



SPECIAL FOR
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MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Musical America Guide to Top

COMPETITIONS

The Musical America Guide to Top COMPETITIONS



Editor's Note



The 2025 Guide covers a vast range of competitions, with cash prizes from zero to big bucks, low to high visibility, and small to substantial application fees. But most do assure that a win will bring more than cash—performances, for example, or career guidance or a recording. A few also offer management: Concert Artists Guild promises “multi-year” management both in North America and Europe, along with a debut performance in New York and London, at Wigmore Hall. Young Concert Artists offers much the same.

Other events, while focusing on competition, lean over backwards to assure rewards, not just for the “best” participants, but for the “almost best” as well. The 40 semifinalists in the Queen Sonja Singing Competition who arrive in Oslo next April will not only compete for the €50,000 grand prize but will also have the opportunity to perform before industry movers and shakers—potential employers and presenters. Plus, they’ll be getting master classes, coachings, and attending career-development sessions.

Since the Azreili Foundation Prizes—awarded every two years in four categories—focus on the merits of a piece of music rather than its delivery, the biggest reward for winning, apart from CA\$50,000, is the composer’s chance to actually see and hear his or her work actualized, not to mention exposed in front of a large audience. Last fall, four Azreili Prize-winning works performed by the Montreal Symphony Chorus under Director Andrew Megill were the centerpiece of [the Foundation’s tenth-anniversary gala](#), held in Montreal’s Maison Symphonique.

Azreili, by the way, is “open to composers of all ages, genders, faiths, backgrounds, and levels of experience.” It is one of a handful, if that, which doesn’t prioritize “young” or “rising” artists.

The National Federation of Music Clubs, on the other hand, has something for every age, including 9 years old and under (!) for the Class I Junior Composers Award (\$150 first prize) and no age limit for the NFMC Veteran Award (\$2,250) to “former students who have served in the armed forces of our country and who wish to resume study in pursuit of a career in music.”

In other words, it’s never too late to pursue your passion.

Regards,

Susan Elliott
Editor, News and Special Reports

COVER PHOTO: Prize winners of the International Singing Competition NEUE STIMMEN 2024, October 11, 2024, Gütersloh, Germany. Left to right: Trevor Haumschilt-Rocha, Seray Pinar, Lin Fan, Brian Dickie, Anita Monserrat, Magdalena Lucjan, Alejandro Baliñas Vieites, Teona Todua, Finn Sagal, Ian Rucker
CREDIT: Besim Mazhiqi

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The Musical America Guide to Top
COMPETITIONS

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 for each competition. There is a \$2,000 cash prize, publication by ECS Publishing, and a world premiere performance at an AGO National Convention.

MAIN OFFICE

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115
UNITED STATES
212-870-2310

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Voice • Organ • SATB Chorus

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application deadline	June 30, 2026
Application notes	Deadline is tentative and subject to change.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

AMERICAN PIANO AWARDS

The American Piano Awards are held every two years to discover the best aspiring American jazz or classical pianists. Winners receive cash and two years of career advancement and support valued at over \$200,000, making this one of the most coveted prizes in the music world.

MAIN OFFICE

4603 Clarendon Road, Suite 030
Indianapolis, IN 46208
UNITED STATES
317-940-9945

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

American citizens between 18 and 30 years old

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	More than \$50,000
Smallest prize	\$11,000 to \$50,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10

Application deadline September 1, 2025

Application notes

The 2025 American Piano Awards (classical) are already underway. Information for the 2027 American Piano Awards (jazz) will be posted in summer 2025. The American Piano Awards are by nomination only. All dates for the 2027 Awards are best estimates as of this writing. Please reach out if interested in becoming a nominator.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2026 (estimated)—preliminary round
October 2026 – February 2027 (estimated)—first round

FINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2027 (estimated)—Indianapolis, IN, final rounds

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE AMERICAN PRIZE NATIONAL NONPROFIT COMPETITIONS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

The American Prize: Providing evaluation, recognition, reward to America's finest performing artists, ensembles and conductors, composers, and stage directors, based on recorded performances. Professional, college/university, community, high school. No age limits. No live competition.

MAIN OFFICE

HCMT—The American Prize
25 Hamilton Drive, Suite 100
The Opera Cottage
Danbury, CT 06811
UNITED STATES
203-746-2694
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competitions of The American Prize are open to all U.S. citizens, whether living in this country or abroad, and to others who live or have lived, worked, or studied in the U.S., its protectorates and territories; there are no age limits

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Conducting • Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Classical Vocalists • Orchestras • Choruses • Bands • Opera Companies • Musical Theater Companies • Stage Directors • Chamber Ensembles • Instrumental Soloists • Orchestral Programming • Performance of American Music

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Jury chair David (Volosin) Katz

Additional jurors

Judges include: Sharon Sweet, voice; Susanne Mentzer, voice; Jeffrey Biegel, piano; Lorin Hollander, piano; Judith Zaimont, composition

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee

\$65 individuals, \$99 ensembles

Application deadline April 29, 2025

Application notes

Preliminary deadline for composers, chamber musicians, instrumental soloists, classical vocalists and pianists is April 17, 2025. Deadline for conductors, ensembles, stage directors, arts administrators, and American music performance is April 29, 2025. [See here](#) for more information.

FINALS (live rounds)

The American Prize judges recorded performances only, submitted via online links or on disc. There is no live competition. The contests select semifinalists, finalists, runners-up, and winners in separate announcements over the course of the contest year. The American Prize is administered by Hat City Music Theater, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✘ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



ARD INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

One of the most renowned and large-scale competitions of its kind takes place every year in four varying categories. The invitation to participate in this competition is extended to young musicians who are ready to launch an international career.

MAIN OFFICE

Internationaler Musikwettbewerb der ARD
c/o Bayerischer Rundfunk
Rundfunkplatz 1
80335 Munich
GERMANY
+49 89 5900 42471

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Musicians of all nations born between 1996 and 2008

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Clarinet • Trumpet

HEALTH & SAFETY

[Policies/procedures for this competition](#)

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize €10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Recording

Jury chairs

Clarinet: Sabine Meyer; trumpet: Reinhold Friedrich; piano: Homero Francesch

Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline March 28, 2025

Application notes

Online application now open

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

2025—Munich, Germany: September 7, clarinet; September 9, trumpet; September 11, piano

FINALS (live rounds)

2025—Herkulesaal der Residenz, Munich, Germany: September 10, clarinet; September 12, trumpet; September 14, piano

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals

✓ Semifinals streamed

✓ Finals

✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE AZRIELI MUSIC PRIZES

Created by Sharon Azrieli CQ for the Azrieli Foundation, the Azrieli Music Prizes celebrate excellence in composition through four prizes, each valued at CA\$200,000: The Azrieli Commission for Canadian Music, the Azrieli Prize for Jewish Music, the Azrieli Commission for Jewish Music, and the Azrieli Commission for International Music.

MAIN OFFICE

2 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 900
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5
CANADA
416-322-5928 x326

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Azrieli Music Prizes are open to composers worldwide, with the exception of the Canadian Commission, which is open to citizens and residents of Canada. Scores, proposals, and supporting documents are accepted from nominators and individual composers of all ages, genders, faiths, backgrounds, and levels of experience.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition



DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
First prize CA\$10,000 to \$50,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Recording

Jury chairs

Jewish Prizes: to be determined; Canadian Prize: Ana Sokolovic, composer, professor, l'Université de Montréal; International Prize: Jonathan Goldman, musicologist

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee No fee

Application deadline May 2, 2025

Application notes

The call for proposals for the 2026 competition will open on February 7, 2025, with a focus on works for orchestra and choir with optional soloists (maximum of four). Applications will be accepted online. [See here](#) for more information.

FINALS (live rounds)

The AMP Gala Concert is traditionally held in October on even years in Montréal, Canada. The date for the 2026 AMP Gala Concert will be announced. [Check here](#) for more information.

The 2024 AMP Gala Concert was held on October 28, 2024, with Performance Partner l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal Chorus.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

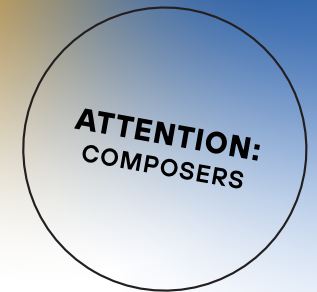
SOCIAL LINKS



2026 AZRIELI MUSIC PRIZES

Call for Submissions

Works for Choir and Orchestra
(with optional soloists)



\$200,000 IN CASH PRIZES

Gala Concert
2 International Showcases
Commercial Recording

Deadline: May 2, 2025



Find out more and apply:
azrielifoundation.org/amp



2026 GINA BACHAUER INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR AND YOUNG ARTISTS PIANO COMPETITIONS

The 2026 Gina Bachauer International Junior and Young Artists Piano Competitions will have the international piano world abuzz. Junior competitors, ages 11 to 14, and Young Artists competitors, ages 15 to 18, will vie for medals and their share of \$62,000 in cash prizes. Young Artists final round is with the Utah Symphony.

