ifc - discovering voices

51st INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION
8 – 18 September 2016, 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands

Opera | Oratorio | Lied Duo

SUMMER SCHOOL RUSSIAN REPERTOIRE
5 – 13 September 2015, Amsterdam | 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands

Masters: **Larissa Diadkova** mezzo-soprano • **Sergei Leiferkus** baritone
Ljuba Orfenova pianist • **Alexander Humala** condutor et al.

In partnership with Dutch National Opera
www.ivc.nu

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

LISZT-GARRISON INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

A performance-inspiring experience, the competition offers participants performance opportunities as well as a chance to meet and be mentored by major artists. Contestants are hosted and celebrated regardless of competition results. Programming must show a balanced representation of major works by Franz Liszt, American compositions, and traditional repertory.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box 1707
Owings Mills, MD 21117
410-833-9547

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants submit a recording for preliminary CD auditions. In addition, solo pianists must fulfill age requirements by October 2015. Artist: ages 25-40; Young Artist: ages 18 to 24. Duo Ensembles with Piano which include:

*Voice and piano: perform original repertory for the ensemble (Art Song or similar); *Any instrument and piano, also requiring the major repertory for the ensemble.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Dr. Nancy Roldán,
Founder (2005)
President ALS-
Baltimore/Washington

Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline May 15, 2015

Application notes

The deadline is a postmark deadline. No difference between categories.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Through
October 24, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 24- 25, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)
✗ Finals only (live and/or online)

SOCIAL LINKS



THE MAHLER COMPETITION

The competition is one of the most important events of its kind anywhere in the world. It has attracted entries from more than 1,200 young conductors of all nationalities. Only 50 candidates have been invited to Bamberg and of those, no more than ten have made it to the finals.

MAIN OFFICE

Bamberger Symphoniker - Bayerische
Staatsphilharmonie
Mussstrasse 1
D-96047 Bamberg, Germany
+49 951 964 7100

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Young Conductors not older than 35 years on January 1, 2016.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Jonathan Nott,
Principal Conductor,
Bamberg Symphony
Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline September 15, 2015

Application notes

Applications open in May 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) May 11-12, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) May 12, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



A world of competitors. One winner.
Is it you?

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
PARKENING
INTERNATIONAL GUITAR COMPETITION

May 26–30, 2015

\$65,000

IN TOTAL CASH AWARDS

Deadline: February 6, 2015

The Preeminent Classical Guitar Competition in the World
arts.pepperdine.edu/parkening

ON THE CAMPUS OF PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY IN MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

**LEE AND BONNIE MALMED YOUNG ARTIST
COMPETITION AND MITTENTHAL CHAIR SCHOLARSHIP**

Since 1980 the Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra has sponsored a competition to encourage and promote talented student musicians. Past winners hold positions with the major orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, and Minnesota, and with Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble.

MAIN OFFICE

Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra
9501 Skokie Boulevard
Skokie, IL 60077
847-679-9501 ext. 3014

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Woodwinds • Brass

ELIGIBILITY

Young musicians, ages 16 to 22 years old.

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Management
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline March 15, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) March 21, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) March 21, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)



MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL COMPETITION

The mission of the MIMC is to discover and support young singers, violinists, and pianists who demonstrate exceptional mastery of their art. Since its first edition dedicated to voice in 2002, more than 2,300 hopefuls have entered the competition and nearly 400 have performed in Montreal.

MAIN OFFICE

305, Mount-Royal Avenue East
Montreal, QC H2T 1P8, Canada
514-845-4108

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Voice age limit: 33 years old on January 1, 2015.
Violin age limit: 29 years old on January 1, 2016.
Piano age limit: 30 years old on January 1, 2017.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	André Bourbeau
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	December 15, 2014**

Application notes

December 15 is the usual application deadline, every year.



SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Every Spring

FINALS (live rounds) Every Spring

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2002 Measha Brueggergosman, Soprano
2003 Yossif Ivanov, Violinist
2006 Jinjoo Cho, Violinist
2008 Nareh Arghamanyan, Pianist
2009 Angela Meade, Soprano

SOCIAL LINKS



MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL COMPETITION

2015	VOICE	From May 25 to June 5
2016	VIOLIN	From May 23 to June 3
2017	PIANO	From May 1 to 12

YOUR GATEWAY TO SUCCESS
IN NORTH AMERICA!

