FEATURE ARTICLE
5 Top Competitors: Lessons Learned from Winning and Losing

COMPETITIONS
A Musical America Guide to Top Competitions
Editor’s Note

Controversial. Grueling. Exhilarating. Heart-breaking. Depending on your point of view, competitions are either a quick way to separate the merely talented from the extraordinarily talented, or a complete waste of time, energy, and effort. Either way, there’s no denying that a competition win can launch a major career.

Such was the case for 24-year-old Beatrice Rana, for whom winning the Silver Medal at the 2013 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition was “life changing,” as she describes it. Rana, who is based in Italy, is one of the five top artists author John Fleming interviewed for our Competitions Guide feature, Lessons Learned from Winning and Losing. Each of these candidates is a seasoned competition participant, and we were curious to know how their individual experiences had affected their career paths.

If for Rana it was winning the Cliburn, for 29-year-old Danish bassoonist Sebastian Stevensson, now principal bassoon of the Danish National Symphony Orchestra, it was losing the 2013 Munich ARD International Music Competition. “I thought I had a great chance of winning,” he says, “and then I didn’t even pass the first round. It was hard….I had to reconsider so many things about my playing." Calling the loss "a breaking point" in his career, he set about making some changes—like learning to focus not so much on perfect technique as on bringing his own, distinctive interpretation to a work. "I learned that, if I put everything I have, all my beliefs, in a performance, then whether I win or not is out of my hands."

Hong Kong native Elim Chan, who will soon be music director of the NorrlandsOperan, was fortunate enough to learn that lesson during the competition itself. She was auditioning in front of the London Symphony Orchestra at the 2014 Donatella Flick Conducting Competition. “I was scared,” she tells Fleming. “I remember thinking the LSO was so good already, what would I tell them?” The answer came from one of the players during a break in rehearsals. “Don’t try to impress us,” he told her. “We’re the LSO. We play for Gergiev and Haitink. Just be yourself up there.” She took his advice and went on to become the first woman ever to win the Donatella Flick.

In addition to talking with competition winners, we’ve put together a list of some 65 competitions, chosen from our database of 500, and included such information as eligibility requirements, application deadlines, competition dates, prizes, and more. Here’s to winning, losing, and learning.

Regards,
Susan Elliott
Editor, Special Reports

Cover photo credit: Beatrice Rana competes in the 14th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition; June 2013. PHOTO: Ralph Lauer
Winning a competition can be a quick launch pad to career success and fulfillment—but so can losing. Here are the stories of five competitors, each now at the top of his or her field. In our previous Competition Guide, we profiled singer and multiple-competition-winner Jamie Barton; this time, we turn to instrumentalists and a conductor.

By John Fleming

Winner, Donatella Flick Conducting Competition, 2014
Participant, Malko Competition, 2015
Chief Conductor, NorrlandsOperan, Sweden, 2017-18 season

By John Fleming writes for Classical Voice North America, Opera News, and other publications. For 22 years, he covered the Florida music scene as performing arts critic of the Tampa Bay Times.

“As a conductor, the moment you walk onstage, you’re being judged by all the orchestra musicians. You either get them or lose them in five minutes” (not to mention winning over the jury and the audience).

Such were Elim Chan’s challenges in 2014, enroute to becoming the first female winner of the Donatella Flick Conducting Competition, leading the London Symphony Orchestra in rehearsal and concert. Born in Hong Kong, Chan attended Smith College and the University of Michigan, where she was still in grad school when she entered the Flick. The biennial competition appealed to her because it seeks conductors with little professional experience; the prize is a chance to gain seasoning as assistant conductor with the LSO for one year. The players have a say in the result.

“It’s important to know what kind of conductor a competition is looking for,” she says. “I had no professional experience, and that is what the Flick seeks—someone with potential to grow.”

Conductors have an intrinsic problem preparing for a competition. “Violinists or pianists can practice their repertoire hundreds of times,” Chan says. “I couldn’t do that, because I needed an orchestra to work with.” She got together with musicians at school to perform works she’d be doing in the Flick, but still, when
she made it to the finals, she was leading much of the repertoire for the first
time with a real orchestra, including Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade and
Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements. Some jurors watched from seats
in the orchestra as she led rehearsals. "I was scared, of course, before the first
rehearsal. I remember thinking, what do I say to the LSO? Because they would be
so good already, what do I do?"

The human touch
The turning point for Chan came in the break between rehearsals, when
orchestra members came up to talk with her. She had felt uncomfortable in
slow passages in Scheherazade, thrown by the orchestra playing behind the
beat. But the musicians encouraged her. "They told me not to wait for them
in slow music, just go ahead and do my thing, and they'd be there for me. A
cellist said, 'Don't try to impress us. We're the LSO. We play for (Valery) Gergiev,
we play for (Bernard) Haitink. Just be yourself up there.' That was the moment
I started to feel more free."

Chan even took an interpretive risk in conducting Beethoven's Egmont
overture. "Usually when you hear Egmont, it's very muscular, but I was looking
for a lighter, more mellow sound," she says. "At first, they weren't really open to
it, but I just insisted politely, and it worked. All three finalists conducted Egmont,
and I think my performance stood out because I got a lot of my ideas in it."

In 2015, Chan entered the Malka Competition with the Danish National
Symphony Orchestra. "My experience there was quite mixed," she says. "After you
win a competition like the Flick, the pressure becomes double, and I felt I almost
had to win the Malka. This weird expectation was messing with my mind." She
was eliminated after the second round, but it was a blip in her burgeoning
career, which has included a fellowship with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and
conducting the Mariinsky Orchestra in Russia and on tour in Mexico. Chan has
been named chief conductor of Sweden’s NorrlandsOperan for a three-year term
beginning with the 2017-18 season.

Lessons learned
Memorize. Larson plays everything in competitions from memory, from
standard repertoire such as Mozart horn concertos to Messiaen's Interstellar Call,
a difficult work that requires much extended technique. His advice to young
players is, "memorize early and memorize often, because if you start early, it gets
easier. If you start later, it’s a steep learning curve."

Sing, then play. With degrees from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and
Curtis Institute, Larson won the audition to be assistant principal horn with the
Colorado Symphony in 2014. He finds "a decent amount of overlap" in how he
prepares for competitions and auditions. "First, I make sure to sing everything
through before I play a note on the horn, and I keep a preparation chart that
allows me to maximize my practice time. For any given competition, I'm going
to be preparing from 35 to 45 minutes of music, sometimes more, and that's a
lot to keep track of. It's especially important to know where I'm at with technical
passages that require woodshedding with a metronome to get them up to speed,
or I can get really bogged down."

Visualize. Larson is big on visualization. "That means not only picturing myself
in the setting where I'll be playing but also picturing myself emotionally, as in
dealing with stage fright. Something that helps is looking at photos of the venue
you're going to be playing in. I find it helpful to set the photo of the stage on
the background of my phone. Whenever I turn my phone on, I'm looking at that
picture and internalizing it. And I always imagine myself being as nervous as
possible and still playing well."
Being a Cliburn medalist assured her of that: a three-year management contract was part of placing second in the prestigious quadrennial prize. “I remember when they announced the six finalists, they immediately asked for our passports because they were already going to apply for working visas in the U.S. That’s amazing, right? You really feel that they are working for you, not just for the competition.”

A close call

The Cliburn was not all smooth sailing, however: During her performance of Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No. 2 in the finals, a piano string broke in the third movement. Potential disaster loomed. “What can you do?” she says, recalling a silent prayer that it wouldn’t impact her performance. “You just have to keep going and try to do your best. Life onstage is not relaxing. Somehow you have to deal with it.”

The Cliburn was Rana’s swan song to competitions, since she now has a career. This season she’s on an international recital tour with Bach’s Goldberg Variations, and her debut CD—Prokofiev’s Second Piano Concerto and Tchaikovsky’s First with Antonio Pappano and Orchestra dell’Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia—was named recording of the month by BBC Magazine.

Rana doesn’t miss the pressure of competitions. “A couple of months ago I had a nightmare that I was playing the Cliburn again,” she says. “I woke up and thought, thank God it was a dream.”

Lessons Learned from Winning and Losing

Beatrice Rana
24, piano

Winner, Montreal International Piano Competition, 2011
Silver Medalist, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, 2013
Professional pianist

Thanks largely to her Cliburn win, Beatrice Rana is a busy international soloist, currently gracing major stages in London, Paris, Berlin, and her home base of Rome.

“Life changing” is how she describes the impact of winning the Silver Medal that came with a $20,000 award. “After the announcement of the prizes, the next day I got an email from the Cliburn with a list of the engagements I had for the following year. There were many recitals, and soon I was receiving invitations from great orchestras to play concertos. I felt that I had reached another dimension of my life.”

It was a dimension that was a long time coming. “My first competition was when I was five years old,” she recalls. “My parents are both pianists and they thought it was a nice opportunity to play for a couple of minutes in front of an audience.” She went on to enter and win competitions around the world, although competing was never the point.

“I don’t do competitions for the sake of it,” Rana says. “Competitions bring concerts. That’s what I want to do—be a concert pianist.”

Sebastian Stevensson
29, bassoon

Winner, Gillet-Hugo-Fox International Bassoon Competition, 2014
Winner, Swedish Soloist Prize, 2016
Principal Bassoon, Danish National Symphony Orchestra

Sebastian Stevensson has an impressive record in international competitions, but when asked which of them was most helpful to his career, his response is surprising: “The one that went the very worst,” he says.

It was the 2013 Munich ARD International Music Competition, Germany’s largest competition, whose instrument categories vary from year to year. The ARD had been his very first competition, when he was 21, and that time he had been the youngest candidate to make it to the second round. By 2013, he not only had more competitions under his belt and had improved as a player, he was principal bassoon with the Danish National Symphony.

“I thought I had a great chance of winning, and then I went there and didn’t pass the first round,” he says. “It was hard—I probably spent 100 hours working on a demanding piece commissioned by the competition (Nyx by Evis Sammoutis) that I never performed—but the experience was also helpful for me. I had to reconsider so many things about my playing. It was a breaking point in my career.”
A lesson learned

Stevenson, from a prominent musical family in Sweden, had spent almost a year preparing for the 2013 ARD. “I practiced so much on the competition repertoire and technical passages that I became a bit stiff. I was too focused on not making mistakes, which is dangerous…. [You should] focus instead on bringing a special atmosphere or special sound to a piece. That draws the listener in, so that, if you do make a mistake it’s not so disturbing.

“Also, you have to accept that you make mistakes. I learned that, if I put everything I have, all my beliefs, into a performance, then whether I win or not is out of my hands.”

Letting go enabled him to move on to greater success. He won the $10,000 first prize in the Gillet-Fox Bassoon Competition in 2014, the concluding event of the International Double Reed Society convention when it was held in New York City. Performing Hummel’s Bassoon Concerto with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s was among the prizes. Next came the 2016 Swedish Soloist Prize, winning against a pianist and a violinist in the finals, making him artist-in-residence with the Swedish Radio Broadcasting Union. He also won an audition for principal bassoon of the Munich Philharmonic, a position he held for a year before deciding he preferred living in Copenhagen.

“You have to learn to let go” he says of that competition loss. “That, of course, is applicable to a lot of things in life.”