MAIN OFFICE

138 West 300 South, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
UNITED STATES
801-297-4250

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2026 Gina Bachauer International Junior and Young Artists Piano Competitions are open to pianists of any nationality, ages 11 to 14 for Junior and ages 15 to 18 for Young Artists.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Quadrennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Douglas Humpherys
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$150
Application deadline	September 15, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 15-18 (Junior) and June 22-25 (Young Artists), 2026—Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City, UT

FINALS (live rounds)

June 20, 2026 (Junior)—Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City, UT
June 27, 2026 (Young Artists)—Abravanel Hall with Utah Symphony, Salt Lake City, UT

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



BANFF INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

Since 1983 BISQC has celebrated the art of chamber music while providing career support for emerging string quartets. With the largest prizes in chamber music and a dedicated audience, a once-in-a-lifetime experience unfolds for all in attendance. Outstanding music, enlightening lectures, engaging conversations, and spectacular mountain vistas.

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 August 25, 2025. [See here](#) for more eligibility and rules.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings • String Quartet

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	CA\$25,000
Smallest prize	CA\$4,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording

Jury chair

Barry Shiffman, director, BISQC

Additional jurors

2025 preliminary jury: Joshua Gindele (Miró Quartet); Ayane Kozasa (Aizuri Quartet/Kronos Quartet); Guillaume Sutre (Ysaÿe Quartet)
2025 competition jury: Eckart Runge (Artemis Quartet); Marie Chilleme (Quatuor Cavatine/Quatuor Ebène); Jonathan Crow (New Orford String Quartet); Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt (Dover Quartet); Honggang Li (Shanghai Quartet); Eugene Drucker (Emerson String Quartet); David Ying (Ying Quartet)

Jury size

6 to 10

Application fee

CA\$250

Application deadline

March 1, 2025

Application notes

Quartet applications accepted October 2024 through March 1, 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

August 25-31, 2025—Jenny Belzberg Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, AB, Canada; up to ten competing quartets perform in all four preliminary rounds

FINALS (live rounds)

August 31, 2025—Jenny Belzberg Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, AB, Canada; three quartets advance to the finals

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



LILLIAN AND MAURICE BARBASH J.S. BACH COMPETITION

Entrants will submit a videotaped performance of contrasting movements of a J.S. Bach work written for unaccompanied string instrument (sonatas, partitas, or suites). Finalists will play complete work at the finals on October 16, 2025. Grand Prize is \$10,000 and five performing engagements; second place is \$2,500.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box 699
Babylon, NY 11702
UNITED STATES
516-639-8575
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Entrants must be between the ages of 16 and 30 on the date of the finals, October 16, 2025. The competition is open to U.S. and non-U.S. citizens. Entrants may play on either baroque or modern bowed instruments. Non-U.S. citizens must have visas by September 1, 2025.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Additional jurors	Kim Kashkashian, professor of viola and chamber music, New England Conservatory (NEC); Renee Jolles, Wegman Family professor of violin, Eastman professor of violin, NEC; Kenneth Slowik, cello and viol, artistic director of the Smithsonian Chamber Music Society, curator of the Musical Instrument Collection at the National Museum of American History; Colin Carr, cellist, professor of music, cello, and chamber music, Stony Brook University; Arthur Haas, professor of harpsichord, early music performance, and continuo, Stony Brook University
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$50
Application deadline	June 15, 2025
Application notes	The application for the 2025 competition will be available on the competition website on February 1, 2025.

FINALS (live rounds)

October 16, 2025, 1 pm—Staller Center Recital Hall, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



BARLOW ENDOWMENT FOR MUSIC COMPOSITION—PRIZE COMPETITION

The 2025 winning composer receives a \$25,000 commission for a major new work for wind symphony. The work will be performed by a consortium of performers to be announced.

MAIN OFFICE

Barlow Endowment
701 East University Parkway
189 WCO
Provo, UT 84602
UNITED STATES
801-422-8611
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	No fee
Application deadline	June 1, 2025
Application notes	This deadline is a receipt deadline, not a mailing deadline.

FINALS (live rounds)

Notifications of winners will be announced on website and Facebook by September 15, 2025

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS





NATIONAL FEDERATION of MUSIC CLUBS

Offers over \$750,000 in awards annually.

- NFMC Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award \$2,000
- NFMC Classical Guitar Award \$2,000
- NFMC Grethen E. Van Roy Music Education Scholarship \$1,500
- NFMC Dorothy Dann Bullock Music Therapy Scholarship \$1,500
- NFMC Oscar Valentin Violin Award \$1,500
- NFMC Carolyn Nelson Double Reed Award \$1,250
- NFMC Ernest A. Bluhm Flute Award \$800
- Frances J. Nelson Tuba Award \$800
- and many more...



For more details, please check out our website
www.nfmc-music.org/competitions-awards

BESANÇON INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS

Established in 1951, the Besançon Competition is the most complete competition in the world with classical, romantic, 20th-century, and contemporary music, opera and concerto. It is the only competition where candidates are selected during live preliminary rounds (and not from their documentation).

MAIN OFFICE

Besançon International Competition
Festival de musique
9 rue du Palais de Justice
25000 Besançon
FRANCE
+33 (0)3 81 25 05 85
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to candidates of any nationality under the age of 35. No previous orchestra conducting diploma is required. A graduate degree in instrumental or vocal practice is required.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

HEALTH & SAFETY

[Policies/procedures for this competition](#)

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management
Jury chair	Michael Schønwandt, conductor
Additional jurors	Régis Campo, France, composer in residence; Jaewon Kim, South Korea, violon concertmaster; Catherine Larsen-Maguire, Great Britain, conductor; Eva Ollikainen, Finland, conductor; Jean-François Verdier, France, conductor; Stephen Wright, Great Britain, music & arts consultant
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	January 23, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Selection rounds: April 14 – May 3, 2025, in Besançon, Seoul, Paris, Berlin, and Montréal. Selection rounds take place in front of two jury members; each candidate conducts two pianists playing separate pianos. Twenty candidates are then selected for the final rounds with orchestra.

FINALS (live rounds)

September 22-27, 2025—Besançon, France; first and second rounds: symphony; semifinal: opera and concerto; final: symphony and world premiere

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✗ Semifinals
- ✗ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



FERRUCCIO BUSONI INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Founded in 1949, the Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition is rich in both tradition and innovation and is regarded as one of the most successful institutions of its kind. Its biennial structure includes the Glocal Piano Project and final stages that are both intensively followed by audiences worldwide.

MAIN OFFICE

via Portici 19/A
39100 Bolzano
ITALY
+39 0471 976568
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Ages 16 to 30: Past winners of the Busoni Prize are not eligible to compete.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	May 4, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 2026—66th Busoni Competition 2026/2027, piano; different locations worldwide (Glocal Piano Project)

FINALS (live rounds)

65th Busoni Competition 2024/2025—August 27 – September 7, 2025, Bolzano, Italy
66th Busoni Competition 2026/2027—August 25 – September 5, 2027, Bolzano, Italy

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



BYRD YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

The William C. Byrd Young Artist Competition was started by the late William C. Byrd, conductor of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, for the purpose of helping launch careers for young musicians. Following his untimely death, the St. Cecilia Society of Flint, MI, has continued to sponsor the annual classical music competition. The Competition in the coming years will focus on winds and brass (2026), voice (2027), piano (2028), and strings (2029).

MAIN OFFICE

St. Cecilia Society of Flint, MI/Byrd Competition
c/o Dort Music Center/Flint Institute of Music
1025 East Kearsley Street
Flint, MI 48503
UNITED STATES
810-964-9399
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Contestants cannot have an agent. Instrumentalists cannot be older than 32 on the day of the Byrd Competition, and vocalists cannot be older than 35 on the day of the voice Competition. The music contestants perform must be written for their instrument and full orchestra.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$75
Application deadline	January 14, 2026
Application notes	Applications for the 2026 Winds/Brass competition will be accepted beginning November 1, 2025, through January 14, 2026. Applications must be received by the competition by the deadline.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 7, 2026—Dort Music Center, Flint Institute of Music, Flint, MI, winds & brass

FINALS (live rounds)

March 7, 2026—Dort Music Center, Flint Institute of Music, Flint, MI, winds & brass

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✗ Semifinals streamed
- TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



2025 CHICAGO NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The 2025 Chicago 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 future Winners' Recital.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Brass
• Percussion • Woodwinds

2025 CHICAGO NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION (cont'd)

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than \$10,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair To be announced
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee \$150 for non-Midwest Young Artists Conservatory (MYAC) Ensembles
Application deadline February 1, 2025
Application notes Applications are due February 1, 2025, by 11:59 pm Central Standard Time U.S.