OVER \$75,000 CAD IN PRIZES

FREE TRANSPORTATION
and accommodation for the candidates selected

FINALS AND GALA CONCERT
with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

CONCOURSMONTREAL.CA



**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

MTNA NATIONAL STUDENT COMPETITIONS

Music Teachers National Association is a nonprofit organization of nearly 22,000 independent and collegiate music teachers committed to furthering the art of music through teaching, performance, composition and scholarly research. Founded in 1876, MTNA is the oldest professional music teachers' association in the United States.

MAIN OFFICE

1 West 4th Street, Suite 1500
Cincinnati, OH 45202
888-512-5278

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Composition • Brass •
Woodwinds • Chamber Music

ELIGIBILITY

All entrants must be a U.S. citizen or must hold a U.S. visa or permanent residence (green card), which is valid throughout the competition year. All entrants must study with a teacher who is (1) a member of MTNA or (2) has paid the Nonmember Teacher Fee of \$150.

Elementary Division (ages 5 to 10); Junior Division (ages 11 to 14); Senior Division (ages 15 to 18); Young Artists Division (ages 19 to 26); All ages as of January 1, 2016.

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	None
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	September 16, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

The MTNA Student Competitions consist of three levels: State Competition, Division Competition and National Finals.

FINALS (live rounds) April 2-6, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



NATIONAL CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION OF THE USA

The National Chopin Piano Competition (NCPC) is open to U.S. pianists exclusively. It is held every five years (since 1975), always in Miami, Florida. NCPC follows closely requirements and rules of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, Poland. Its top winners are accepted to the Warsaw Competition automatically.

MAIN OFFICE

1440 79th Street Causeway, Suite 117
Miami, FL 33141
305-868-0624

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to U.S. pianists; Chopin repertoire only; eligibility determined by the requirements of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Quadrennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	TBA
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline November 1, 2019

Application notes

This deadline will be confirmed in 2018.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) February 22-March 1, 2020 (tentative)

FINALS (live rounds) February 29-March 1, 2020

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



GAWON INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION (BIENNIAL)



September 5-6th, 2016
Seoul, Korea



GAWON AWARD
(Prize of US \$10,000)

Application Deadline : The end of December (every odd year)

Oksoo Han, Chairman
Gawon International Music Society
www.gawonaward.com

Editor's
Pick

THE WALTER W. NAUMBURG FOUNDATION

The competition is open to cellists of every nationality. The Naumburg Foundation is not responsible for visas for musicians who reside abroad. First prize: \$15,000; two fully subsidized recitals; a commissioned work; second prize: \$10,000; third Prize: \$5,000.

MAIN OFFICE

120 Claremont Avenue
New York, NY 10027
917-493-4040 or 347-574-2155

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Competitors may not be under the age of 17 or more than 31 years of age.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	11 or more

Application deadline June 15, 2015

Application notes

Application forms and a recording of no more than 30 minutes of excellent audible quality (CD, DVD, YouTube or Dropbox), three letters of recommendation, a repertoire listing, short bio and \$100 application fee will be required.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 13-16, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 18, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✗ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)
- ✓ Finals only (live and/or online)



MICHAEL LUDWIG NEMMERS PRIZE IN MUSIC COMPOSITION AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

In fall 2004 the Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music established the Michael Ludwig Nemmers Prize in Music Composition, a biennial award honoring classical music composers of outstanding achievement. Nominations are solicited worldwide. The winner is determined by a three-member panel.

MAIN OFFICE

711 Elgin Road
Evanston, IL 60208
847-491-3141

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations preferably should come from recognized experts in the music profession who can describe the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications in no more than a two-page letter. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Former or present members of the Northwestern University faculty or employees of the Chicago Symphony are not eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Composition

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes More than \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline February 1, 2016

FINALS

Nominations for the 2016 Michael Ludwig Nemmers Prize in Music Composition will be accepted starting October 1, 2015. The winner will be announced in early spring 2016.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

No

NEUE STIMMEN INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION

In October 1987, French contralto Nathalie Stutzmann won the first Neue Stimmen European singing contest. Over the past 25 years, Neue Stimmen has grown into an internationally acclaimed competition with preliminary auditions held around the world and a recognized program of master classes in opera and lieder singing.

MAIN OFFICE

Bertelsmann Stiftung
Carl-Bertelsmann-Strasse 256
33311 Gütersloh, Germany
+49 52 41 818 1171

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Opera, Operetta

ELIGIBILITY

Women and men of all nations, women up to age of 28, men up to age of 30.