For the JSB competition, held at Colorado State University, Suggs researched who was on the jury. “I was going to be playing for an incredibly astute panel of bassists that I’ve watched perform over the years, and followed on YouTube,” he says. “Because there is a lack of repertoire that is idiomatic for the instrument, I decided I’d present some of my pieces in addition to the required program.”

He chose Daft Punk Chaconne, inspired by French electronic music duo Daft Punk’s dance hit Around the World; and Concerto After Haydn, his realization of a lost Haydn Concerto for violone, a forerunner of the double bass. “I think these entirely new pieces were really refreshing to the jury,” he says.

Upending the jury’s expectations

For standard repertoire, he looked for relatively unfamiliar works while keeping the bass’s physical demands in mind. “Every competitive bassist plays a piece by Giovanni Bottesini,” he says, “so I looked for one of his lesser-known works.” Otherwise, he says, “the judges might have preconceived notions or expectations of how the work should be performed. They might be thinking, ‘Well, you played it fine, but I’d have done it faster, or slower, or I would have started with the up bow instead of the down bow.’ You want them to be thinking of the music you’re making and not the decisions you’re making.

“That was key for me, to think of the jury not as a panel but as an audience I needed to engage with.”

So he ended up with Bottesini’s Gavotte, instead of one of the concertos. “I wanted something that the judges wouldn’t have strong opinions on, but that also wouldn’t burn my technique too much. Something charming and not too much of a strain.”

Clearly, it was the right move.
The following listings were drawn from the 2017 Musical America Worldwide database. Note that the majority have first-prize monies of $10,000 and over.

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Note that the majority have first-prize monies of $10,000 and over.

The following listings were drawn from the 2017 Musical America Worldwide database. Note that the majority have first-prize monies of $10,000 and over.
**AGO/ECS PUBLISHING AWARD IN CHORAL COMPOSITION**

The competition seeks outstanding compositions for SATB chorus and organ in which the organ plays a distinctive and significant role; requirements vary. There is a $2,000 cash prize and publication by ECS Publishing.

**MAIN OFFICE**
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115
UNITED STATES
212-870-2310
email [site]

**ELIGIBILITY**
The competition is open to all composers except AGO/ECS past winners. Membership in the AGO is not required.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Organ • SATB Chorus

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $2,000
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline July 1, 2018

Application notes Deadline subject to change.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✖ Not open to the public

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**ALTAMURA/CARUSO INTERNATIONAL VOICE COMPETITION**

The competition was founded in 1988 by Carmela Altamura. Its first president was mezzo-soprano Giulietta Simionato. The competition's philosophy is to use the arts for the improvement of social, ethnic, cultural, and professional relations in the world. This year's winners will go to Europe for performance engagements.

**MAIN OFFICE**
4000 Bergenline Avenue
Union City, NJ 07087
UNITED STATES
201-863-8724
email [site]

**ELIGIBILITY**
All voice categories may apply; there is no age restriction; applicant must list career activity within last five years.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Carmela Altamura
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline October 3, 2017

SEMI-FINALS (live rounds)
Auditions: October 25 & 26, 2017
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Good Shepherd, 152 West 66th Street (between Amsterdam and Broadway), New York, NY

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
Semifinals ✔ Semifinals streamed ✔
Finals ✔ Finals streamed ✔
AMERICAN PIANISTS AWARDS

The American Pianists Awards are held every two years to discover the best young American jazz or classical pianists. The innovative competitions span 13 months and provide a platform to engage artists across varied formats. Winners receive cash and two years of career advancement valued at over $100,000.

MAIN OFFICE
American Pianists Association
4603 Clarendon Road, Suite 030
Indianapolis, IN 46208
UNITED STATES
317-940-9334
email  website

ELIGIBILITY
By nomination only. Candidates must be: Citizens of the United States; age 18-30; extraordinary pianists with the potential to make strong contributions to the music profession in general.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 11 or more

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
The first juried stage of the American Pianists Awards, the Preliminary Round is an anonymous adjudication of nominees by a distinguished panel of musicians. Five finalists are chosen based upon exceptional technical ability and unique musical personality demonstrated in the nominees’ submitted recordings.

The Premiere Series provides the first live juried performances of the five American Pianists Awards finalists. Over the course of five months, each finalist makes an initial appearance on stage in Indianapolis for solo and ensemble performance and completes a high school residency.

FINALS (live rounds)
Chamber Music Recitals with Pacifica Quartet: April 3-7, 2017 at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis, IN
New Music Recitals: April 3, 2017 at University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN
Song Recitals: April 6, 2017 at Indiana History Center, Indianapolis, IN
Gala Finals: April 7 & 8, 2017 at Hilbert Circle Theater, Indianapolis, IN
Live stream: http://www.americanpianists.org/live

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✖ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals
✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

AMERICAN PIANISTS AWARDS, cont’d

Application deadline December 22, 2017

AWARDS
1st prize: 15.000€
2nd prize: 9.000€
3rd prize: 5.000€

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: 15TH OCTOBER 2017
www.ipcl.lu

JURY
- Paul Mootz (Luxembourg)
- Boris Dinev (Luxembourg/Bulgaria)
- Katarzyna Mycka (Poland)
- Bart Quartier (Belgium)
- Philippe Limoge (France)
- Matthias Schmitt (Germany)
- N.N.
BANFF INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

Since 1983 BISQC has celebrated the art of chamber music while providing career support for emerging string quartets. Join the most dedicated chamber music audience on the planet for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Outstanding music-making, enlightening lectures, passionate discussions, delicious food, and spectacular mountain vistas await you.

MAIN OFFICE
107 Tunnel Mountain Drive
PO Box 1020, Station 23
Banff, AB T1L 1H5
CANADA
403-762-6231
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
• The competition is open to string quartets of all nationalities whose members are under the age of 35 on September 1, 2019.
• First and second prize winners of any previous Banff International String Quartet Competition (BISQC) are ineligible to apply.*
• Quartets may compete in BISQC a maximum of two times only. 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
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline March 1, 2019

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
August 26 - 31, 2019
Eric Harvie Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
(The ten competing quartets perform in all four preliminary rounds)

FINALS (live rounds)
September 1, 2019
Eric Harvie Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
(Three quartets advance to the finals)

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals
✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS
Facebook
Twitter
YouTube

NORTH AMERICAN 2018 BIENNIAL PIANO COMPETITION & MUSIC FESTIVAL

EDWIN H & LEEF W.
SCHADT STRING COMPETITION

Violin • March 2018
Cello • March 2019
Classical Guitar • March 2020

First Prize: $8,000 & a solo performance with the Allentown Symphony Orchestra
Diane Wittry, Conductor

Applications due
December before competition
BERLINER INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Established in 1951 the Besançon Conducting Competition is among the most complete competitions in the world, covering classical, Romantic, 20th-century and contemporary music, oratorio, and opera. Past winners include Alexander Gibson, Gerd Albrecht, Seiji Ozawa, Michel Plasson, Zdenek Macal, Sylvain Cambreling, and Yutaka Sado.

FIELD OFFICE
Festival de musique
Concours de jeunes chefs d'orchestre
2 rue Morand
25000 Besançon
FRANCE
+33 38 125 0585
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The competition is open to pianists, singers, and string players up to 35 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Teresa Berganza
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline January 31, 2017

Application notes
The final application deadline for late submissions will be March 15, 2017.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
Judges will make their selections via video submitted by applicants

FINALS (live rounds)
June 14, 2017: Winner will play a recital at the Berlin Philharmonie

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
Not open to the public

BESANÇON INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS

Established in 1951 the Besançon Conducting Competition is among the most complete competitions in the world, covering classical, Romantic, 20th-century and contemporary music, oratorio, and opera. Past winners include Alexander Gibson, Gerd Albrecht, Seiji Ozawa, Michel Plasson, Zdenek Macal, Sylvain Cambreling, and Yutaka Sado.

MAIN OFFICE
Festival de musique
Concours de jeunes chefs d'orchestre
2 rue Morand
25000 Besançon
FRANCE
+33 38 125 0585
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The competition is open to candidates of any nationality under the age of 30 on the day of the finale.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Conducting

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Jury chair Leonard Slatkin
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline January 20, 2017

Application notes
The final application deadline for late submissions will be March 15, 2017.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
Judges will make their selections via video submitted by applicants

FINALS (live rounds)
June 14, 2017: Winner will play a recital at the Berlin Philharmonie

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
Not open to the public
The competition comprehensively tests (over three rounds) how well a conductor works with a professional orchestra, choir, and soloists. The jury evaluates the conductor’s ability to rehearse, guide, and inspire those on stage, both verbally and non-verbally through gesture and command. Several operas in diverse styles are required.

**ELIGIBILITY**
No age limit. Conductors must submit their CV; recent video/audio tapes of opera, symphonic, or other conducting; and complete the application found on the competition's webpage. Acceptance is based on training and experience appropriate to the competition.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Conducting

**MAIN OFFICE**
Blue Danube Musikimpresario GmbH
Strozzigasse 31
A-1080 Vienna
AUSTRIA
+4314054030; +436609441659; +436609441658
email  website

**SEMIFINALS** (live rounds)
All three rounds take place with the entire opera company: orchestra, choir, soloists, pianists & stage manager and director, at State Opera Rousse, Bulgaria

**FINALS** (live rounds)
All three rounds take place with the entire opera company: orchestra, choir, soloists, pianists & stage manager and director, at State Opera Rousse, Bulgaria

**COMPEITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals  ✗ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals  ✗ Finals streamed

**TRAVEL COVERED?**
No

**FREQUENCY**
Biennial

**CASH PRIZES**
None

**ADDITIONAL PRIZE**
Performances

**JURY CHAIR**
Maestro Niels Muus, Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien

**JURY SIZE**
1 to 5

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**
June 15, 2017

**APPLICATION NOTES**
60 conductors are accepted and must confirm their places with deposits.
Competitors from around the world will be meeting in Montreal for the chance to win prizes totaling over $95,000 USD in cash. They are immersed in an intensive program, with an international jury and supportive CIOC team, allowing them to leave Montreal as more confident musicians.

**MAIN OFFICE**
606 Cathcart, Suite 335
Montréal, QC H3B 1K9
CANADA
514-510-5678

e-mail  website

**ELIGIBILITY**
The CIOC is open to organists of all nationalities born after October 19, 1982. 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.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Organ

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<td>Additional prize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jury chair</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Jury size**
6 to 10

**Application deadline**
January 30, 2017

**SEMI-FINALS** (live rounds)
October 14-15, 2017 at Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church in Montréal, QC, Canada.

**FINALS** (live rounds)
October 18, 2017 at Notre-Dame Basilica in Montréal, QC, Canada.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

**SOCIAL LINKS**

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CIPC for Young Artists is a competition and institute that seeks to develop the performance capabilities of young piano students, renew their commitment to piano studies, and provide an important learning and development experience.