FINALS (live rounds)

February 16, 2025—Midwest Young Artists Conservatory Center, Highwood, IL

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals
TBD Finals
✗ Semifinals streamed
TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



YOUR STAGE AWAITS






2025–2026 MTNA COMPETITIONS

The prestigious MTNA competitions recognize exceptionally talented young artists and their teachers in their pursuit of musical excellence. Finalists compete at the MTNA National Conference in Chicago, March 21–25, 2026.

Competitions include: Composition, Brass, Piano, String, Voice, Woodwind, Chamber Music and MTNA–Stecher & Horowitz Two Piano Competition



LEARN MORE

For more information, visit www.mtna.org



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



APPLICATIONS:
5. 1. – 10. 5. 2025

21. 2. – 1. 3. 2026

Ljubljana, Slovenia



LJUBLJANA FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION - Piano 2026

General and Artistic Director of the Ljubljana Festival: **DARKO BRLEK**

Artistic Director of the Ljubljana Festival International Competition - Piano 2026: **EPIFANIO COMIS**

Jury President: **DUBRAVKA TOMŠIČ SREBOTNJAK**

1st prize: **50.000 EUR**

2nd prize: **30.000 EUR**

3rd prize: **15.000 EUR**

4th prize: **8.000 EUR**

5th prize: **5.000 EUR**

6th prize: **3.000 EUR**



CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

With over \$30,000 in prizes, the Cleveland International Piano Competition and Institute for Young Artists offers unparalleled musical experiences for today's world.

MAIN OFFICE

20600 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 610
Cleveland, OH 44122
UNITED STATES
216-707-5397

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Rising Stars, ages 10 to 12; Junior Division, ages 13 to 15; and Senior Division, ages 16 to 18

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$150, if by November 15, 2025; \$200, if by December 15, 2025
Application deadline	December 15, 2025

FINALS (live rounds)

Late July/early August 2026—Final Round will feature master class with leading pianist and concerto round with Canton Symphony Orchestra

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



SEVENTEENTH VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The Seventeenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition takes place May 21 – June 7, 2025. Cash and career management prize packages are valued at over \$2 million, including concert tours, publicity packages and training, websites, and individualized artistic and financial consultation. Widespread exposure for participants features global media coverage, a fully produced live broadcast to millions internationally, and feature-length documentary.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Ages 18 to 30; first-prize winners of previous Cliburn Competitions are not eligible to compete.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Quadrennial
First prize	More than \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	Paul Lewis, pianist
Additional jurors	Rico Gulda, Mari Kodama, Anne-Marie McDermott, Gabriela Montero, Jon Nakamatsu, Lise de la Salle, Yevgeny Sudbin, Wu Han
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$150
Application deadline	October 16, 2024

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 28 – June 1, 2025—Bass Performance Hall, Fort Worth, TX

FINALS (live rounds)

June 3-7, 2025—Bass Performance Hall, Fort Worth, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR PIANO COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL

June 2027—Quadrennial international competition for 13 to 17-year-old pianists held in Dallas, TX, on the campus of Southern Methodist University and at Meyerson Symphony Center. All performances broadcast live and available on demand. Final Round performances with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Competitors must be 13 to 17 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Quadrennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$125
Application deadline	January 10, 2027

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 2027—Caruth Auditorium at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX

FINALS (live rounds)

June 2027—Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



COLORADO COLLEGE

The Colorado College Summer Music Festival is an intensive three-week program for 50 advanced student musicians, including violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, piano, and conducting. Participants are chosen from hundreds of applicants to partake in this unique program of learning and public performances.

MAIN OFFICE

Mailing address: 819 North Tejon Street
Physical address: 5 West Cache La Poudre Street #112
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
UNITED STATES
719-389-6552

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

At least 18 years old and advanced, pre-professional musicians

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Conducting • Piano • Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
Jury chair	Scott Yoo, conductor, Colorado College Summer Music Festival Orchestra, violinist, host of PBS series <i>Now Hear This</i>
Additional jurors	Colorado Music College faculty— see here for details
Jury size	6 to 10

Application fee

\$75 (\$85 after February 17, 2025); financial needs are considered

Application deadline February 15, 2025

Application notes

Applications are submitted via SlideRoom; [see here](#) for application instructions and information.

FINALS (live rounds)

Colorado Springs, CO

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCERT ARTISTS GUILD LOUIS AND SUSAN MEISEL COMPETITION

Concert Artists Guild is committed to supporting musicians who are ready to launch their careers on the national and international stage. Prizes include a multi-year management contract with CAG, a New York debut performance, participation in Citizen Musician Training, North American and European management, and a Wigmore Hall performance.

MAIN OFFICE

Concert Artists Guild
224 West 35th Street, Suite 500 #2149
New York, NY 10001
UNITED STATES
212-333-5200
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2025 competition is open to all instruments, voice, and chamber ensembles. Age limits as of January 31, 2025: solo instrumentalists: 28 years old; ensembles: average age of 30 years old; solo singers: 30 years old. [See here](#) for more information on eligibility.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • All Solo Instruments
• Chamber Ensembles

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than \$10,000
Additional prizes
Performances, Management
Jury chair Not provided
Additional jurors

Michelle Cann, concert pianist; David Frost, Grammy Award-winning record producer; Adriaan Fuchs, director, festivals and special projects, Carnegie Hall; Jeremy Ney, head of music and performance, The Frick Collection; Erin Lunsford Norton, vice president of artistic planning, New Jersey Symphony; Lee Prinz, president & CEO, Colbert Artists
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee
Soloist: \$110; ensemble: \$150
Application deadline January 31, 2025

SEMIFINALS

March 11, 2025, online submission

FINALS (live rounds)

May 31, 2025—The William R. and Irene D. Miller Recital Hall, Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



HHIPC
HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The future arrives on
HILTON HEAD
MARCH 16-21...
...will you be there?

2026

**HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL
PIANO COMPETITION**

FOR PIANISTS AGES 13 - 17
MARCH 16 - 21, 2026

20 Pianists compete for \$25,000 in cash prizes

Plus a return engagement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra & other performance opportunities.

Application available online at HHIPC.org June 2025.
For more information email pianocomp@hhipc.org

Alink-Argerich Foundation
Member since 2005

STEINWAY & SONS
Artistic Partner of the HHIPC

PRESENTED BY THE HILTON HEAD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONCOURS EUROPÉEN

The competition includes five age-based categories, an online elimination round in February 2025, and in-person finals on May 10-11. Video submissions must be high-quality, unpublished, and royalty-free. Prizes will be awarded at closing concerts and for Master Category. First prize includes: \$10,000 cash prize, published CD, concerts, and one year of management

MAIN OFFICE

Concours Européen de Piano Online
TvClassique -Interludes / MBE
2 bis rue St. Honoré
78000 Versailles
FRANCE
+33 (0) 772 666 045
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Categories for age group—A: 10 years old; B: 14 years old; C: 18 years old; D: 18 years and older amateur; E: Concert Master performer

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Piano Duo

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	To be determined
Additional jurors	Jury to be composed of one composer, one music critic, one agent, one festival artistic director, three pianists, and TvClassique 's artistic director
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	January 31, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 2025, selection online

FINALS (live rounds)

May 10-11, 2025

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCOURS DE GENÈVE— INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Founded in 1939, the Concours de Genève is one of the world's leading international music competitions. It aims at discovering, promoting, and supporting young talented artists, giving them the necessary tools to launch an international career.
Next Competition: Viola.