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Jury chair(s) Dominique Meyer, Director Vienna State Opera
Jury size Not provided

Application deadline Applications currently being accepted from January 5 to March 31, 2015, for the upcoming competition

Application notes Worldwide auditions to be held April to August, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

A first in the world of competitions and a unique feature of the NYIPC, no participant is eliminated during the competition's four rounds. The Foundation also presents a cash award to each of the contestants not receiving a major prize. The NYIPC includes seminars, master classes, and ensemble playing.

MAIN OFFICE

The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation
119 West 57th Street, Suite 1401
New York, NY 10019
212-581-8380

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to pianists of all nationalities. Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 21 during the time

of the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Piano
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	TBD
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline December 7, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



THE CARL NIELSEN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

In 2015 Denmark is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the great Danish composer Carl Nielsen. The Royal Danish Academy of Music, The Royal Library, and Danish Broadcasting Corporation (DR) have arranged this first competition to set focus on Nielsen's chamber music works. First prizes of €15,000.

MAIN OFFICE

Carl Nielsen International Chamber
Music Competition
c/o The Royal Library
Cultural Activities
PO Box 2149
DK 1016 Copenhagen K, Denmark
+45 26702161

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The combined ages of the string quartet must not exceed 120 years.

The combined ages of the wind quintet must not exceed 150 years.

The age of any individual ensemble member must not exceed 35 years.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Strings • String Quartet, Wind Quintet

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	More than €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Michael Schønwandt, Conductor
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline May 1, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Round I: October 1
2-14, 2015; Round II:
October 15 and 16,
2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 17 and 18,
2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



**2015 MICHAEL HILL
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION
NEW ZEALAND**

QUEENSTOWN 5-8 JUNE Rounds I & II - Solo and piano-accompanied works
AUCKLAND 10-11 JUNE Round III - Piano trios
AUCKLAND 13 JUNE Grand Finale - Concerti with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra

violincompetition.co.nz
[facebook.com/MHIVC](https://www.facebook.com/MHIVC)

MEMBER OF WORLD FEDERATION
OF INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITIONS



THE PARKENING INTERNATIONAL GUITAR COMPETITION

The Parkening International Guitar Competition honors Christopher Parkening's lifetime commitment to fostering musical excellence in young artists as demonstrated by his mentor the great Spanish guitarist Andrés Segovia. It is held on the beautiful campus of Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA where Christopher Parkening is distinguished professor of music.

MAIN OFFICE

24255 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90263-4594

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Classical guitarists 30 years old and younger (born on or after May 26, 1985) may participate.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Classical Guitar

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Triennial
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	February 6, 2015

THE PARKENING INTERNATIONAL GUITAR COMPETITION, cont'd

Application notes

[Information about application submissions](#)

[Events and further application notes](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) May 29, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) May 30, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS





**FOURTH ROSALYN TURECK
INTERNATIONAL
BACH
COMPETITION
FOR YOUNG PIANISTS**

October 28 - November 1, 2015

Closing date for entry: July 1

The Competition welcomes pianists, aged 7 - 20, from the world over who pursue the musical ideals espoused by the late Rosalyn Tureck

Semifinals: October 28-30 New York City
Finals: October 31 DiMenna Center for Classical Music New York City

Gala Winners concert: November 1
Bruno Walter Auditorium, Lincoln Center New York City

Information:
Telephone: 1 (212) 873-6087
E mail: TureckBach@aol.com
www.TureckBachCompetition.com

**15th International
Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition**

Poznań, 8-23 October 2016

Chairman of Jury: Maxim Vengerov
Honorary Chairman of Jury: Krzysztof Penderecki
application deadline: 31st December 2015

www.wieniawski.com



ORGANIZER:



MAIN SPONSORS:






THE PARKENING YOUNG GUITARIST COMPETITION

The Parkening Young Guitarist Competition helps to identify outstanding young guitarists and encourages them to continue their performance careers and study.

MAIN OFFICE

24255 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90263-4594

[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

17 years and younger.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Classical Guitar

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Triennial

Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline February 6, 2015

Application notes

[Information about application submissions](#)
[Events and further applications submission information](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) May 26, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) May 27, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS 



QUEEN ELISABETH COMPETITION— BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The Queen Elisabeth Competition aims above all to assist talented young musicians in launching an international career, by offering them the opportunity to perform for radio and television and by developing contacts and networks that can lead to concerts all over the world.