**MAIN OFFICE**
20600 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 1110
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
UNITED STATES
216-707-5397

e-mail  website

**ELIGIBILITY**
Open to pianists of any nationality between the ages of 12 and 17. Contestants will participate in two age groups: Juniors (age 12 to 14) and Seniors (age 15 to 17). Eligibility for the competition, as well as the age group for each contestant, is determined by the contestant’s age as of June 9, 2018.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Piano

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel covered?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
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<td>Cash prizes</td>
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<td>Additional prize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jury chair</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Jury size**
6 to 10

**Application deadline**
November 1, 2017

**SEMI-FINALS** (live rounds)
June 5-6, 2018, Maltz Performing Arts Center, Cleveland, OH
Six candidates from the Junior Division perform 3-minute solo programs
Six candidates from the Senior Division perform 4-minute solo programs

**FINALS** (live rounds)
June 8, 2018, Maltz Performing Arts Center, Cleveland, OH
Three candidates from the Junior Division and three candidates from the Senior Division perform as soloists with an orchestra.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

**SOCIAL LINKS**
FIFTEENTH VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Quadrennial international piano competition held in Fort Worth, TX. Cash awards: $50,000/$25,000/$15,000. Winners also receive three years of artist management services and tour booking, audio recording and distribution, and other prizes. The competition will be streamed live online, and a documentary will be produced for PBS and international distribution.

MAIN OFFICE
201 Main Street, Suite 100
Fort Worth, TX 76102
UNITED STATES
817-738-6536
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Age 18 to 30. Applicants must have been born after June 10, 1986, and on or before May 25, 1999. First-prize winners of previous Cliburn Competitions are not eligible to compete.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Leonard Slatkin, conductor and music director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestre National de Lyon

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline October 13, 2016

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
30 competitors perform a 45-minute recital, to include the commissioned work of four to six minutes by Marc-André Hamelin

Quarterfinal Round, May 29–30, 2017, Bass Performance Hall, Ft. Worth, TX
20 competitors perform a 45-minute recital

Semifinal Round, June 1–5, 2017, Bass Performance Hall, Ft. Worth, TX
12 competitors in two phases
• Mozart concerto to be selected from a list with Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and conductor Nicholas McGegan
  • 60-minute recital

FINALS (live rounds)
June 7–10, 2017, Bass Performance Hall, Ft. Worth, TX
Six competitors in two phases
• Piano quintet selected from a list with Brentano String Quartet
• Concerto with Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and conductor Leonard Slatkin

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals
✔ Finals streamed

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS
2013 Vadym Kholodenko (Gold Medalist)
2013 Beatrice Rana (Silver Medalist)
2005 Joyce Yang (Silver Medalist)
2001 Olga Kern (Gold Medalist)
1966 Radu Lupu (Gold Medalist)
The CAG Victor Elmaleh Competition is held annually for solo instrumentalists and chamber ensembles performing classical and non-traditional repertoire. Prizes include a $5,000 first prize; BMI Commissioning Prize; Sylvia Ann Hewlett Adventurous Artist Prize; and more than 40 performances with leading orchestras, concert series, and festivals.

MAIN OFFICE
850 7th Avenue, PH-A
New York, NY 10019
UNITED STATES
212-333-5200
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The suggested age limit for instrumentalists is 30, and 35 for singers. Instrumentalists over 30 and singers over 35 must include a statement explaining why they consider themselves to be in the early stages of a professional career. The suggested average age limit for ensembles is 30 (including ensembles with one singer), and 35 for vocal ensembles. Ensembles with an average age higher than suggested must include a statement explaining why they consider themselves to be in the early stages of a professional career. No individual member of an instrumental ensemble may be over age 35, and no individual member of a vocal ensemble may be over age 40. Ensembles should have been in existence with the same membership for at least 12 months prior to the competition. For more information on eligibility, please visit our website.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • All solo instruments and chamber ensembles

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes None
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 14, 2017
Application notes
The earlybird deadline is March 31, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
October 2017 in NYC, exact dates and locations TBA

FINALS (live rounds)
October 2017 in NYC, exact dates and locations TBA

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
Semifinals • Semifinals streamed • Finals • Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS
Twitter • Facebook • YouTube

The Concours musical international de Montréal (CMIM) seeks to discover and support young singers, violinists, and pianists who demonstrate exceptional mastery of their art. It’s the only international competition in North America to be held annually and to present three disciplines in a three-year rotation.

MAIN OFFICE
JMC/CMIM offices
305 Mont-Royal Avenue East
Montreal, QC H2T 1P8
CANADA
514-845-4108
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Piano age limit: 30 years old or younger on May 1, 2017.
Voice age limit: 35 years old or younger on January 1, 2018.
Violin age limit: 29 years old or younger on January 1, 2019.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Jury chair André Bourbeau, président de la jury and president of CMIM
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline December 15, 2017

SOCIAL LINKS
Twitter • Facebook • YouTube

CONCERT ARTISTS GUILD VICTOR ELMALEH COMPETITION

CONCOURS MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL

CONCERT ARTISTS GUILD VICTOR ELMALEH COMPETITION

CONCOURS MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL

A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS

musicalamerica.com • February 2017
THOMAS AND EVON COOPER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Oberlin Conservatory and the Cleveland Orchestra collaborate on this international competition for musicians ages 13-18, alternating violin and piano. Total cash awards amount to $40,000. First prize is $20,000 in cash with performance of a full concerto with the Cleveland Orchestra and a four-year full-tuition scholarship to Oberlin Conservatory.

MAIN OFFICE
Oberlin Conservatory of Music
77 West College Street
Oberlin, OH 44074
UNITED STATES
440-775-8044
email

ELIGIBILITY
Open to musicians between the ages of 13 and 18 at time of competition, and who have not been awarded one of the top three prizes in a previous Cooper Competition. Applicants must provide: letter of recommendation from their current teacher; $100 entrance fee; completed application form; DVD or other video format of continuous unedited performances of prescribed pieces.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
2017: Violin; 2018: Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Jury chair Gregory Fulkerson, director, Cooper International Violin Competition; professor of violin, Oberlin Conservatory

Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline May 1, 2017
Application notes Online application

SEMINALS (live rounds)
Recital: July 15-17;
Concerto: July 18
Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Warner Concert Hall

FINALS (live rounds)
Recital: July 19
Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Warner Concert Hall
Concerto: July 21
Severance Hall, Cleveland, OH

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS
2010 George Lee (age 14, USA), piano
2011 Sirena Huang (age 17, USA), violin
2012 Leonard Colafelice (age 16, Italy), piano
2013 Kyumin Park (age 16, South Korea) and William Ching-Yi Wei (age 18, Taiwan), violin—tied for First Prize
2014 Tony Yike Yang (age 15, Canada), piano
2015 Gallia Kastner (age 18, USA) and Belle Ting (age 15, Taiwan), violin—tied for First Prize
2016 Ryota Yamazaki (age 17, Japan), piano

SOCIAL LINKS
DISCOVER NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The Discover National Chamber Music Competition is designed to provide an educational as well as a competitive experience for young chamber ensembles. Overall winning ensembles will each receive a cash prize of $1,000 and will perform on a winners' recital in March.

MAIN OFFICE
878 Lyster Road
Highwood, IL 60040
UNITED STATES
847-926-9898
email

ELIGIBILITY
The competition is open to chamber ensembles in 12th grade and younger. Ensembles may consist of 3 to 8 musicians. Ensembles may use no more than one piano.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • Brass • Percussion • Woodwinds

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes None
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline February 1, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
February 2017, Bennett Gordon Hall, Ravinia Festival, Highland Park, IL

FISCHOFF NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

Founded in 1973 by Joseph E. Fischoff and fellow members of the South Bend Chamber Music Society, the competition provides an innovative way of encouraging young people to pursue chamber music study and performance.

MAIN OFFICE
303 Brownson Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556
UNITED STATES
574-631-0984
email

ELIGIBILITY
Please see the following for a complete description: www.fischoff.org/competition/entering-the-competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Chamber Music

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 March 1, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
May 12-14, the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.

FINALS (live rounds)
May 14, the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.
• Three ensembles from the Senior Wind Division, Senior String Division, and Junior Division will compete in the Final Rounds.
• The three gold medalists from each division will perform in a Grand Prize Concert immediately following the awards ceremony.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS
### FLEISCHMANN INTERNATIONAL TROPHY COMPETITION

Each year some of the finest amateur choirs are selected to compete for the Fleischmann International Trophy, one of Europe's most prestigious choral prizes. Judged by a panel of eminent musicians and choral experts, the competition is presented in a concert format and features music from Renaissance to contemporary and compositions from each choir’s home country.

**MAIN OFFICE**
Civic Trust House
50 Pope’s Quay, Cork
IRELAND
+353 21 421 5125
email [here](mailto:mainoffice@fleischmanninternational.com)
website [fleischmanninternational.com](http://fleischmanninternational.com)

**ELIGIBILITY**
Open to any choir of international standing (except specifically children's choirs); minimum 20, maximum 60 voices. Requirements include a 10- to 12-minute a cappella program of three to four contrasting works. See website for additional details.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

**DETAILS**
- Travel covered?: No
- Frequency: Annual
- Cash prizes: None
- Additional prize: Recording
- Jury chair(s): Unknown as of yet
- Jury size: 1 to 5
- Application deadline: October 31, 2017

Application notes
Successful applicants will be notified by fax or email within two weeks of the closing date.

**FINALS (live rounds)**
The competition occurs on the Saturday of the Festival in Cork’s City Hall, which happens annually on the five days before the May Bank Holiday weekend.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
- ✗ Semifinals
- ✔ Finals

**SOCIAL LINKS**

### FORTE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Forte International Music Competition is open to piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, and voice. Eligibility ranges from ages 4 to 35. Participants in the final round receive valuable feedback from judges and a variety of prizes including a $1,000 Platinum Award.

**MAIN OFFICE**
2733 Cropsey Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11214
UNITED STATES
718-755-2110
e-mail [here](mailto:mainoffice@fortemusiccompetition.com)
website [fortemusiccompetition.com](http://fortemusiccompetition.com)

**ELIGIBILITY**
Ages 4 to 35

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES**
Strings • Voice • Woodwinds • Brass

**DETAILS**
- Travel covered?: No
- Frequency: Annual
- Cash prizes: None
- Jury chair(s): Not provided
- Jury size: 1 to 5
- Application deadline: November 5, 2017

Application notes
Early bird deadline, Oct. 15; late fee deadline, Nov. 15.

**SEMIFINALS (live rounds)**
December 2017, New York
Note: Competitors can also participate online in the Preliminary & Semi-final rounds of the competition. See [website for more details](http://fortemusiccompetition.com).

**FINALS (live rounds)**
February 2017, Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, 154 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
- ✗ Semifinals
- ✔ Finals

**SOCIAL LINKS**

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: [here](https://twitter.com/DifferentHandle)
Facebook: [here](https://www.facebook.com/DifferentPage)
YouTube: [here](https://www.youtube.com/DifferentChannel)
LinkedIn: [here](https://www.linkedin.com/DifferentProfile)
GAWON AWARD

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the Gawon International Music Society presents the Gawon Award every two years, offering a $10,000 cash prize to a promising pianist. The Society’s advisory board, consisting of internationally acclaimed pianists, reviews the application package and provides jury members.

**MAIN OFFICE**
Sambo Hills 102
Pyungchang 12 Gil 8-21
Jongno-Gu, Seoul 03009
KOREA
+82 2 379 5698
email
website

**ELIGIBILITY**
The Gawon Award is open to artists of any nationality between the ages of 17 and 30.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Piano

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Performances
Additional prize Oksoo Han, chair,
Gawon International Music Society
Jury chair
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline December 31, 2017

**Application notes**
An 80-minute recording of the applicant’s solo recital program of pieces from different periods will be reviewed by the jury. Supporting documents of past musical activities and records are required for jury’s review, together with recommendations from acclaimed musicians.