MAIN OFFICE

Concours de Genève
International Music Competition
Boulevard de Saint-Georges 34 / CP 268
1211 – Genève 8
SWITZERLAND
+41 22 328 62 08
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Viola: open to all candidates born after November 12, 1995; conducting: to be announced shortly.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Conducting • Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice
• Flute • Oboe • Clarinet • Cello • Viola • String Quartet
• Percussion

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
First prize	CHF20,000
Smallest prize	CHF8,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	Tabea Zimmermann, viola jury chair
Additional jurors	Viola competition: Tomoko Akasaka, Ettore Causa, Hsin-Yun Huang, Cynthia Phelps, Jean Sulem, German Tcakulov
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	October 4, 2025
Application notes	Conducting: to be announced shortly

Application deadline for the Viola Competition: April 10, 2025; application deadline for the Conducting Competition: May 7, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 6-9, 2025 viola; November 3-9, 2026, conducting—Salle Franz Liszt, Conservatoire, Geneva, Switzerland

FINALS (live rounds)

November 12, 2025, viola; November 11-13, 2026, conducting—with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Victoria Hall, Geneva, Switzerland

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCOURS LONG-THIBAUD 2025

The Long-Thibaud competition is open to young musicians from all over the world. For 80 years, it has represented a highlight of the Parisian, French, and international season.

MAIN OFFICE

32 avenue Matignon
75008 Paris
FRANCE
+33 1 42 66 66 80
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all nationalities from 16 to 33 years old

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Violin

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Gerard Bekerman, chairman of the foundation
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	November 1, 2024

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 28, 2025—Conservatoire Claude Debussy, Paris, France

FINALS (live rounds)

March 30, 2025—accompanied by Orchestra of the Republican Guard, Théâtre National de l'Opéra-Comique, Paris, France

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCOURS MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL (CMIM)

The CMIM is a prestigious competition that showcases the international elite of the new generation of classical musicians. Each year, the CMIM brings together exceptional young singers, violinists, and pianists to measure their talents against their peers and to launch their careers on the world stage from Montréal. CMIM 2025 will be for voice, 2026 for violin, and 2027 for piano.

MAIN OFFICE

305 Mont-Royal avenue East
Montréal, QC H2T 1P8
CANADA
514-845-4108
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Voice 2025 age limits: 18 to 32 years old; Violin 2026 age limits: 16 to 30; Piano 2027 age limits: 16 to 30 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
First prize	CA\$30,000
Smallest prize	CA\$10,000
Additional prize	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Adrienne Pieczonka
Additional jurors	Harolyn Blackwell, Iain Burnside, Étienne Dupuis, Anthony Freud, Susan Graham, Roberto Mauro, Christina Scheppelmann
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$150
Application deadline	November 1, 2025

Application notes

The next application period will be for Violin 2026. Interested applicants should refer to the competition website starting summer 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 26-31, 2025—voice, Salle Bourgie, Montréal, QC, Canada

FINALS (live rounds)

June 3- 4, 6, 2025—voice, Maison Symphonique de Montréal, QC, Canada

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



WIGMORE HALL

WIGMORE HALL

International String Quartet Competition 2025



Tuesday 1 – Friday 4 April 2025
10.00am each day

—
Preliminary Rounds at the Royal Academy of Music
Free (no ticket required)



For more information please visit wigmore-hall.org.uk/WHISQC

Saturday 5 April 2025
2.00pm and 7.30pm

—
Semi-Finals at Wigmore Hall
Each session
£40 £36 £32 £26 £18

Book for both Semi-Final sessions and receive a 20% discount

Sunday 6 April 2025
6.00pm

—
Final and Prize-Giving at Wigmore Hall
£40 £36 £32 £26 £18

The Wigmore Hall Trust
Registered Charity No:
1024838

The Leonkoro Quartet, winner
of the 2022 Competition
© Benjamin Ealovega

THE COOPER-BING COMPETITION

The Cooper-Bing is an internationally recognized vocal competition that celebrates and supports emerging young artists in opera. Dubbed “The Olympics of Opera,” this competition encourages talent, creates artistic opportunity, and helps welcome the next generation into the professional opera community.

MAIN OFFICE

55 East State Street
Columbus, OH 43215
UNITED STATES
614-461-8101

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must be 21 to 35 years of age on May 18, 2025

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Voice • Opera

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$25
Application deadline	January 15, 2025

FINALS (live rounds)

May 18, 2025—Southern Theatre, Columbus, OH

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



2025 Lillian and Maurice Barbash J.S. Bach Competition

For string players ages 16-30

Submission Deadline: June 15, 2025

*Grand Prize: \$10,000
plus 5 paid performance engagements*

Second Place: \$2,500 | Finals: Thursday, October 16, 2025
Staller Center Recital Hall, Stony Brook University, NY

jsbachcompetition.org



CORK INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL — FLEISCHMANN INTERNATIONAL TROPHY COMPETITION

Each year some of the finest amateur international choirs are selected to compete for the prestigious Fleischmann International Trophy. One of Europe's premier international choral festivals, Cork is noted for its high standards, eclectic and wide-ranging program, and the friendliness of its welcome.

MAIN OFFICE

Cork International Choral Festival
Civic Trust House
50 Pope's Quay
Cork
IRELAND
+353 (0) 21 4215125
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to any amateur choir of international standing; minimum 20/maximum 60 voices; minimum age of 16 years on the day of competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice • Choral Music

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than €10,000
Smallest prize Less than €5,000
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline October 31, 2025

Application notes

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is October 31 of the preceding year.

FINALS (live rounds)

2025 Competition: April 30 – May 4, 2025
2026 Competition: April 29 – May 3, 2026
2027 Competition: April 28 – May 2, 2027

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



FISCHOFF NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The 52nd Annual Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition takes place May 9-11, 2025, in South Bend, IN, at The University of Notre Dame. The competition is open to ensembles with three to six members and includes both senior and junior divisions. Over \$60,000 in prize money will be awarded.

MAIN OFFICE

119 Haggard Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556
UNITED STATES
574-631-2903
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to instrumental ensembles only, consisting of three to six musicians; U.S. and non-U.S. residents are eligible; see [full eligibility requirements here](#).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Winds • Brass • Percussion

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Additional prize Performances, Recording
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 11 or more

Application fee

Trio \$135; Quartet \$175; Quintet \$215; Sextet \$255

Application deadline February 19, 2025

Application notes

Entries must be received by 11:59 pm, Eastern U.S.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Quarterfinals: May 9, 2025; semifinals: May 10, 2025—University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

FINALS (live rounds)

May 11, 2025—University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



GLOBAL MUSIC AWARDS

The Global Music Awards is a highly rated, well-known international music competition that celebrates independent musicians. Global Music Awards is widely recognized by industry insiders as giving legitimacy to highly talented artists. It is a competition based strictly on merit.

MAIN OFFICE

7752 Fay Avenue, Suite B
La Jolla, CA 92037
UNITED STATES
858-208-3575
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all artists and composers; submissions may be of any genre, any length. The Awards look for artists and composers with outstanding emotional communication, the ability to transcend, to make the listener experience something that is new and compelling.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

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

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Jury chair
Thomas Baker, Ph.D., founder, Global Music Awards
Additional jurors
Each is a Global Music Awards gold medal winner: Charles Denler, composer, Emmy winner; Darlene Koldenhoven, soprano, humanitarian; Ricky Kej, composer, conservationist, Grammy winner; Elisabet Franch, classical flute; John Daversa, composer, jazz band; Amanda Abizaid, vocalist; Melissa B, composer, humanitarian; Berta Moreno, jazz instrumentalist; Tri Nguyen, zither master, fusion; Dorothy Hindman, composer
Jury size 1 to 5
Application fee \$60
Application deadline February 28, 2025
Application notes
[See here](#) for quarterly entry deadlines

FINALS (live rounds)

No live rounds

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✘ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



THE INTERNATIONAL EDVARD GRIEG PIANO COMPETITION

The competition will take place at Troidhaugen, Edvard Grieg's picturesque home in Bergen, Norway (dates to be announced). Competitors will reside with host families, and those who do not advance to the second round or semifinal will perform at a paid concert in the Bergen area.

MAIN OFFICE

The International Edvard Grieg Piano Competition
c/o Kode
Vestre Strømkaien 7
5008 Bergen
NORWAY
+47 53 00 97 00
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

To be announced

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Quadrennial
First prize €10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize Less than €5,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 1, 2026
Application notes
Dates of competition and application deadline to be announced; the above date is an estimate.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

First, second, and semifinal rounds held at the Kode, Edvard Grieg Museum Troidhaugen, Bergen, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)

Piano solo with The Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Grieg Hall, Bergen, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals
✓ Finals
✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S LYNN HARRELL CONCERTO COMPETITION

Contestants compete to win up to \$5,000 and perform as a soloist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

MAIN OFFICE

Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center
2301 Flora Street
Dallas, TX 75201
UNITED STATES
214-849-4376
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be ages 8 to 18 years old, a current resident or student in the state of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana, or Arkansas, and play violin, viola, cello, bass, or piano.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Recording
Jurors	Members of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$40
Application deadline	February 28, 2025
Application notes	Applications will be accepted until February 28, 2025, 11:59 pm Central Time.