MAIN OFFICE

Rue aux Laines 20
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
+ 32 2 213 40 50

[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Queen Elisabeth Competition rotates among piano, violin, and voice. It is open to musicians who have completed their training and who are ready to embark upon an international career.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline Violin: January 10, 2015*; Piano: January 10, 2016

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Violin: May 2015, Piano: May 2016

FINALS (live rounds) Violin: May 2015, Piano: May 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS  





THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

The Queen Sonja International Music Competition is one of the world's leading voice competitions. It takes place every other year in Oslo and is open to singers from all over the world. The main goal of the competition is to assist the career development of talented young singers.

MAIN OFFICE

Universitetsgaten 14
0164 Oslo, Norway
+47 22992105

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Born after January 1, 1983.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?

No

Frequency

Biennial

Cash prizes

€10,000 to €50,000

Jury chair(s)

Sophie de Lint,
Director, Zürich Opera

Jury size

6 to 10

Application deadline

April 1, 2015

Application notes

The opening date for applications is February 15, 2015. Information about the application process will be announced on our website and our Facebook page.

THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION, cont'd

SEMIFINALS/FINALS

August 11-21, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live

✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



MTNA

2015–16 Music Teachers National Association Student Competitions

The MTNA student competitions provide educational experiences for students and teachers and to recognize exceptionally talented young artists and their teachers in their pursuit of musical excellence. The three-tiered MTNA competitions begin at the state level. First-place winners of each state's competition advance to a division competition. Division winners compete in the national finals at the 2016 MTNA National Conference in San Antonio, Texas, next April.

The competitions are divided into four age groups: Elementary (ages 5-10; composition only), Junior (ages 11-14), Senior (ages 15-18) and Young Artist (ages 19-26).

Competitions include Composition, Brass, Piano, String, Voice, Woodwind and Chamber Music.

The deadline to apply for the 2015-2016 MTNA student competitions is September 16, 2015. For more information, visit www.MTNA.org

Wideman International Piano Competition

Shreveport, Louisiana

**Competition Dates
December 4-6, 2015**

**Application Deadline
October 16, 2015**



Dr. Lester Senter Wilson
Executive Director

For further information please visit

www.widemanpiano.com

SCHADT STRING COMPETITION

Begun in 1997 following a bequest to the Allentown Symphony Association from Edwin H. and Leigh W. Schadt, the competition alternates annually among violin, cello, and classical guitar. The first prize includes a cash award of \$8,000 and a solo concerto engagement with the Allentown Symphony Orchestra.

MAIN OFFICE

23 North 6th Street
Allentown, PA 18101
610-432-7961 ext. 206

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Must be 18 or not have reached 31st birthday by December 14, 2015. Must be a current resident or citizen of the United States. Proof of citizenship required, or copy of your Student Visa or Green Card with entry. Competition is not open to prior first-place winners of the Schadt String Competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Strings
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$8,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	December 14, 2015

Application notes

Cello: December 2015; Classical Guitar: December 2016; Violin: December 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) Cello, March 4-6, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) Cello, March 4-6, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Finals only (live and/or online)

SOCIAL LINKS



SPHINX COMPETITION

The Sphinx Competition offers young Black and Latino classical string players a chance to compete under the guidance of a renowned panel of judges. Its primary goals are to encourage, develop, and recognize classical music talent in the Black and Latino communities.

MAIN OFFICE

400 Renaissance Center, Suite 2550
Detroit, MI 48243

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all junior high school, high school, and college-age Black and Latino string players residing in the U.S.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Strings
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	More than \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Management
Jury size	Not provided
Application deadline	6 to 10
Application deadline	November 10, 2015
FINALS (live rounds)	Dates TBD
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	
✓ Finals only (live and/or online)	

THE 8th NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION®

June 19-24, 2016 • Ages 16-21
New York City

\$50,000 in Prizes and Awards

1st Prize \$10,000 • 3rd Prize \$3,000

2nd Prize \$6,000 • 4th Prize \$2,000

Ensemble Prizes \$6,000

Best Performance of Commissioned Work \$1,500

Each Remaining Contestant Receives \$1,000

Open to Pianists of all Nationalities

No Elimination of any Contestant throughout the Competition
Seminars and Master Classes

For further information contact:

The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation

119 West 57th Street, Suite 1401 • New York, NY 10019 USA

Phone: (212) 581-8380 • Fax: (212) 581-4186

info@stecherandhorowitz.org • www.stecherandhorowitz.org



Application deadline: December 7, 2015

STULBERG INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

Established in 1975, the Stulberg is one of the longest-standing string competitions in the country. Its uniqueness stems from its focus on young string musicians, its strong reputation, and the high caliber of judges.