**FINALS (live rounds)**
There is no live performance competition.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Not open to the public

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MARCELLO GIORDANI INTERNATIONAL VOICE COMPETITION

In 2011, the Marcello Giordani Foundation established the first annual Marcello Giordani Voice Competition in Italy. In 2013 and 2014, the Italy competition was joined with competitions in the United States. This year will mark the third U.S. edition.

**MAIN OFFICE**
1600 Elizabeth Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28204
UNITED STATES
704-332-7177
email
website

**ELIGIBILITY**
Competition is open to singers of all nationalities between the ages of 21 and 35. Based on applications, up to 125 young artists will be invited to participate in the competition. There is no application or registration fee.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Performances
Additional prize Marcello Giordani
Jury chair
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline March 15, 2017

**SEMIFINALS (live rounds)**
Preliminaries: April 24, 25
Semifinals: April 26
Belk Theater, Charlotte, NC

**FINALS (live rounds)**
Finals: April 28
Belk Theater, Charlotte, NC

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals
✖ Semifinals streamed
✖ Finals streamed
GLOBAL MUSIC AWARDS

The Global Music Awards is a well-known international showcase for original music, unique voices, and emerging artists. It has a large international following. Entries go through a multi-layered judging process including listener impact, technical quality, uniqueness, and styling. All first-level judging is conducted by Global Music’s in-house professionals. All the entries recommended for Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals are carefully screened by Global Music Awards Founder and CEO Thomas Baker, Ph.D., who has more than a dozen years in film and music, having produced an award-winning television series in cooperation with the University of California and created the Accolade Competition, Indie Fest, and the Best Shorts Competition. Entries judged to be potential Gold Medal winners may be sent to outside judges for additional review. Global Music Awards maintains consistency across judging categories and keeps high standards in our music talent competition. The judging process is strictly merit based and does not consider size of fan base, popularity, or record sales.

MAIN OFFICE
7946 Ivanhoe Avenue, Suite 201
La Jolla, CA 92037
UNITED STATES
858-779-1420
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Open to all artists and composers. Submissions may be of any genre, any length. We look for artists and composers with outstanding emotional communication, the ability to transcend, to make the listener experience something that is new and compelling. We want to be surprised and moved by what we hear.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Conducting • Piano • Strings • Voice • Band
• Chamber Music • Classical • Classical Crossover
• Experimental • Jazz • Indie Country & Pop
• Instrumental • Live Performance • Operatic Music
• Original Score/Sound Track Movie & TV • R&B & Soul • Sound Editing/Sound Mixing • Symphonic Music • Vocal Group • World Music & Beats

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Quarterly
Jury chair Thomas Baker, Ph.D.
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline Quarterly: March 13; June 5; September 4; November 20, 2017
Cash prizes None
Other prizes Details for each of the following awards can be found here
Feature Display in Billboard Magazine Prize
• Mentoring Prize • Disc Makers’ Hit Single Package Prize • MusicalAmerica.com Artist Showcase page
Other honors include:
Gold Medal Winner: Award of Excellence
Silver Medal Winner: Outstanding Achievement
Bronze Medal Winner: Finalist
Global Music Awards has three special honors:
• Odyssey Award
• Humanitarian Award
• Heretic Award

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✖ Not open to the public
SOCIAL LINKS

GLOBAL MUSIC AWARDS

What artists and composers say about Global Music Awards
"I want to express my gratitude for the positive impact I’ve seen in my career from this Award." Marco Valerio Antonini, composer
"We have gotten a lot of recognition through our win with the Global Music Awards, and I am so grateful for this." Ruth Weber, songwriter
"I appreciate the opportunity for artists to receive recognition in Billboard. Spike on my website and CD sales." Todd Oxford, saxophonist
2017 HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

First Prize: $10,000, engagement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra (in addition to the final rounds) and additional performance opportunities at other venues. Second Prize: $5,000. Third Prize: $3,000. Two other finalists each receive $1,000. Sascha Gorodnitzki Memorial Prize $1,000. Peter Takacs Classical Sonata Prize $500.

MAIN OFFICE
2 Park Placlo, Suite 300/301
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
UNITED STATES
843-842-5880
email  website
ELIGIBILITY
Pianists ages 13 to 17
ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE  Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Janice Weber, Piano Department, Boston Conservatory at Berklee
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline September 30, 2016
Application notes Applications now closed.

SEMI-FINALS (live rounds)
Round I: March 6 and 7, 2017
Round II: March 8 and 9, 2017
All 20 competitors play recitals in Rounds I and II, Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, Hilton Head, SC

FINALS (live rounds)
March 11, 2017
Three finalists play a concerto movement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, First Presbyterian Church, Hilton Head, SC

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC? ✔ Semifinals ✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS  

HKIVS SHLOMO MINTZ INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The HKIVS Shlomo Mintz International Violin Competition is created to offer all violin students the opportunity of participating in a great competition, with minimum cost and minimum investment of time. A new competition for a new generation!

MAIN OFFICE
HMC Office
Block B, 1st floor
New Bridge, Guangzhou Ideal Building
South Bridge Road (Guangzhou)
CHINA
China +86 (0) 20 89629897 803 / Int. +34 607249734
email  website
ELIGIBILITY
Open to all violinists between ages 7 and 17 (Junior) and 18 to 27 (Senior), whatever their nationality. See rules and regulations for more details.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE  Strings

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Jury chair Shlomo Mintz
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline April 15, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
Junior Finals (live in Beijing): July 22, 2017
Senior Finals (live in Beijing): July 23 & 24, 2017
Gala Concert and Prize Ceremony: July 25, 2017
Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing, China

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
Semifinals ✔
Finals ✔

SOCIAL LINKS  

A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS  20  musicalamerica.com • February 2017
HONENS PIANO COMPETITION

Canada’s Honens Piano Competition takes place every three years and awards $100,000 (CAN) and an artist development program valued at a half-million dollars. Honens prepares its laureates for the rigors and realities of professional careers in music and creates opportunities for growth and exposure.

MAIN OFFICE
888 10th Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 2X1
CANADA
403-299-0130
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Pianists of all nationalities, ages 20 to 30 on August 30, 2018, may apply. Honens Laureates and professionally managed artists may not apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes More than $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jurysize Not provided
Jurychair(s)
Application deadline October 31, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
August 30 to September 3, 2018
Jack Singer Concert Hall at Arts Commons, Calgary, Canada

FINALS (live rounds)
September 6 and 7, 2018
Jack Singer Concert Hall at Arts Commons, Calgary, Canada

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS

INTERNATIONAL HANS GABOR BELVEDERE SINGING COMPETITION

Since 1982 the International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition has remained one of the world’s best networked singing competitions with qualifying rounds in more than 70 cities worldwide each year. The singers are judged by a panel of artistic and casting directors from the world’s most prestigious opera houses.

MAIN OFFICE
International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition
Seidengasse 32/3/52
1070 Vienna
AUSTRIA
+43 681 8188 3593
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Singers (males/females) of all nationalities are invited to enter the competition, born in or later than 1985. See the rules on our website for more details.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

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 1, 2017

Application notes
The competition is divided into international qualifying rounds on all continents and three final rounds (subdivided into "1st round", "semifinals" and "finals"), which will take place this year in Moscow, Russia. Please note the different application deadlines of the qualifying rounds on the competition website.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
June 29 – July 6, 2017
Enrollment, 1st rounds, and semifinals Helikon Opera, Moscow, Russia

FINALS (live rounds)
July 6, 2017
Finals with orchestra Helikon Opera, Moscow, Russia

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS

A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS 21
INTERNATIONAL FRYDERYK CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION

The competition was established in 1927 and is held every five years. Previous Chopin Competitions winners sit on the jury.

MAIN OFFICE
ul. Tamka 43
00-355 Warszawa
POLAND
48 224 41 142
email

ELIGIBILITY
Pianists ages 16 to 30

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quinquennial
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Prof. Katarzyna Popowa-Zydron
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline December 1, 2019

INTERNATIONAL FRYDERYK CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION, cont’d

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
April 13-24, 2020, Warsaw

FINALS (live rounds)
October 1-23, 2020, Warsaw

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals
✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

The Suzhou Symphony Orchestra announces the First Jinji Lake International Piano Competition, to take place at the Grand Theatre in the Suzhou Culture and Arts Centre.

Talented pianists of all nationalities are invited to apply.

International adjudication panel headed by Chairman of the Jury, Mr. Dominique Merlet

Over 50,000 USD in prize money

Recital and concert appearance in China and Europe for first place winner

Application deadline: July 1, 2017

For more information, please visit www.suzhousso.com

BLUE DANUBE INTERNATIONAL OPERA CONDUCTING COMPETITION 2017
(7th Edition)
13-29 July
Die Entführung aus dem Serail / Samson et Dalila / Madama Butterfly
STATE OPERA ROUSSE (Bulgaria)

OPERA CONDUCTING MASTERCLASSES 2017
3-13 April - Die Entführung aus dem Serail / Samson et Dalila / Madama Butterfly
11-23 September - Eugene Onegin / Der fliegende Holländer / La Traviata

info@musikimpresario.com
Tel: +43669441659 or +4314054030

The Suzhou Symphony Orchestra announces the First Jinji Lake International Piano Competition, to take place at the Grand Theatre in the Suzhou Culture and Arts Centre.

Talented pianists of all nationalities are invited to apply.

International adjudication panel headed by Chairman of the Jury, Mr. Dominique Merlet

Over 50,000 USD in prize money

Recital and concert appearance in China and Europe for first place winner

Application deadline: July 1, 2017

For more information, please visit www.suzhousso.com
THE 16TH INTERNATIONAL EDVARD GRIEG PIANO COMPETITION

The competition will take place at Troldhaugen, Grieg's picturesque home in Bergen, Norway, September 1-8, 2018. Competitors will live with host families, and those who do not advance to the Second Round, Semi Finals, or Finals will perform at a paid concert in the Bergen area. First prize is €30,000.

MANAGEMENT
Edvard Grieg Museum Troldhaugen
Troldhaugveien 65
NO-5232 Paradis – Bergen
NORWAY
+47 55 92 29 92
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The competition is open to pianists of all nationalities born in the years 1985 to 2001.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prize €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 20, 2018

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
1st round, solo piano, September 1-3, 2018
2nd round, solo piano, September 4, 2018
Semi-final, solo piano & chamber music, September 5, 2018
Edvard Grieg Museum Troldhaugen, Bergen, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)
Piano soloist with The Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra (cond. Edward Gardner), September 8, 2018
Grieg Hall, Bergen, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals
✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS
Twitter Facebook YouTube Instagram

Piano - Strings - Voice
VIDEO SELECTION
NO TRAVEL REQUIRED
OVER $25,000 in PRIZES
- RECITALS AT CARNEGIE HALL
- RECORDING PROJECT
  + 1,000 CDS
  (Distributed Worldwide)
- ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT

WINNERS’ RECITALS
CARNegie Hall
New York, USA
September 2017

www.manhattancompetition.com

A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS
INTERNATIONAL FRANZ LISZT PIANO COMPETITION

Held every three years at TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht, The Netherlands, the competition is devoted entirely to the works of Franz Liszt. It is known for the professional support it offers its laureates, including a three-year career development program, a CD release, PR package, media training, and 200 concert engagements in more than 25 countries.