FINALS (live rounds)

April 19, 2025—Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



MICHAEL HILL INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The world's most exciting violin talent in a unique location.

MAIN OFFICE

157 Crummer Road
Grey Lynn
Auckland 1021
NEW ZEALAND
+64 21 434-442
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Violinists between the ages of 18 and 26

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings • Violin

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	NZ\$40,000
Smallest prize	NZ\$1,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	NZ\$150
Application deadline	May 11, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 29 – June 1, 2026— Rounds I and II: Solo and piano accompanied work performed by 16 quarterfinalists, Queenstown Memorial Centre.

June 3-4, 2026—Round III: Mozart string quintets and show pieces performed by top six semifinalists, Auckland Concert Chamber, Auckland Town Hall, Auckland, New Zealand

FINALS (live rounds)

June 6, 2026— Concertos performed by top three finalists, Auckland Town Hall, Auckland, New Zealand

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



2026 HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The mission of the Hilton Head International Piano Competition is to encourage and support excellence in the performance of classical piano music by showcasing the talents of young pianists on the thresholds of their careers in competitions adjudicated by internationally acclaimed judges, and to offer additional performance opportunities.

MAIN OFFICE

7 Lagoon Road, Suite 100
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
UNITED STATES
843-842-5880

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Young Artists: pianists 13 to 17 years old. [See here](#) for more information. *Note:* updated details for 2026 will be available late March 2025.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances
Jury chair	Jeffrey Kahane, U.S.
Additional jurors	Angela Cheng, Canada; Marian Hahn, United States; Spencer Myer, United States; Daria Rabortkina, Russia/United States
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$150 (subject to change)
Application deadline	September 30, 2025
Application notes	Application will be available online on June 1, 2025. Submission deadline is September 30, 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 16-19, 2026— Rounds I and II (non-elimination recitals); St. Luke's Anglican Church, Hilton Head Island, SC

FINALS (live rounds)

March 21, 2026, 7 pm— Five concerto movements; First Presbyterian Church, Hilton Head Island, SC

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



William C. Byrd Young Artist Competition

Saturday, March 7, 2026

Auditions 8am ~ 5pm
Finals 7pm

J. Dallas Dort Music Center
Flint, Michigan

Sponsored by the St. Cecilia Society,
an Affiliate of the Flint Institute of Music
First Prize - \$6,000 and a guest artist performance
with the Flint Symphony Orchestra
Second Prize - \$2,500
Plus Three \$1,000 Finalist Prizes



Application deadline will be January 14, 2026

www.ByrdArtists.com

ALLENTOWN SYMPHONY
**SCHADT STRING
COMPETITION**

MARCH 6-8, 2026
VIOLIN

1st Prize receives \$12,000 and a performance with the Allentown Symphony

For more information call 610.674.4389
SchadtCompetition.com

Application Deadline DECEMBER 15, 2025

HONENS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The Honens International Piano Competition returns in 2025 in search of the Complete Artist. Ten pianists visit Calgary, Canada, in October for the Semifinals and Finals, competing for one of the world's largest prizes in classical piano—CA\$100,000 and a three-year artistic development and career accelerator program.

MAIN OFFICE

1170-105 12th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
CANADA
403-299-0130
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists who are no younger than 20 years of age on the first day of semifinals and no older than 30 years of age on the last day of finals, with the exception of previous Honens Laureates and professionally managed pianists, are eligible to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize CA\$100,000
Smallest prize CA\$2,500
Additional prizes Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair Jon Kimura Parker, artistic director
Additional jurors *Applicant screening jury:* Tanya Bannister, Tema Blackstone, Karim Said, Micah Yui. *First jury, quarterfinals:* Sara Davis Buechner, Nicolas Namoradze, Marianne Perron, Robert Roux. *Second jury, semifinals & finals:* Philippe Bianconi, Jenny Bilfield, Janina Fialkowska, Pavel Kolesnikov, Anne-Marie McDermott, Awadagin Pratt, Joyce Yang
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee CA\$185
Application deadline October 30, 2024
Application notes Applications for the 2025 Honens International Piano Competition are now closed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 16-20, 2025—Calgary, Canada

FINALS (live rounds)

October 23-24, 2025—Calgary, Canada

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



IAWM PROGRAMMING, CONCERT, EDUCATION AND SEARCH FOR NEW MUSIC COMPETITIONS

The International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM) advocates for women in music around the globe and promotes their music through concerts, competitions, conferences, and grants.

- Annual Concert—Concert of new and historic women composers
- Search for New Music—Awards for new music
- Programming Award—Performers who work to achieve greater gender equity in their programming
- Education Grant—for music educators of students 4-18 to help teachers focus on women in music.

MAIN OFFICE

International Alliance for Women in Music
2712 NE 13th Avenue
Portland, OR 97212
Mailing office only; IAWM works virtually
UNITED STATES
971-275-2534
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Competitions are open to women and non-binary composers/performers and educators. All competitions require IAWM membership with the exception of The Educator Grant, which does not require membership. See below for further information:

[Search for New Music Competition](#) • [Programming Awards](#) • [Call for Works: Annual Concert 2025](#) • [Education Grant](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Programming • Education

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes Performances
Jury chair 1 to 5
Jury size Varies annually
Application fee No fee
Application deadline April 27, 2025
Application notes *Multiple 2025 deadlines:* • April 27, Annual Concert • May 4, Search for New Music • October 26, Programming Award and the Education Grant

FINALS (live rounds)

Annual Concert, October 2, 2025, Cologne Germany; digital competitions, Programming, Education, and Search for New Music competitions are not in a particular location. [See website for details.](#)

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERCONTINENTAL MUSIC AWARDS

InterContinental Music Awards is the most cultural and inclusive Los Angeles-based music competition. ICMA evaluates music entries from a global and ethnic perspective by a panel of judges who are active music-industry professionals and executives.

MAIN OFFICE

6455 Reseda Boulevard #220
Reseda, CA 91335
UNITED STATES
817-235 5911

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

[See here](#) for eligibility and submission requirements.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Songwriting
• Production • Audio Engineering • Vocal
Performance • Instrument Performance

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Shahed Mohseni, founder & director ICMA
Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	\$65
Application deadline	April 15, 2025

FINALS (live rounds)

To be determined

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

TBD Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
TBD Finals	TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL HANS GABOR BELVEDERE SINGING COMPETITION

Since 1982, the International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition has been one of the world's best networked singing competitions, with qualifying rounds in more than 50 cities worldwide each year. The singers are judged by a jury consisting of artistic and casting directors from the world's most prestigious opera houses.

MAIN OFFICE

International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing
Competition
Seidengasse 32
1070 Vienna
AUSTRIA

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Singers (female/male/diverse) of all nationalities are invited to enter the competition, born between 1993 and 2007. [See further details here.](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Guntars Kirsis, managing & artistic director, Dzintari Concert Hall, Latvia

Additional jurors

Christoph Meyer, generalintendant, Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Düsseldorf, Germany; Björn Peters, künstlerischer betriebsdirektor, Sächsische Staatsoper - Semperoper, Dresden, Germany; Henning Ruhe, artistic director, Göteborg Opera, Sweden; Florian Scholz, Intendant, Konzert Theater Bern, Bern, Switzerland; Christoph Seufferle, operndirektor, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Berlin, Germany; Viviana Barrios, associate to the artistic director, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Berlin, Germany; Christina Scheppelmann, general & artistic director (effective July 1, 2025), La Monnaie/De Munt, Brussels, Belgium; Melissa Weger, executive director, The Metropolitan Opera and Lindemann Young Artist Development Program & Laffont Competition, New York, United States

Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	€59 registration fee
Application deadline	43 qualifying rounds around the world with various deadlines from January 28 to May 3, 2025; see here for details.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 14-21, 2025—Enrollment, 1st rounds, semifinals. Theater Bühnen Bern, Switzerland

FINALS (live rounds)

June 21, 2025—Finals concert with orchestra. Theater Bühnen Bern, Switzerland

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION ROTTERDAM

ICCR presents a completely new format in which young conductors get a chance to work with numerous orchestras. The competition consists of five rounds, each with a different specialty. The first edition took place in 2022 with Bertie Baigent as winner.