MAIN OFFICE
359 South Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 14
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-343-2776
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY
The Stulberg International String Competition is open to students of violin, viola, cello, or double bass from around the world. Applicants must be under the age of 20 on January 1, prior to that year's competition. Proof of date of birth will be required if selected as a semifinalist. Current students of that year's judges are not eligible to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5

Application deadline February 1, 2015**

Application notes
The deadline each year for this annual competition is February 1.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) May 16, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) May 16, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.

International Singing Competition 2015
NEUE STIMMEN
Creating Careers

**apply online:
january 5 to
march 31, 2015**

www.neue-stimmen.de

Nicole Car, 1st prize winner NEUE STIMMEN 2013 with the Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra

A project of the BertelsmannStiftung

ROSALYN TURECK INTERNATIONAL BACH COMPETITION

The competition welcomes young pianists from the world over who pursue the musical ideals espoused by the late Mme Rosalyn Tureck. It consists of eight categories divided by repertoire difficulty. A competitor may compete in up to three categories and is required to perform a contemporary work.

MAIN OFFICE
212-873-6087
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY
Ages seven to 20, based on category.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial

Cash prizes None

Additional prize Performances

Jury chair(s) Not provided

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline July 1, 2015

Application notes
Preliminary DVD deadline July 1, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 28-30, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) October 31, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Finals only (live and/or online)

SOCIAL LINKS [Facebook](#)

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE CLASSICAL GUITAR COMPETITION

The University of Louisville Guitar Festival and Competition welcomes a roster of top-rate guitarists, devoted students, and casual enthusiasts for intensive study and artistic development. The competition includes free-choice repertoire for all rounds. Works may be repeated in multiple rounds. Time limits vary between 7-15 minutes between rounds.

MAIN OFFICE

University of Louisville School of Music
2301 South Third Street
Louisville, KY 40292
502-852-5607

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

This competition includes a Youth Division for guitarists under 17 years old and a Solo Artist Division for all ages.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?

No

Frequency

Annual

Cash prizes

\$10,000 to \$50,000

Additional prize

Performances

Jury chair(s)

Stephen Mattingly,
Director of Classical
Guitar Studies,
University of Louisville

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE CLASSICAL GUITAR COMPETITION, cont'd

Jury size

1 to 5

Application deadline

May 21, 2015

Application notes

The application deadline is one day prior to the first round of competition.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) May 23, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) May 24, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



The Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra

The Bonnie and Lee Malméd Young Artist Competition

March 21, 2015
Northeastern Illinois University
Chicago Illinois

Open to young musicians ages 16 - 22
Applications, rules and additional information at www.svso.org

Info@svso.org
847-679-9501 EXT. 3014

THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION, 11-21 AUGUST

*"The Competition in Oslo opened many doors
and gave me new opportunities."*

— Kristina Mkhitarian, 1st Prize Winner 2013

Open for applications
15 February – 1 April 2015
www.qsimc.no

WIDEMAN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The purpose of the competition is to encourage and promote young pianists with opportunities to play with an orchestra, give recitals, and win cash prizes. Please visit our website for more information.

MAIN OFFICE

1200 Meadowbrook Road #39
Jackson, MS 39206
601-946-2063

[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

18 and not older than 28 by December 4, 2015.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes \$10,000 to \$50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Lester Senter Wilson,
Executive Director
Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline October 16, 2015

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) December 4-5, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) December 6, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✗ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



15TH INTERNATIONAL HENRYK WIENIAWSKI VIOLIN COMPETITION

Founded in 1935, this violin competition is the oldest in the world, boasting prize winners such as Ginette Neveu, David Oistrakh, Igor Oistrakh, and Charles Treger. Honorary Chairman: Krzysztof Penderecki.

MAIN OFFICE

Swietoslawska str. 7, 61-840
Poznan, Poland
48 61 8522642 / 48 61 8528991

[Email](#) [Website](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Strings • Violin

ELIGIBILITY

Open to violin players of all nationalities, ages 16 to 30 years.

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Maxim Vengerov
Jury size 11 or more

Application deadline November 30, 2015

Application notes

Preliminary competition: October 8-23, 2016. For more information:
<http://www.wieniawski.com>

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) October 16-18, 2016

FINALS (live rounds) October 20-22, 2016

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Live ✓ Web (live streaming or recorded)

SOCIAL LINKS



WIGMORE HALL INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

The Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition is among the most prestigious quartet competitions in the world. Held under the auspices of Wigmore Hall, a leading venue for chamber music, it attracts the best young quartets and offers excellent career development opportunities to prize winners.