MAIN OFFICE
Ganzenmarkt 14
3512 GD Utrecht
THE NETHERLANDS
+31 306966144
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The Liszt Competition is open to professional pianists of all nationalities between the ages of 19 and 29 years at the start of the competition, on October 8, 2017.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Joop Daalmeijer
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline December 1, 2016

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
October 9-15, 2017: Rounds I, II, III
TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht, The Netherlands

FINALS (live rounds)
Oct 18 Solo finals
Oct 21 Finals with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra
TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht, The Netherlands

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS

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 may put together a free program to show the jury their individual artistic potential.

MAIN OFFICE
c/o Beethovenfest Bonn
Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 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 €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Jury chair Prof. Pavel Gililov, artistic director
Additional prize Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline May 15, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
December 1-9, 2017: Rounds 1, 2, and 3
Deutsche Telekom Headquarters, Bonn, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)
December 9, 2017: Finals with Beethoven Orchestra Bonn and prize-giving ceremony
Beethoven Hall, Bonn, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

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
UNITED STATES
317-637-4574
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 29 during the competition. Specifically, applicants must be born after September 16, 1988, and before August 31, 2002.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Violin

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Quadrennial
Cash prizes More than $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Jaime Laredo, president of the jury and artistic director
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline February 28, 2018

SEMFINALS (live rounds)
September 3-10, 2018: Preliminaries and Semifinals
Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, Indianapolis, IN

FINALS (live rounds)
September 12-15, 2018
Hilbert Circle Theater, Indianapolis, IN

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS
2014 Jinjoo Cho
2010 Clara-Jumi Kang
2004 Augustin Hadelich
2002 Barnabás Kelemen
1998 Judith Ingolfsson

SOCIAL LINKS
Twitter
Facebook

The Tenth Quadrennial
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION OF INDIANAPOLIS
August 31 – September 16, 2018
Jaime Laredo, Jury President

“The Indianapolis” celebrates its tenth quadrennial competition in 2018 and proudly recognizes all of its distinguished Laureates.

Deadline for application: February 28, 2018
www.violin.org
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. Finals are with symphony orchestra and include master classes, media training, feedback from jury members, and career development. Travel funds are possible; accommodation is with host families.

MAIN OFFICE
Prins Bernhardstraat 8
5211 HE ‘s-Hertogenbosch
THE NETHERLANDS
+31736900999
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The IVC is open to candidates of all nationalities age 18 minimum. Singers wishing to take part must have completed conservatory training or have reached an equivalent level of training.
• Age for women: born in 1985 or later
• Age for men: born in 1982 or later

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Voice • Opera • Oratorio

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair Nicholas Payne
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 12, 2017
Application notes Preliminary Rounds: Auditions via YouTube/DVD recording
FINALS (live rounds)
September 7-16, 2017
‘s-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

IPCL PERCUSSION DUO COMPETITION 2018

The International Percussion Competition Duo, founded in 1989, strives to achieve two main goals: to give percussion ensembles the chance to compete among themselves, and to demonstrate the various percussion instruments to the public. IPCL is a member of the WFIMC.

MAIN OFFICE
b.p. 406
L-2014
LUXEMBOURG
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Total age of the duo members limited to 60 by February 8, 2018; members must not be born before February 8, 1982.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Percussion Duo

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Jury chair Paul Mootz, artistic director
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline October 15, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
February 15-16, 2018
Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, Luxembourg

FINALS (live rounds)
February 18, 2018
Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, Luxembourg

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals ✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS
The Jensen Foundation auditions 110 of America’s most promising young opera singers and chooses 12-15 of them to perform in the finals competition. Singers compete for more than $40,000 in awards, including $15,000 first place.

**MAIN OFFICE**
220 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
UNITED STATES
704-641-4691

e-mail  website

**ELIGIBILITY**
To be eligible to you must be a permanent legal resident of the United States between the ages of 25 and 35. Previous Jensen Foundation Vocal Competition award winners (first, second, or third place) are not eligible, nor are past or current recipients of a contract for a principal role with an OPERA America Budget Level I company or its international equivalent. You must submit a completed application and a résumé that demonstrates your active pursuit of a career in opera by March 19, 2017.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No

Frequency Annual

Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000

Jury chair(s) Not provided

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline March 19, 2017

**SEMI-FINALS (live rounds)**
May 15-18, 2017
Baruch Performing Arts Center, 55 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY

**FINALS (live rounds)**
May 20, 2017
Baruch Performing Arts Center, 55 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Finals  ✖ Finals streamed

**PAST COMPETITION WINNERS**
2016 Adam Lau (bass)
2015 John Brancy (baritone)
2010 Andrew Garland (baritone)
2009 Anthony Roth Costanzo (countertenor)
2006 Angela Meade (soprano)

**SOCIAL LINKS**
Facebook
**JOHANSEN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG STRING PLAYERS (AGES 13-17)**

The competition is funded by a charitable trust established by Anna Storch Johansen, who wanted to encourage young musicians with a significant cash prize at a time when they need it most. With a total of $67,000 in prizes, there are equal prizes for each instrument.

**MAIN OFFICE**
9202 Whitney Street
Silver Spring, MD 20901
UNITED STATES
301-825-5515
email
webiste

**ELIGIBILITY**
The competition is open to students of violin, viola, or cello, who are not younger than 13 or older than 17 on March 17, 2018, and are not under professional management. A copy of the applicant’s birth certificate or passport is required as proof of age.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Strings

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes Individual prizes: $1,000 to $10,000 / Total: $67,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline December 1, 2017

**SEMIFINALS (live rounds)**
March 15-16, 2018
Washington, DC

**FINALS (live rounds)**
March 17, 2018
Washington, DC

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals
✘ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals
✘ Finals streamed

**SOCIAL LINKS**
[Facebook](#) [YouTube](#)

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**LYON INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION**

More than 600 chamber artists have taken part in the CIMCL. Prize-winning concert is broadcast on national France musique radio. A large audience follows the competition in the most beautiful halls of the city of Lyon. Member of the WFIMC.

**MAIN OFFICE**
54 rue du 1er mars 1943
69100 Villeurbanne
FRANCE
+33 6 52 14 80 45
e-mail
website

**ELIGIBILITY**
All nationalities may apply, artists must be 33 years old.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Trio Violin, Cello and Piano • String Quartet • Duo Violin and Piano • Duo Voice and Piano • Duo Cello and Piano • Woodwind Quintet • Brass Quintet

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Additional prize Recording
Jury chairs Reto Bieri, clarinet (Davos); Yiu Song Lam, oboe (Hong-Kong); Bruno Schneider, horn (Genova); Karl-Heinz Schütz, flute (Wien); Bruno Messina, director Berlioz Festival (France); Robin O’Neil, bassoon (UK); Vincent Lucas, flute (Paris); Lencses Lajos, oboe (Suttgart)
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline January 15, 2017

**SEMIFINALS (live rounds)**
April 21, 2017: Woodwind Quintet
Université Lumière Lyon 2, Lyon, France

**FINALS (live rounds)**
April 21, 2017: Woodwind Quintet
Opéra de Lyon, Lyon, France

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals
✘ Semifinals streamed
✘ Finals streamed

**SOCIAL LINKS**
[Facebook](#)
### M-PRIZE CHAMBER ARTS COMPETITION

The M-Prize aims to identify and showcase the highest caliber of international chamber arts ensembles; provide a world-class performance and adjudication platform for the chamber arts; launch and advance the careers of chamber ensembles through prizes, visibility, and professional development opportunities; and evolve the breadth and depth of the chamber arts landscape.

**MAIN OFFICE**
University of Michigan School of Music, Theater & Dance
1100 Baits Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
UNITED STATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel covered?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash prizes</td>
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<td>Additional prize</td>
<td>Performances</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jury size</td>
<td>11 or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application deadline</td>
<td>February 1, 2017</td>
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**ELIGIBILITY**
Junior Division: 18 years and under
Senior Division: Median is 35, no individual over 40 years of age; ensembles may include members younger than 19.
Ensembles may not include conductors and must have 2-10 members with one member per part. Please see full eligibility requirements at mprize.umich.edu.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES**
Strings • Voice • Winds • Open (ensembles of any instrumentation/genre)

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**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

**Submit before: 15 April 2017**

**JUNIOR Final - 22 July 2017 | SENIOR Finals - 23 & 24 July 2017**

**Grand Gala & Prize Ceremony, 25 July 2017**
Orchestra of the Central Conservatory of Music of Beijing

**Major Event Partners/Organizers**

**Maestro Shlomo Mintz**
Chairman
USA/Israel
Violinist/Conductor & Educator

**Prof. Tong Wei Dong**
Vice-Chairman
China
Vice President, Central Conservatory (Orchestral Department)

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**HMC HKIVS SHLOMO MINTZ INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION & Masterclass**
15 July - 21 July 2017
Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing, China

**http://hmc.hkivs.com**

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**Social Links**

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
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 1,600 young conductors of all nationalities. Only 65 candidates have been invited to Bamberg and of those barely 12 have made it to the finals.

MAIN OFFICE
Bamberger Symphoniker - Bayerische Staatsphilharmonie
Musistrasse 1
D-96047 Bamberg
GERMANY
+49 951 964 7100
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Conductors not older than 35 years on January 1, 2019.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Conducting

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Management
Jury size TBA
Application deadline August 31, 2018

APPLICATION NOTES
Applications will be open in mid-2018, please check our website for further information

SEMI-FINALS (live rounds)
2019, Konzerthalle, Bamberg, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)
2019, Konzerthalle, Bamberg, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS
AmericanPianistsAssociation @APApianists #AmericanPianistsAwards
## 2ND MANHATTAN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

The competition is judged from video recordings and requires no traveling, other than to the winners’ concert. The awards include three recitals in the 2017-18 season, a CD recording with a complimentary supply of 1,000 CDs, international management, and gold and silver special awards.

**MAIN OFFICE**
Manhattan Concert Artists
576 Fifth Avenue, 9th Floor, #903
New York, NY 10036
UNITED STATES
email [email]
website [website]

**ELIGIBILITY**
Pianists, singers, and string performers up to age 35.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES**
Piano • Strings • Voice

## DETAILS
- **Travel covered?** Yes
- **Frequency** Annual
- **Cash prizes** $10,000 to $50,000
- **Additional prize** Performances
- **Additional prize** Management
- **Additional prize** Recording
- **Jury chair(s)** Not provided
- **Jury size** 11 or more
- **Application deadline** June 10, 2017

### FINALS (live rounds)
Online competition via video.

Winners’ concert at Carnegie Hall in 2017-18

### COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
- ✔ Not open to the public

## ELEANOR MCCOLLUM COMPETITION

The Eleanor McCollum Competition and Concert of Arias is the primary recruitment tool for the Houston Grand Opera (HGO) Studio. Applicants can be considered for the HGO Studio, the Competition, or both, and do not need to be a prize winner to be invited to the Studio.