MAIN OFFICE

Postbus 972
3000 AZ Rotterdam
THE NETHERLANDS
+31 (030) 69 66 145
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

ICCR is open to professional conductors of all nationalities who are at least 23 years and maximum 30 years of age at the start of the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize €10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000
Additional prizes

Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair Deborah Borda

Additional jurors

Roberta Alexander, soprano; Marieke Blankestijn, concertmaster of The Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra; Deborah Borda, former president and chief executive officer, New York Philharmonic; Han-Na Chang, artistic leader & chief conductor, Trondheim Symfoniorkester; Brett Dean, composer; Sian Edwards, conductor; Gaetan Le Divelec, VP of artistic planning, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra;

Wolfgang Fink, intendant, Bremer Philharmoniker; Iván Fischer, conductor; Dame Jane Glover, conductor; Ara Guzelimian, artistic director, Ojai Music Festival; Antony Hermus, conductor; Tisa Ho, former director, Hong Kong Arts Festival; Vimbayi Kaziboni, conductor; Sophie De Lint, director, Dutch National Opera; Stephan Macleod, bass and conductor; Johan De Meij, composer & conductor; Cathy Milliken, composer; Ulrike Niehoff, strategic and artistic consultant; Andrés Orozco-Estrada, conductor; Christina Pluhar, director, L'arpaugiata Ensemble; Pamela Rosenberg, former managing director, The Berlin Philharmonic; Kwamé Ryan, conductor; Ed Spanjaard, conductor; Elmar Weingarten, former intendant, The Berliner Philharmoniker; George Wiegel, director, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra; Eric Whitacre, composer and conductor; Bas Wiegers, conductor; Mark Williams, CEO, The Toronto Symphony Orchestra; Yip Wing-Sie, conductor

Jury size 11 or more
Application fee €100
Application deadline December 1, 2023
Application notes Deadline has passed.

FINALS (live rounds)

June 1-13, 2025—Across five rounds, six finalists will conduct the Orchestra of the 18th Century, Klangforum Wien, Sinfonia Rotterdam, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra & Laurens Symphony Chorus; De Doelen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION KLOSTER SCHOENTAL

The competition's objective is to discover and promote young talents at an early age as well as to offer the chance of experience and interchange on an international basis. Young players shall become acquainted with the most important works of the violin literature.

MAIN OFFICE

Kulturstiftung Hohenlohe
Allee 17
74653 Kuenzelsau
GERMANY
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Three age groups up to 21 years old

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	Less than €10,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	May 31, 2026

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced: two rounds plus finals, Schöntal Monastery, Schöntal, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

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 professional career in violin, The Indianapolis will celebrate its 12th Quadrennial Competition in 2026, searching the globe for the finest young talents and propelling them onto the concert scene.

MAIN OFFICE

32 East Washington Street, Suite 1320
Indianapolis, IN 46204
UNITED STATES
317-637-4574
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

We invite applications from violinists of all nationalities who will be at least 16 years of age and younger than 30 years of age at the time of the competition, and who are prepared for a concert career.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Strings • Violin



DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Quadrennial
First prize	More than \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	Jaime Laredo
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$125
Application deadline	February 28, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

September 25-28, 2026—Indiana History Center, Indianapolis, IN

FINALS (live rounds)

September 30 – October 1, 2026—Schrott Center for the Arts, Indianapolis, IN

October 2-3, 2026—Hilbert Circle Theatre, Indianapolis, IN

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Finals streamed

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2022 Sirena Huang
2018 Richard Lin
2014 Jinjoo Cho
2010 Clara Jumi-Kang
2006 Augustin Hadelich

SOCIAL LINKS

SEPTEMBER 17 -
OCTOBER 4, 2026

JAIME LAREDO
JURY PRESIDENT

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 28, 2026

VIOLIN.ORG

The INDIANAPOLIS might well be the world's leading competition in terms of cumulative prizes and career development for its winners.

—The Strad

SIRENA HUANG
2022 Gold Medalist

Leonidas Kavakos
Augustin Hadelich Claire Wells
Liviu Prunaru Stefan Milenkovich
Richard Lin Robin Sharp Bin Huang
Ioana Cristina Goicea Dami Kim Yura Lee
David Kim Svetlin Roussev Yuval Yaron
Yuriko Naganuma Barnabás Kelemen
Anna Lee Luke Hsu Bella Hristova Ivan Chan
Chin Kim Simone Lamsma Benjamin Beilman
Jinjoo Cho Joshua Brown Antal Zalai
Andrey Baranov Judith Ingolfsson
Jaakko Kuusisto Susie Park
Haoming Xie Ida Kavafian
Soovin Kim Pavel Berman
Juliette Kang Ye-Eun Choi
Minami Yoshida Frank Huang
Mihaela Martin Ji Yoon Lee
Alina Pogostkina Andrew Haveron
Shannon Lee Olivier Charlier Marco Rizzi
David Chan Nai-Yuan Hu Sungsic Yang
Virginie Robilliard Sergey Khachatryan
Soyoung Yoon Yoojin Jang Andrés Cárdenes
Martin Beaver Ju-Young Baek Julian Rhee
Annick Roussin SooBeen Lee Risa Hokamura
Celeste Golden Andrews Clara-Jumi Kang Tessa Lark
Ji Young Lim Kyoko Takezawa Michiko Kamiya

FOUR DECADES OF DISCOVERY

INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH

In 2025, the IVC launches “Theatre in Song,” transforming its LiedDuo Competition to make classical song more engaging and accessible. This initiative encourages creativity, diverse collaborations, and interdisciplinary productions blending music with art forms like spoken word and visual arts, resulting in portable performances of 40 to 45 minutes rooted in tradition and/or new compositions.

MAIN OFFICE

Parade 12
5211 KL 's-Hertogenbosch
THE NETHERLANDS
+31 (073) 69 00 999
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Born September 29, 1990, or later; maximum 34 years old and minimum 18 years old. The IVC is open to professional singers and instrumentalists of all nationalities.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Voice • Opera • Oratorio • Theatre in Song (voice + optional instrumentalist)

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prize	
Performances, Management	

Jury chair

Iain Burnside, pianist and BBC Radio 3 Program Maker

Additional jurors

Anita Crowe, programmer, Royal Concertgebouw Amsterdam; Andrew Comben, chief executive, Britten Pears Arts; Robert Holl, bass; Yvonne Kenny, soprano; Simon McBurney, stage director; Paul Kildea, conductor, musicologist, and artistic director, Musica Viva Australia

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline June 23, 2025

Application notes

Participants wishing to enter the competition must take part in online preliminary selections via YouTube.

FINALS (live rounds)

September 23-28, 2025—Theatre in Song competition (voice plus optional instrumentalist), Theater aan de Parade, 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands
October 2-10, 2026—Opera | Oratorio competition, Theater aan de Parade, 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



JENSEN FOUNDATION VOCAL COMPETITION

The Jensen Foundation auditions America's most promising young opera singers to perform in its Finals Competition. Singers compete this year for more than \$50,000 in awards, including \$15,000 for first place.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

[See here](#) for eligibility information about the 2025 competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000

Jury chair

Oliver Worthington, Jensen Foundation board chair, Butler University

Additional jurors

R. Benjamin Leaptrott, Jr., Jensen Foundation vice chair, Brenau University

Jury size 1 to 5
Application fee \$25
Application deadline March 16, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 12-15, 2025—New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

May 17, 2025—New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



10TH INTERNATIONAL JOSEPH JOACHIM COMPETITION | CHAMBER MUSIC

For around 25 years, the International Joseph Joachim Chamber Music Competition has been attracting the most talented young ensembles triennially to the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar. The challenge is to perform a stylistically diverse and extensive repertoire spanning several centuries.

MAIN OFFICE

Hochschule für Musik FRANZ LISZT Weimar
Competition Office
Platz der Demokratie 2/3
D-99423 Weimar
GERMANY
+49 (0)3643 555 150
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

[See here for eligibility information](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Chamber Music

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Jury chair	Anne-Kathrin Lindig, Weimar, Germany
Additional jurors	Annette von Hehn, Germany; Per Lundberg, Sweden; Johannes Meissl, Austria; Angelika Merkle, Germany; Hartmut Rohde, Germany; Martin Rummel, Austria; Naoko Shimizu, Germany/Japan
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	January 19, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 2-3, 2025—University of Musik FRANZ LISZT Weimar, Festsaal Fürstenhaus Weimar, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

April 4-5, 2025—University of Musik FRANZ LISZT Weimar, Festsaal Fürstenhaus, Weimar, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



JOHANSEN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG STRING PLAYERS (AGES 13-17)

Total of up to \$68,000 in prizes, with equal prizes for each instrument. The JIC is funded by a charitable trust established by Anna Storch Johansen, who wanted to encourage young musicians with significant prize awards at a time when they need it most.