MAIN OFFICE

Wigmore Hall
36 Wigmore Street
London W1U 2BP, United Kingdom
+44 2 (0) 72588244

[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All members of quartets wishing to apply must be under 35 at the date of the final of the competition for which they are applying.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Strings
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
Cash prizes	€10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	John Gilhooly OBE, Director, Wigmore Hall
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	October 17, 2014**
Application notes	Deadline for will be similar for 2018 Competition

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) March 28, 2015

FINALS (live rounds) March 29, 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Live



2016 Hilton Head International Piano Competition March 7-14, 2016 Pianists 18-30



FINALS WITH THE HILTON HEAD
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
\$34,000 CASH PRIZES,
PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

- Winner receives:
- Recital at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall
 - CD recording on the Steinway & Sons label
 - Return engagement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra

APPLICATIONS DUE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015.

www.hhipc.org • pianocomp@hhipc.org
(+1) 843-8425880

WIGMORE HALL/KOHN FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SONG COMPETITION

The competition celebrates the art of the song recital and honors the Lied's place at the heart of the genre. It has grown in status and prestige since its founding in 1997 and continues to attract international singers and pianists keen to embark on significant recital careers.

MAIN OFFICE

Wigmore Hall
36 Wigmore Street
London W1U 2BP, United Kingdom
[Email](#) [Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All singers and accompanying pianists must be under 33 at the date of the final of the competition for which they are applying.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE	Voice
DETAILS	
Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
Cash prizes	€10,000 to €50,000
Jury chair(s)	John Gilhooly OBE, Director, Wigmore Hall
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	April 3, 2015
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)	September 8, 2015
FINALS (live rounds)	September 10, 2015
COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?	✓ Live

**Indicates the application deadline for 2015 has passed; interested future applicants are referred to the competition website.



YOUNG CONCERT ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL AUDITIONS

Young Concert Artists Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to discovering and developing the careers of extraordinary classical musicians. The sole criteria are exceptional musicianship, virtuosity, and individuality. The musicians compete against a standard of excellence, not each other. There is no limit to the number of winners.

MAIN OFFICE

250 West 57th Street, Suite 1222
New York, NY 10107

[Email](#)

[Website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants at the very beginning of a musical career, who offer repertoire within the categories listed, provide two appropriate letters of recommendation, and are not under U.S. management.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Brass • Woodwinds •
Chamber Ensembles

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Cash prizes	None
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair(s)	Management Susan Wadsworth, Director, Young Concert Artists, Inc.
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	August 21, 2015

Application notes

August 21 deadline for live applications, September 11 deadline for recorded applications.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds) November 2015

FINALS (live rounds) November 2015

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



artist manager • marketing director • costume designer • costume design
choreographer • box office manager • executive director • executive direct
vocalist • public relations • music director • producer • c director • producer
operations manager • instrumentalist/violin • sales maralist/violin • sales m
artist manager • marketing director • costume designer • costume designer
choreographer • box office manager • executive director • executive director
vocalist • public relations • music director • producer • lirector • producer •
operations manager • in • umentalist/violin • sales mar
stage director • information • hn • g • duc • libology • producer • lib
music teacher • producti • reg • ag • no man • or • marketing man

JOB

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performing arts careers from musical america

In addition to the Competitions featured in this special report, the [Musical America database](#) of more than 1,500 music competitions worldwide is free of charge for the month of February 2015!

[A Musical America Guide to Competitions](#)

Our Special Report on the top competitions in the world.

[Competition Judging: Keeping Evil Out of the Jury Room](#)

[Confessions of a Seasoned Jurist](#)

[What Do the Judges Look For?](#)

[Why Competitions Matter \(or Not\)](#)

[Win a Contest, Get a Gig?](#)

[Choosing the Best Competition for YOU](#)

[A List of Competitions You May Not Know About](#)

Six Winners Tell Their Stories

- [Joshua Weilerstein, violinist/conductor](#)
- [Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, violinist](#)
- [Christine Goerke, soprano](#)
- [Carol Wincenc, flutist](#)
- [Emanuel Ax, pianist](#)
- [Nigel Armstrong, violinist](#)

In The Next Issue...

FESTIVALS

A 2015 Summer Guide

Coming 31 March 2015

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