**MAIN OFFICE**
510 Preston Street
Houston, TX 77002
UNITED STATES
713-546-0227
email [email]
website [website]

**ELIGIBILITY**
All classical singers of any age and nationality. The application requests that singers over the age of 30 explain why the HGO Studio is the next step in their careers.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

## DETAILS
- **Travel covered?** Yes
- **Frequency** Annual
- **Cash prizes** $10,000 to $50,000
- **Jury chair(s)** Patrick Summers, Perryn Leech, and a guest judge
- **Jury size** 1 to 5
- **Application deadline** September 24, 2017

### SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
Preliminary auditions will be held in Houston, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and New York City in November-December 2017. Semifinal auditions will be held in Houston in January 2018.

### FINAL (live rounds)
Final auditions will be held in Houston in late January 2018, culminating in the Eleanor McCollum Competition and Concert of Arias on February 1, 2018.

### COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
- ✔ Semifinals streamed
- ✔ Finals streamed

**SOCIAL LINKS** [Twitter] [Facebook] [Instagram] [YouTube]
**Michael Ludwig Nemmers Prize in Music Composition**

In 2004, the Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University established the Michael Ludwig Nemmers Prize in Music Composition, a biennial award honoring classical music composers of outstanding achievement. Northwestern sponsors five Nemmers Prizes, the others being in the fields of economics, mathematics, medical science, and earth sciences.

**Main Office**
Bienen School of Music
Northwestern University
Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Center for the Musical Arts
70 Arts Circle Drive
Evanston, IL 60208
United States

**Eligibility**
Composers must be nominated via letter to the Selection Committee, preferably by recognized authorities in the field including prominent artists, critics, scholars, or administrators. The prize is open to any living classical composer without regard to citizenship or institutional affiliation. Nominators may nominate any number of candidates. The names of the nominators will not be made public; however, anonymous nominations will not be accepted. Former or present members of the Northwestern University faculty and employees of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra are not eligible. Nominations may be submitted by email to nemmersmusic@northwestern.edu. Email submissions must be emailed from the nominator’s professional affiliation. The winner will receive a prize of $100,000 and must be available for a two- to three-week residency at Northwestern University (the weeks may be non-consecutive) and able to interact with faculty and students.

**Artistic Discipline**
Composition

**Details**
- Travel covered? Yes
- Frequency: Biennial
- Cash prizes: More than $50,000
- Jury chair(s): Not provided
- Jury size: 1 to 5
- Application deadline: February 1, 2018

**Competition Open to the Public?**
- Not open to the public

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**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
United States

**Eligibility**
All entrants must be U.S. citizens or hold a U.S. visa or permanent residence (green card) that remains valid throughout the competition year. They must study with teachers who are (1) members of MTNA or (2) have paid the non-member Teacher Fee of $150.

Age eligibilities as of January 1, 2018:
- Elementary Division (ages 5-10)
- Junior Division (ages 11-14)
- Senior Division (ages 15-18)
- Young Artists Division (ages 19-26)
- Chamber Music (average age of ensemble must be 18-26)

**Artistic Disciplines**
Piano • Strings • Voice • Brass • Woodwinds • Chamber Music • Composition

**Details**
- Travel covered? No
- Frequency: Annual
- Cash prizes: Range from $100-$5000
- Jury chair(s): Not provided
- Jury size: 1 to 5
- Application deadline: September 13, 2017

**Semifinals (live rounds)**
The MTNA Student Competitions consist of three levels: State Competition, Division Competition and National Finals.

**Finals (live rounds)**
March 17-21, 2018, The 2018 MTNA National Conference, Orlando, FL

**Competition Open to the Public?**
- Semifinals
- Finals

**Social Links**
[Music America](https://www.musicalamerica.com) • [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) • [Twitter](https://twitter.com)
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF SINGING COMPETITIONS

MAIN OFFICE
9957 Moorings Drive, Suite 401
Jacksonville, FL 32257
UNITED STATES
904-992-9101
email  website

NATS ARTIST AWARDS (NATSAA)
The biennial NATS Artist Awards competition is designed to assist singers prepared to launch a professional career.

ELIGIBILITY
Applicant must be at least 21 but not more than 35 years of age as of September 5, 2017; either the applicant or his/her teacher for the last year must be a full or associate member of NATS for at least one year prior to September 5, 2017. 
Frequency  Biennial
Cash and other prizes  More than $50,000
Application deadline  September 5, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
January 5-7, 2018, in New York City, as part of the NATS Winter Workshop.

NATS NATIONAL MUSIC THEATER COMPETITION
As the first national competition for music theater soloists, this competition's winners are finding success on Broadway and other theaters across the country.

ELIGIBILITY
All singers age 20-28 as of September 15, 2017.
Frequency  Biennial
Cash and other prizes  Over $15,000
Application deadline  September 15, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
January 5-7, 2018, in New York City as part of the NATS Winter Workshop.

NATS ART SONG COMPOSITION AWARD
The NATS Art Song Composition Award program's purpose is to stimulate the creation of quality vocal literature through the cooperation of singer and composer. The performance of the first-place winning composition will be premiered at the NATS National Conference in Las Vegas, June 22-26, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY
Student singers advance through NATS Regional Auditions, which take place at varying times throughout the year.
Frequency  Annual
Cash and other prizes  Over $35,000
Application deadline  April 23, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
July 20-21, 2017, at University of Colorado Boulder, as part of the NATS Summer Workshop in Boulder, CO.
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, FL. NCPC follows closely requirements and rules of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, Poland. Its top winners are accepted to the Warsaw’s Competition automatically.

MAIN OFFICE
1440 79th Street Causeway, Suite 117
Miami, FL 33141
UNITED STATES
305-868-0624
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The National Chopin Piano Competition is open to U.S. pianists exclusively. Eligibility to be determined based upon the requirements of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Quinquennial
Cash prizes More than $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) TBA
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline November 4, 2019
Application notes
This competition is held every five years.

SEMINALS and FINALS (live rounds)
Tentative dates for the four live rounds of the competition are February 15 - 23, 2020.
Venue TBA, Miami, FL

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals
✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS 🌐facebook 🌐youtube

NEUE STIMMEN INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION

The competition offers master classes and the opportunity to concertize, and stays in touch with its finalists through its Creating Careers program, enabling them to access an international network of theaters, universities, and opera managers.

MAIN OFFICE
Bertelsmann Stiftung
Carl-Bertelsmann-Str. 256
33311 Gutersloh
GERMANY
+49 52 418 181 171
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Singers of any nationality may enter the competition; women up to 28 years of age, born on or after October 15, 1988, men up to 30 years of age, born on or after October 15, 1986.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Management
Recording
Dominique Meyer, director, Vienna State Opera
6 to 10

Jury size Application deadline

PRELIMINARIES
Preliminary rounds from April to August in 24 cities worldwide

SEMINALS (live rounds)
October 8-15, 2017
October 12, 2017 Semifinal concert Gutersloh (Stadthalle)

FINALS (live rounds)
October 14, 2017 Final concert

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals
✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS 🌐facebook 🌐youtube
THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

A first in the world of competitions and a unique feature of the NYIPC, no participant is eliminated throughout the competition. The Foundation presents a cash award to each of the contestants not receiving a major prize. The NYIPC includes seminars, master classes, ensemble playing, and concert and recital appearances.

MAIN OFFICE
The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation
119 West 57th Street, Suite 1401
New York, NY 10019
UNITED STATES
212-581-8380
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Open to pianists of all nationalities. Applicants must be between the ages of 16-21 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) TBA
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline December 4, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
June 18-20, 2018
Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)
June 21-22, 2018
Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS

OSAKA INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The Osaka International Chamber Music Competition is comprised of Section I, for string quartet, and Section II for wind ensembles. The Festa section is for other chamber groups, such as piano trio.

MAIN OFFICE
2-2-33, Shiromi Chuo-ku
Osaka 540-8510
JAPAN
81-6-6947-2184
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants shall be ensembles of musicians of any nationality whose members are 35 years old or younger.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
String Quartet • Wind Ensembles (Wind Quintet, Saxophone Quartet, and Brass Quintet)

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes More than $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline October 20, 2016

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
May 13-17, 2017
Izumi Hall, Osaka, Japan

FINALS (live rounds)
May 20, 2017
Izumi Hall, Osaka, Japan

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals
PIANOARTS

Finalists have four rehearsals—with second pianist, conductor, chamber ensemble, and full orchestra—prior to performing a full concerto with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in the final round. The Artist Training Institute offers contestants classes on engaging with audiences with concert conversations. During the concurrent festival, each performs outreach concerts.

MAIN OFFICE
2642 North Summit Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53211
UNITED STATES
414-962-3055
email    website

ELIGIBILITY
For pianists, ages 16-21, of any nationality, living or studying full-time in North America.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) TBA
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline February 9, 2018

PIANOARTS, cont’d

Application notes
Preliminary round video submission is due on February 23, 2018.

SEMFINALS (live rounds)
The 10 semifinalists will each perform two live non-eliminating recitals:
June 1, 2018: solo recital; June 3, 2018: violin or cello duo with a member of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

FINALS (live rounds)
June 5, 2018: Three finalists will perform complete concertos with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals streamed
✖ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

Email
Website

ALTAMURA-CARUSO INTERNATIONAL VOICE COMPETITION 2017

$30,000 CASH GRANTS
+ Performances in US and Abroad

WINNERS IN CONCERTS
New York, Rome, Katowice, Krakow

Preliminaries: October 18 & 19, 2017
Finals: October 22, 2017

REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION
www.altocanto.org   •   icpainc@optonline.net
Fax: 201-866-3566   •   Tel: 201-863-8724

JURY
Carmela Altamura
President, Founder/Director, ICPA, Inc.
Lewis Ehlers
Lombardo & Associates, New York
Roger Malouf
finals judge Metropolitan Opera
Krzysztof Biernacki
Professor of Voice and Opera, University of North Florida

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 3, 2017
The Plowman Chamber Music Competition celebrated its inaugural year in 2006. It provides an opportunity for non-professional musicians to perform in front of an outstanding panel of nationally chosen judges for the cash awards that include a grand prize of $5,000.

**Main Office**
c/o Odyssey / First Baptist Church
1112 East Broadway
Columbia, MO 65201-4910
UNITED STATES
573-864-6921
email  website

**Eligibility**
Open to instrumental ensembles of three to six players. Members must be interested in, or already pursuing a career in music. Ensembles with management as of April 8, 2017 are not eligible. Piano is the only keyboard instrument eligible and ensembles can have only one. Groups that require more than five minutes to set-up and tear-down cannot be accommodated.

**Artistic Disciplines**
Strings • Woodwinds • Brass • Percussion

**Details**
- Travel covered? No
- Frequency Biennial
- Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
- Jury chair(s) Joel Krosnick, cello (former member, Juilliard String Quartet)
- Jury size 1 to 5
- Application deadline February 20, 2017

**Application Notes**
DVD application is February 13, 2017; February 20 is a late deadline and must be accompanied with a late fee.

**Semifinals**
- (Live Rounds)
  - April 8, 2017
  - First Baptist Church, Columbia, MO

**Finals**
- (Live Rounds)
  - April 9, 2017
  - Missouri Theater, Columbia, MO

**Competition Open to the Public?**
✔ Semifinals  ✔ Finals

**Social Links**
Twitter  Facebook

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Established in 1951 on the initiative of Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth of Belgium as a successor to the Eugène Ysaÿe Competition, the Queen Elisabeth Competition very soon became one of the leading international competitions for violinists, pianists, singers, and, in 2017, cellists.