MAIN OFFICE

755 8th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
UNITED STATES
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Students of violin, viola, or cello, ages 13 to 17 years. Contestants may not be younger than 13 or older than 17 on the final day of the competition. Proof of age is required. Applicants must not be under professional management.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$130
Application deadline	December 1, 2027
Application notes	The dates listed for the 2028 JIC are approximate. Detailed information will be available closer to the year of the competition.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 2028— violin, viola, and cello, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Washington, DC

FINALS (live rounds)

March 2028— violin, viola, and cello, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Washington, DC

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✗ Semifinals streamed
- ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



OLGA KERN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The competition will take place in the fall of 2025. The final round will feature the competition's finalists in performances with the New Mexico Philharmonic. In addition to a cash prize, the winner will be awarded concert engagements throughout the U.S. and Europe and a professional recording.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box 14314
Albuquerque, NM 87191
UNITED STATES
734-308-5372
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to pianists of all nationalities who will be between the ages of 18 and 32 at the time of the competition in 2025.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Oga Kern, artistic director
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$250
Application deadline	June 1, 2025
Application notes	Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Submitted materials will not be returned. Candidates' documents and recordings will be assessed by the screening jury. The screening jury will admit 20–24 contestants to compete in the first round held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 13-19, 2025—National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM

FINALS (live rounds)

To be announced

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS







Nurturing excellence in chamber music

Patron Lady Judith Swire

19th International Chamber Music Competition For Piano With Strings

Spring 2027 in London

The winning ensemble is presented in London and given further performance opportunities across the UK

www.parkhouseaward.com

Registered charity

Supported by The Tertis Foundation The Adrian Swire Charitable Trust







2025 Fischhoff Competition

ENTRY DEADLINE
February 19, 2025

May 9-11, 2025
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
University of Notre Dame

2026 Fischhoff Competition

ENTRY DEADLINE
February 18, 2026

May 8-10, 2026
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
University of Notre Dame

Over \$60,000 in prize money & tours!
Visit fischhoff.org for rulebooks & entry information.

11TH FRITZ KREISLER INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The Fritz Kreisler International Violin Competition welcomes you to the world's music capital, Vienna. The next competition will be held in September 2026.

MAIN OFFICE

P.O. Box 76
A-1030 Vienna
AUSTRIA
+43 664 2400714; +39 347 4068933
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all violinists who are ready to embark upon an international career.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Strings • Violin

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Quadrennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	€5,000 to €10,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	April 30, 2026

Application notes
Up to 40 violinists will be selected for the preliminary stages of the competition, 18 of whom will continue to the semifinals, six to the Final I, and three to the Gala Final.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Dates to be announced—violin solo, Vienna, Austria

FINALS (live rounds)

Dates to be announced—violin and piano, violin and orchestra, Vienna, Austria

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ Finals streamed |

SOCIAL LINKS



LA MAESTRA INTERNATIONAL

La Maestra is an International Competition and Academy for Women Conductors co-directed by the Paris Mozart Orchestra and the Philharmonie de Paris. In 2026, La Maestra will provide a high-profile platform for 16 outstanding women conductors who will compete in front of an international jury.

MAIN OFFICE

28 place Saint-Georges
75009 Paris
FRANCE
+33 6 43 24 61 79
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to professional women conductors of all nationalities without age limit.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	€5,000 to €10,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	July 8, 2025

Application notes
Online applications to be received March 8 – July 8, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 23-24, 2026 (quarterfinals); February 25-26, 2026 (semifinals); Studio - Philharmonie de Paris, Paris, France

FINALS (live rounds)

February 27-28, 2026—Grande Salle Pierre Boulez, Philharmonie de Paris, Paris, France

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ Finals streamed |

SOCIAL LINKS



THE LOTTE LENYA COMPETITION

A singing competition unlike any other, in which acting counts as much as vocal talent. The Lotte Lenya Competition welcomes talented singer/actors of all nationalities, ages 19 to 32, to show they can “do it all” by presenting four contrasting theatrical songs and arias. Top prize is \$25,000.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Voice • Musical Theater • Opera

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	No fee
Application deadline	January 22, 2025
Application notes	

The deadline to submit an online application with video audition for the preliminary round is January 22, 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 13-14, 2025—New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

May 3, 2025—Rochester, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✗ Semifinals | ✗ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ Finals streamed |

SOCIAL LINKS



Call for Submissions IAWM Annual Concert:

The Annual Concert recognizes the accomplishments of IAWM composers and performers and increases the awareness of the musical contributions of women globally.

Submissions begin March 1, 2025

For more information <https://iawm.org/annual-concert-page/>

Call for Submissions IAWM Search for New Music:

The Search for New Music competition, includes several prize categories ranging and is open to women and nonbinary composers that are current members or join IAWM.

Submissions begin March 1, 2025.

Visit us for more details: <https://iawm.org/snm-competition/>

Call for Submissions IAWM Programming Award:

The Programming Award honors those performers who have made deliberate, conscious efforts to achieve greater gender equity in their programming by including women composers and/or performers. **Submissions begin September 1, 2025.**

Visit us for more information: <https://iawm.org/programming-awards/>

Call for Submissions IAWM Education Grant:

The Education Grant is to help teachers bring a greater focus on women in music to students through professional development, materials, commissions, guest artists, or other media.

Submissions begin September 1, 2025.

Visit us for more information: <https://iawm.org/iawm-educator-grant/>

ALL Competitions are open internationally

THE GERDA LISSNER FOUNDATION IVC IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIEDERKRANZ FOUNDATION

The Gerda Lissner Foundation was created by Mrs. Lissner, a Metropolitan Opera subscriber for 77 years, to provide young opera singers with the financial support they need to pursue their craft and excel in the world of opera. The Foundation believes the encouragement and assistance to young artists toward achieving their goals are imperative for the continuation of this demanding art form. Winners' concert: April 30, 2025, 6:30 pm, Carnegie Hall, New York, NY. Collaborative pianists: Arlene Shrut and, for Carnegie Hall concert, Arlene Shrut, Francesco Barfoed.

MAIN OFFICE

15 East 65th Street, 3rd floor
New York NY 10065
UNITED STATES
212-826-6100

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be 21 to 32 years old. Auditioners must be available: In-person on assigned audition dates—both preliminaries and finals are from 10:15 am to 5 pm; at Winners Concert to receive the award, April 30, 2025, 6:30 pm at Zankel Hall, Carnegie Hall, New York, NY.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000

Jury chairs

Midge Woolsey and Arlene Shrut, co-artistic directors, The Gerda Lissner Foundation

Additional jurors To be announced

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline January 2, 2025

Application notes

Applications must be received by Thursday, January 2, 2025, 3 pm Eastern U.S. via online portal. Submission of the application does not guarantee an audition or grant. Repertoire once submitted cannot be changed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 10-13, 2025—The Kosciuszko Foundation, New York, NY

FINALS

March 14, 2025—The Kosciuszko Foundation, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



FRANZ LISZT CENTER INTERNATIONAL ONLINE PIANO COMPETITION

Launched in 2020, our competition provides great professional possibilities, including recitals, concerts with orchestra, scholarships, and master classes. The competition is talent-friendly and seeks to motivate young and professional pianists. There are five age categories and no repertory requirements.

MAIN OFFICE

Plaza de Almassera 1
03530 La Nucia
SPAIN
+34 622 73 22 77

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Our competition is open to all pianists from all over the world.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than €10,000
Smallest prize Less than €5,000

Additional prize

Performances

Jury chair

István I. Székely

Additional jurors

Giuliano Adorno, Dragomir Bratic

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline January 12, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

One round

FINALS (live rounds)

January 26, 2025, online

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



LISZT UTRECHT

Liszt Utrecht actively presents, develops, and promotes piano talents from around the world. And by doing so it has become one of the prominent gateways to the international professional classical music scene for young musicians.

MAIN OFFICE

Ganzenmarkt 14
3512 GD Utrecht
THE NETHERLANDS
+31 (030) 69 66 144
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to pianists 20 to 30 years old

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	Nino Gvetadze, Leslie Howard, Igor Roma, Muza Rubackyte, Enrico Pace, Suzana Bartal, Mariam Batsashvili, Severin von Eckardstein, Janina Fialkowski, Saskia Giorgini, Alexander Gravylyuk, Yingdi Sun
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	September 1, 2024

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 10-11, 2025—Hertz room TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht, The Netherlands

FINALS (live rounds)

January 16-24, 2026—Three finalists perform with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Stéphane Denève. The Grand Prix winner will then perform the next day with the orchestra at the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



LJUBLJANA FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION — PIANO 2026

The Ljubljana Festival International Competition — Piano 2026 will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from February 21 to March 1, 2026. It will be organized with the aim of encouraging young, talented pianists and rewarding their excellence. The competition will be held in three rounds, round 1, semifinals, and finals.