**Main Office**
Rue aux Laines, 20
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
+32 2 213 40 50
email  website

**Eligibility**
The Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition of Belgium is open to musicians of all nationalities who have completed their training and who are ready to embark upon an international career. Age restrictions vary according to discipline; please see website for specifics.

**Artistic Disciplines**
Strings • Voice • Piano

**Details**
- Travel covered? Yes
- Frequency Annual, rotating among strings, voice, piano
- Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
- Additional prize Performances
- Recording
- Jury chair(s) Mr. Arie Van Lysebeth, Chairman
- Jury size 11 or more
- Application deadline January 10, 2017 (for cello); applications for voice will open early in 2017.

**Semifinals**
- (Live Rounds)
  - Cello: May 8-20, 2017 at Flagey, Brussels, Belgium
  - Voice: May 4 and 5, 2018; Violin: May 6-11, 2019

**Finals**
- (Live Rounds)
  - Cello: May 29-June 3, 2017, with the Brussels Philharmonic at Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
  - Voice: May 10-12, 2018; Violin May 20-25, 2019

**Competition Open to the Public?**
✔ Semifinals  ✔ Finals

**Social Links**
Twitter  Facebook
THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Through exposure to an international jury of influential figures within the opera world, master classes with award-winning professionals, and considerable cash prizes, participation in The Queen Sonja International Music Competition offers young artists a valuable kick-start to their careers.

MAIN OFFICE
Universitetsgaten 14
0164 Oslo
NORWAY
+47 22 99 21 05
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Singers of all nationalities born after January 1, 1987 may apply for the 2017 competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Voice

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biannual
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 1, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
August 18, 2017
The Norwegian National Opera & Ballet
Oslo, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals
✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

MARCELLO GIORDANI INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION
CONCORSO INTERNAZIONALE DI CANTO LIRICO

APRIL 24 - 28, 2017
BELK THEATER AT
BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
HOSTED BY OPERA CAROLINA

Awards
1st prize: $10,000
Plus the opportunity to perform on the Opera Carolina stage in a leading or supporting role.
2nd prize: $5,000
3rd prize: $3,000

For more information and to Apply Online: operacarolina.org/jobs-auditions
YAP+ supports young artists and does not require an application fee.
RAPIDO! 14-DAY COMPOSITION CONTEST

The Rapido! Contest promotes the creation of new chamber works and highlights lesser-known composers. Participating composers write a five-minute work in just 14 days. The national grand prize winner receives a cash prize, premieres in five cities by five chamber ensembles, and a commission from the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

**MAIN OFFICE**
Atlanta Chamber Players
PO Box 5438
Atlanta, GA 31107
UNITED STATES
404-594-3445
email
website

**ELIGIBILITY**
Contest is open to the first 100 online registrants in each of five regions (West Coast, Midwest, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast) of any age and level of experience who are residents or full-time student residents of one of the 50 United States.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Chamber Music Composition

**DETAILS**
- Travel covered? No
- Frequency: Biennial
- Cash prizes: $10,000 to $50,000
- Additional prize: Performances
- Jury chair: Robert Spano, composer & conductor
- Jury size: 1 to 5
- Application deadline: May 26, 2017
- Application notes: Registration deadline is May 26, but the composition period will take place in June (see website for exact dates).

**SEMIFINALS** (live rounds)
Three semi-finalists for each region will compete in live concerts in Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Detroit, and San Francisco with live judging.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
- ✔ Semifinals
- ✔ Finals
- ✔ Semifinals streamed
- ✔ Finals streamed

**SOCIALLINKS**

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THE 15TH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN INTERNATIONAL PIANO MASTER COMPETITION

Applications for the 2017 competition are closed. The semifinal and final rounds, consisting of solo recital, chamber music, and orchestral concerts, take place April 25 - May 11, 2017. The competition offers over $120,000 cash prizes, free hotel accommodations with a practice piano in each room, and partial coverage of flight expenses.

**MAIN OFFICE**
12 Huberman Street
Tel Aviv 6407510
ISRAEL
972-3-6856684
email
website

**ELIGIBILITY**
The competition is open to pianists of all nationalities who are 18 to 32 years of age.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Piano

**DETAILS**
- Travel covered? Yes
- Frequency: Triennial
- Cash prizes: $10,000 to $50,000
- Additional prize: Performances
- Jury chair: Prof. Arie Vardi, pianist, conductor and piano pedagogue
- Jury size: 11 or more
- Application deadline: October 1, 2016
- SEMIFINALS** (live rounds)
Stage I: Recitals (35-40 minutes); Stage II: Recitals (50-60 minutes)
Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 27 Shaul Hamelech Boulevard, Tel Aviv 61332012, Israel

**FINALS** (live rounds)
Stage III: Three concerts: Chamber Music, Classical Concerto, Grand Concerto
Charles Bronfman Auditorium, 1 Huberman Street, Tel Aviv 6407510, Israel

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
- ✔ Semifinals
- ✔ Finals
- ✔ Semifinals streamed
- ✔ Finals streamed

**SOCIALLINKS**

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A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS

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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
UNITED STATES
610-432-7961 x206
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Candidates should be at least 18 years of age and not have reached 31st birthday by December 18, 2017; they must be a current resident/citizen of the U.S. Proof of citizenship, student visa, or green card is required. Competition is not open to prior first-place winners of the Schadt String Competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Strings

SCHADT STRING COMPETITION, cont’d

DETAILS
Travel covered?
No
Frequency
Annual
Cash prizes
None
Additional prize
Performances
Jury chair(s)
Diane Wittry, music director
Jury size
1 to 5
Application deadline
December 18, 2017
Application notes
Violin: December 2017; Cello: December 2018; Classical Guitar: December 2019

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
Violin, March 2-3, 2018
Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown PA

FINALS (live rounds)
Violin, March 4, 2018
Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown PA

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
Semifinals: ✖️
Semifinals streamed: ✔️
Finals: ✖️
Finals streamed: ✔️

SOCIAL LINKS
Schadt String Collaboration, cont’d

www.Schubert.kug.ac.at
FRANZ SCHUBERT AND MODERN MUSIC INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The competition is unique in its combination of traditional and contemporary music, such that both participants and audience can get in touch with both genres. The contemporary pieces are the results of composition competitions established particularly for this event.

MAIN OFFICE
Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst
Leonhardstraße 158010
A-8010 Graz
AUSTRIA
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
The competition is international and open to candidates born after February 28, 1982.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • Duo for Voice and Piano (Lied) • Trio for Piano, Violin, and Violoncello • String Quartet

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Triennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prizes Performances
Additional prize Management
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline October 5, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
February 24 and 25, 2018: Trio for Piano, Violin and Violoncello
MUMUTH (House of Music and Music Drama), Graz/Austria
February 25, 2018: Duo for Voice and Piano (Lied)
Palais Meran, Graz/Austria
February 25, 2018: String Quartet
Theater im Palais (T.i.P.), Graz/Austria

FINALS (live rounds)
February 27, 2018
Duo for Voice and Piano (Lied)
Tri for Piano, Violin and Violoncello
String Quartet
MUMUTH (House of Music and Music Drama), Graz/Austria

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals
✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

GAWON INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION
(BIENNIAL)

September 2018
Seoul, Korea

GAWON AWARD
(Prize of US $ 1,000)
Application Deadline: The end of December (every odd year)

Oksoo Han, Chairman
Gawon International Music Society
www.gawonaward.com
The second biennial Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition (SISIVC), Shanghai’s world-class violin competition, will be held in the autumn of 2018 in Shanghai, China. The competition has a grand prize of $100,000 USD.

### MAIN OFFICE

No. 1380 Middle Fuxing Road
Shanghai CHINA
email  
website

### ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to participants between the ages 18 and 32.

### ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings

### DETAILS

| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| Cash prizes | More than $50,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury chair(s) | Vera Tsu Weiling & David Stern |
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application deadline | TBA |

### SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Semifinals dates and venues (in Shanghai) are to be determined. Check website for details periodically.

### FINALS (live rounds)

Finals dates and venues (in Shanghai) are to be determined. Check website for details periodically.

### COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✔ Semifinals  ✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

### SOCIAL LINKS

Twitter Facebook YouTube Instagram

### THE SOLTI FOUNDATION U.S.

The competition was established to honor the memory of legendary conductor Sir Georg Solti and his dedication to helping young artists. Awards: $25,000 Solti Conducting Fellow—includes door-opening introductions, including Lyric Opera of Chicago and Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and ongoing professional mentoring—and the Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award (amount varies).

### MAIN OFFICE

1555 Sherman Avenue, Suite 310
Evanston, IL 60201
UNITED STATES
847-448-8329
email  
website

### ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be: immersed in developing a career as a symphonic/operatic conductor; a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.; no more than 38 years of age as of January 15, 2017. The award will be based on: professional experience in conducting; demonstration of advanced technique; written proposal for use of the funds (see website for details).

### ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Conducting
SOLTI INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION 2017

Filharmonia Hungary is happy to announce the Solti International Conducting Competition SICC, which will be taking place in October and December 2017 in Hungary. The competition will receive wide media coverage and provide an excellent opportunity for young conductors to prove their talent.

MAIN OFFICE
52. Felsomalom Street
7626 Pécs
HUNGARY
+36 72 891 400
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
Only applicants born after 1 January 1979 will be accepted. Completed application forms and other requested documents can be submitted by email to solticompetition@filharmonia.hu. See website for complete list of documents required for entry.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Conducting

DETAILS
Travel covered?
No
Frequency
Annual
Cash prizes
Eine 000 to €50,000
Additional prize
Performances

SOLTI INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION 2017, cont’d

Jury chair(s)
Renowned conductors and representatives of several world-famous musical institutes

Jury size
6 to 10

Application deadline
May 1, 2017

Application notes
Application fees:
Early bird February 28, 2017: 190 EUR
March 1 to May 1, 2017: 350 EUR
Application fees must be paid by bank transfer to Filharmonia Hungary’s bank account number. Early bird applicants not selected to participate will be reimbursed 100 EUR. Others not selected will be reimbursed 200 EUR.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
October 8-10, 2017
Competitors will be expected to conduct one of the five arias or five concertos from pre-selected lists, and one of the three symphonies.

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL FISCHOFF NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION
May 12-14, 2017
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
University of Notre Dame
Entry Deadline: March 1
www.fischoff.org

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals
✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS

MTNA 2017–18 Music Teachers National Association Student Competitions

The MTNA student competitions provide educational experiences and 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 MTNA National Conference in Orlando, Florida, March 17–21, 2018.

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

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

The deadline to apply for the 2017–2018 MTNA student competitions is September 13, 2017. For more information, visit www.MTNA.org
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
UNITED STATES
313-877-9100 x719
email
website
ELIGIBILITY
The competition is open to all Junior High, 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 $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Management
Jury chair(s) Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline November 7, 2017
Application notes Sphinx.FluidReview.com
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
February 1, 2018
FINALS (live rounds)
February 4, 2018

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, strong reputation, and high caliber of judges.

MAIN OFFICE
359 South Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 14
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
UNITED STATES
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 birth date 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, 2017
(SEMIFINALS for next year’s competition)
SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
May 13, 2017: 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI
FINALS (live rounds)
May 13, 2017: 7:30 p.m.
Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

SOCIAL LINKS
Facebook
Instagram
YouTube

competition

A MUSICAL AMERICA GUIDE TO TOP COMPETITIONS
musicalamerica.com • February 2017
In its inaugural season, the Suzhou Symphony Orchestra will host and present the first piano competition and festival of its kind in the area. Dynamic Suzhou welcomes talented pianists from all over the world to come and create a new chapter of music history in this ancient city.

**MAIN OFFICE**
1 Guanfeng Street, SIP
Suzhou, CHINA

**ELIGIBILITY**
Open to pianists of all nationalities born after November 2, 1989, and on or before November 2, 2001.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Piano

**DETAILS**
- Travel covered?: Yes
- Frequency: Annual
- Cash prizes: More than $50,000
- Additional prize: Performances
- Jury chair: Dominique Merlet
- Jury size: 6 to 10
- Application deadline: July 1, 2017

**SEMI FINALS**
- (live rounds)
  - November 7-8, 2017
  - Suzhou Culture and Arts Center, Suzhou, China

**FINALS**
- (live rounds)
  - November 11-12, 2017
  - Grand Theater, Suzhou Culture and Art Center, Suzhou, China

**COMPEITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
- ✔ Semifinals
- ❌ Semifinals streamed
- ✔ Finals
- ✔ Finals streamed
TAKAMATSU INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants must have been born between January 1, 1983 and January 1, 2003.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
Cash prizes $10,000 to $50,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Shuku Iwasaki, pianist
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline September 20, 2017

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
Round I: March 14-16, 2018; Round II: March 17-18, 2018; Round III: March 20-21, 2018
Sunport Hall Takamatsu (Takamatsu, Japan)

FINALS (live rounds)
March 24, 2018
Sunport Hall Takamatsu (Takamatsu, Japan)

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals ✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS
Pavel Gintov (Ukraine)
Alexander Yakovlev (Russia)
Chloe Jiyeong Mun (South Korea)

SOCIAL LINKS
http://www.tipc.jp

The Takamatsu International Piano Competition

The Seto Inland Sea is referred to as “Mediterranean Sea in Japan”. This Competition is to be held in Takamatsu, which has a beautiful view of the sea. Our finalists have won other competitions around the world. We look forward to seeing you in Takamatsu, the city of hospitality, in Kagawa Prefecture.

The 4th Takamatsu International Piano Competition

Competition Dates: 2018
March 12–13 Piano Selection
March 14–16 Round 1
March 17–18 Round 2
March 20–21 Round 3
March 24 Final Round
March 25 Result announcement, Awarding ceremony

Discipline: Piano

Competition Venue:
Sunport Hall Takamatsu, Main Hall

Application Period and Deadline:
1st April 2017 - 20th Sep, 2017 (Postmark is acceptable)

Age limit:
Individuals born between 1st Jan, 1983 and 1st Jan, 2003

Judging Format:
The Initial Selection Round will be judged using DVDs in DVD-video format of applicants' performances.

Prize:
1st Prize: 3,000,000 JPY
2nd Prize: 2,000,000 JPY
3rd Prize: 1,000,000 JPY
4th Prize: 300,000 JPY
5th Prize: 200,000 JPY

Additional prize for the 1st-prize winner
• Opportunities to perform with Japanese and overseas orchestras
• Recitals at halls in Japan and overseas

Juries:
Chair of Jury
Shuku Iwasaki [Pianist, Japan]

Vice Chair of Jury
Susumu Aoyagi [Pianist, Japan]

Jury
Vincenzo Balzani [Pianist, Italy]
Dang Thai Son [Pianist, Vietnam]
Klaus Hellweg [Pianist, Germany]
Shinichiro Ikebe [Composer, Japan]
Ikuyo Kamiya [Pianist, Japan]
Daeyeon Kim [Pianist, Korea]
Piotr Paleczny [Pianist, Poland]
Mikhail Voskresensky [Pianist, Russia]

*The names of the Jury are listed in alphabetical order without their titles.
TORU TAKEMITSU COMPOSITION AWARD 2018

Cash award of 3 million JPY each year. The judge may withhold the prize. The composers whose works are selected to be performed will be invited to attend.

MAIN OFFICE
3-20-2 Nishi Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku
Tokyo 163-1403
JAPAN
+81 3 5353 0770
e-mail websitewebsite

ELIGIBILITY
Any person, regardless of nationality, who is not over 35 years old at the end of the year his/her application is submitted.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition

DETAILS
Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes $26,193 (approximate)
Jury chair Unsuk Chin
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline September 29, 2017

Application notes Please submit two copies of the bound score, together with a completed entry form. Mailed entries must be received by the above date. Receipt of entries on the last day will close at 6:00 p.m. (Japan time).

FINALS
May 27, 2018
Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall, Tokyo, Japan

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals ✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

33RD VALSESIA MUSICA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION 2017

Valsesia Musica competition (former Viotti Valsesia) started in 1981 to promote young talented musicians as well as Valsesia, the greenest valley in Italy. It is divided in different sections: violin and orchestra, piano, and voice. There is also a juniors’ competition.

MAIN OFFICE
Corso Roma
351 - 13019 Varallo (VC)
Piedmont
ITALY
+39.0163.560020
e-mail websitewebsite

ELIGIBILITY
Open to violinists, singers, and pianists from all over the world up to 37 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Strings • Voice • Piano

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Recording
Jury chair(s) TBD
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline

FINALS (live rounds)
Violin and orchestra: May 20, 2017
Voice: October 21, 2017

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals ✔ Semifinals streamed
✔ Finals ✔ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS
Johansen International Competition

for Young String Players (Ages 13–17)

March 14–17, 2018
Washington, DC

Application deadline: December 1, 2017

To apply, go to:
https://app.getacceptd.com/jic

$67,000 in prizes
Equal awards for violin, viola, and cello

Performance opportunities
including
Winners' Recital in Washington, DC: concerto appearances; and more

Sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation, Inc.
Contact: johansencomp@gmail.com
301-825-5515

VIOTTI INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION, VERCELLI

The Viotti International Music Competition, established in Vercelli in 1950 by Joseph Robbone, is one of the most prestigious Italian music competitions and its prize-winners often achieve major careers. Alternating between piano and voice, it is renowned for its high standards, awards, and prestigious jury.

MAIN OFFICE
Via Monte di Pietà 39
13100 Vercelli, Italy
+39.0161.255.575
email

ELIGIBILITY
The 68th Gian Battista Viotti International Music Competition 2017 is open to pianists of all nationalities who were born after October 21, 1986. The age limit for the singers of the Viotti Competition 2018 is 30 (women) and 32 (men).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Piano • Voice

DETAILS
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Additional prize Performances

Jury chair Pietro Borgonovo, artistic director
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline July 21, 2017 (piano); late July, 2018 (voice)

SEMI FINALS (live rounds)
October 12–18
City Theater of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

FINALS (live rounds)
October 21, 2017: Final with orchestra
City Theater of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

The 9th NYIPC
New York International Piano Competition®

June 17–22, 2018
New York City
Ages 16–21
Application Deadline: December 4, 2017

- No elimination of any contestant throughout the Competition
- Open to pianists of all nationalities
- Prizes and Awards totaling $50,000
- Concert and Recital Appearances
- Seminars and Master Classes

1st Prize $10,000
2nd Prize $6,000
3rd Prize $3,000
4th Prize $2,000

Ensemble Prizes $6,000
Best performance of commissioned work $1,500
Finalist Award to each of the remaining contestants $1,000

For further information contact:
The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation
119 West 37th Street, Suite 1401 New York, New York 10019, U.S.A.
Tel: (+1) 212-581-8380 Fax: (+1) 212-581-4186
info@stecherandhorowitz.org www.stecherandhorowitz.org Facebook.com/NYIPC

SOCIAL LINKS

VIOTTI INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION, VERCELLI, cont’d
WIGMORE HALL INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

The Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition is one of the best and most prestigious quartet competitions in the world. Held under the auspices of Wigmore Hall, the leading U.K. venue for chamber music, the competition 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 2072588244
email
website

ELIGIBILITY
All members of quartets wishing to apply must be under 35 at the date of the final round of the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE
String Quartet

DETAILS
Travel covered?
No
Frequency
Triennial
Cash prizes
€10,000 to €50,000
Performances
Jury chair
John Gilhooly OBE, director, Wigmore Hall
Jury size
6 to 10
Application deadline
October 13, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
Select winners will perform at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on May 25.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS

VSA INTERNATIONAL YOUNG SOLOISTS

Each year outstanding young musicians with disabilities from around the world receive the VSA International Young Soloists Award, $2,000, and the opportunity to perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

MAIN OFFICE
2700 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20566
UNITED STATES
202-416-8822
eemail
website

ELIGIBILITY
Musicians with disabilities between the ages of 14 and 25.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Strings • Voice • All instruments, genres

DETAILS
Travel covered?
Yes
Frequency
Annual
Cash prizes
None
Performances
Additional prize
Not provided
Jury chair(s)
Not provided
Jury size
1 to 5
Application deadline
February 8, 2017

FINALS (live rounds)
Select winners will perform at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on May 25.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✔ Semifinals
✔ Finals

SOCIAL LINKS
The competition celebrates the art of the song recital and honors the Lied’s place at the heart of the genre. The competition 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
0207 258 8244

details

**ELIGIBILITY**
All singers and accompanying pianists must be under age 33 at the date of the final round of the competition.

**ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE**
Voice

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes €10,000 to €50,000
Jury chair John Gilhooly OBE, director, Wigmore Hall

**SEMI-FINALS**
(Wigmore Hall)
September 5, 2017

**FINALS**
(Wigmore Hall)
September 7, 2017

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals

**TRAVEL COVERED?**
No

**FREQUENCY**
Biennial

**CASH PRIZES**
€10,000 to €50,000

**JURY CHAIR**
John Gilhooly OBE, director, Wigmore Hall

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**
March 24, 2017

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Young Concert Artists Inc. is a non-profit 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
UNITED STATES
212-307-6656

details

**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**
Strings • Voice • Brass • Woodwinds • Chamber Ensembles

**DETAILS**
Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Cash prizes None
Jury chair Susan Wadsworth, director, Young Concert Artists, Inc.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**
September 1, 2017 for live auditions; September 15, 2017 for CD auditions

**APPLICATION NOTES**
For live or CD applications received by August 15, the entrance fee is $65; thereafter the entrance fee is $85.

**SEMI-FINALS**
(Wigmore Hall)
November 2017, New York, NY

**FINALS**
(Wigmore Hall)
November 2017, New York, NY

**COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**
✖ Semifinals
✓ Finals

**SOCIAL LINKS**
In addition to the Competitions featured in this special report, the Musical America database of more than 450 music competitions worldwide is free of charge for the month of February 2017!

A Musical America Guide to Competitions
Our Special Report on the top competitions in the world.

5 Top Competitors: Lessons Learned from Winning and Losing

Jamie Barton: Competitor Extraordinaire

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

In The Next Issue...

FESTIVALS
A 2017 Summer Guide
Coming 4 April 2017

Questions? Email info@musicalamerica.com

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Questions? Email info@musicalamerica.com

Coming 4 April 2017

A 2017 Summer Guide

FESTIVALS

Questions? Email info@musicalamerica.com