MAIN OFFICE

Festival Ljubljana
Trg francoske revolucije 1
1000 Ljubljana
SLOVENIA
+386 1 241 60 10
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to pianists of any nationality born between 1995 and 2009. Pianists wishing to enter the competition will have to submit the required application documents. Those chosen will participate in the competition held in Ljubljana February 21 – March 1, 2026.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Dubravka Tomšič Srebotnjak
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	11 or more
Application deadline	May 10, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 21-24, 2026—Round 1, recitals; jury will, in principle, advance up to 12 competitors to the semifinals

February 25-26, 2026—semifinals, recitals; jury will, in principle, advance up to six competitors to finals; Slovenian Philharmonic, Ljubljana, Slovenija

FINALS (live rounds)

February 28 – March 1, 2026—Six competitors will perform with orchestra; awards ceremony to be held March 1, 2026; Cankarjev dom, Ljubljana, Slovenija

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- TBD Semifinals streamed
- TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE MAHLER COMPETITION 2026

The Mahler Competition is one of the most important events of its kind anywhere in the world. It has attracted entries from more than 2,000 young conductors of all nationalities. It takes place where 1,000 years of history, world cultural heritage, enjoyment, and nature form an ideal combination.

MAIN OFFICE

Stiftung Bamberger Symphoniker - Bayerische Staatsphilharmonie
Mussstrasse 1
96047 Bamberg
GERMANY
+49 951 964 7100
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Young conductors not older than 35 years on October 31, 2025

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize €10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000
Additional prizes
Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair
Jakub Hrůša, chief conductor, Bamberg Symphony
Additional jurors To be announced
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline October 31, 2025
Application notes
Applications will open in September 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Dates to be announced—Concert Hall Bamberg, Bamberg, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced—Concert Hall Bamberg, Bamberg, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



ELEANOR MCCOLLUM COMPETITION

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

MAIN OFFICE

510 Preston Street
Houston, TX 77002
UNITED STATES
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All classical singers of any age and nationality.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Jury chairs
Khori Dastoor, Patrick Summers, Ana María Martínez, and one guest judge
Jury size 1 to 5
Application fee No fee
Application deadline August 31, 2024
Application notes

Applications for the 2024-25 Studio and the 2025 Eleanor McCollum Competition are closed; applications for the 2025-26 Studio and the 2026 Eleanor McCollum Competition will be announced in summer of 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Mid-January 2025—Wortham Theater Center, Houston, TX

FINALS (live rounds)

Mid-January 2025—Final rounds culminate in the Eleanor McCollum Competition Concert of Arias Wortham Theater Center, Houston, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



METROPOLITAN OPERA LAFFONT COMPETITION

The Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition is a program designed to discover promising young opera singers and assist in the development of their careers. The auditions take place in 37 districts and 12 regions throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

MAIN OFFICE

Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition
30 Lincoln Center Plaza
New York, NY 10023
UNITED STATES
212-870-4515

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

[See here](#) for specific eligibility requirements.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? To be determined
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000

Jury chair

Melissa Wegner, executive director

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee \$30

Application deadline July 31, 2025

Application notes

[See here](#) for upcoming information about the 2025-26 season. Applications for the 2024-25 Laffont Competition have closed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 9, 2025— National semifinals for the 2024-25 season will be on March 9, 2025, at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, NY. District and region dates for 2025-26 vary and will be posted online in August 2025.

FINALS (live rounds)

March 16, 2025—Grand finals for the 2024-25 season; Metropolitan Opera New York, NY.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



MUSIC INTERNATIONAL GRAND PRIX

International Music Competition winners' concert will be held at Merkin Hall in April in NYC. The Grand Prix Award includes \$5,000, plus scholarships and performances. Esteemed panel of judges. Video quarterfinals, live semifinals on Zoom.

MAIN OFFICE

Music International Grand Prix
7371 Atlas Walk Way, Suite 236
Gainesville, VA 20155
UNITED STATES
703-257-9815

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

This competition is international and has three different age categories starting with Youth at age 7 and up to Adult; we encourage all aspiring and professional musicians to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Winds/Brass
• Ensembles • World Music

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Additional prize Performances

Jury chair

Please see the website for details

Additional jurors

[See here](#) for details on judges for the 2025 competition.

Jury size 11 or more

Application fee

\$225: \$75 registration, \$150 semifinal fee if accepted

Application deadline January 1, 2025

Application notes

Deadline is January 1 every year.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Semifinals live on Zoom

FINALS (live rounds)

April 2025—Voice (popular and classical), piano, strings, winds/brass, composition, and ensembles, as well as winners concert at Merkin Hall, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS





2025 WIC Strings and Composition

May 23-25, 2025 • Washington, D.C.

\$47,500 in Prize Awards

**WIC Strings open to
Violin, Viola and Cello**
ages 18 to 30 (as of May 23, 2025)

WIC Composition
ages 18-35

Application deadline:
February 15, 2025

Semifinalists announced
mid-March 2025

Contact wicstrings@fmmc.org • wiccomposition@fmmc.org
For regulations and repertoire, visit fmmcfoundation.org

The Washington International Competition (WIC) is sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation.



INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION FOR YOUNG OPERA SINGERS 2025

qualifying rounds worldwide –
jury members of the
most important opera houses –
many engagements –
final rounds 2025
in Bern, Switzerland

www.belvedere-competition.com

MTNA COMPETITIONS

The Music Teachers National Association competitions are the most successful and prestigious student competitions in the country. The purpose of the MTNA competitions is to provide educational experiences for students and to recognize exceptionally talented young artists and their teachers in their pursuit of musical excellence.

MAIN OFFICE

600 Vine Street, Suite 1710
Cincinnati, OH 45202
UNITED STATES
888-512-5278

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

[See here](#) for eligibility requirements.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

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

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	Ranges from \$50 to \$120
Application deadline	September 10, 2025
Application notes	Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 3 pm Eastern U.S. (Performance except for Chamber, Brass, Voice) Monday, January 5, 2026, 3 pm Eastern U.S. (Stecher & Horowitz Two Piano)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

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

FINALS (live rounds)

March 21-23, 2026—Finals at National MTNA Conference, Chicago, IL; March 24: winners concert

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



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 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.

ELIGIBILITY

Competition is open to any composer. Submissions must be: a song cycle, group of songs, or extended single song approximately 20 minutes; for solo voice and piano; setting a text in English for which the composer has secured copyright clearance; composed within the last two years.

Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than \$5,000
Application deadline December 1, 2025

NATS NATIONAL MUSICAL THEATRE COMPETITION

As the premier solo singing competition for musical theatre's singing actors, winners are finding success on Broadway, national tours, and theaters across the country.

ELIGIBILITY

All singers age 20-28 as of September 15, 2025.
Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes More than \$14,000
Application deadline September 15, 2025

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

January 2026, New York, NY (final date and place to be determined)

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 21 to 35 years old as of September 8, 2025; be a current NATS member (Professional) for at least one year; OR applicant must have studied for at least one year prior to deadline with a teacher who is a current NATS member (Professional).

Frequency Biennial
Cash prizes More than \$50,000
Application deadline September 8, 2025

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

January 2026, New York, NY (final date and place to be determined)

NATS NATIONAL STUDENT AUDITIONS

The exciting experience of NATS Student Auditions continues in 2025 with a national round for classical, musical theatre, commercial music, and spiritual categories.

ELIGIBILITY

Student singers advance through one of 15 NATS Region Auditions, which take place at varying times throughout the year.

Frequency Annual
Cash prizes More than \$35,000
Application deadline April 11, 2025

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

June 26-28, 2025, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

SOCIAL LINKS



NATIONAL CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION

The National Chopin Piano Competition was held in January 2025. Open to U.S. citizens who perform at a professional level and held every five years, the National Competition follows the rules of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw. Top two U.S. winners are automatically accepted to Warsaw.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2025 National Chopin Piano Competition is open to pianists holding U.S. citizenship (native born or naturalized) born 1995 through 2009.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Quinquennial
First prize More than \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000

Additional prizes Performances, Recording

Jury chair

Kevin Kenner, professor, University of Miami; winner, National (USA) and International (Warsaw) Chopin Piano Competitions

Additional jurors

Ning An, United States, 2000 National Chopin Piano Competition winner; Robert McDonald, United States, professor, The Juilliard School and Curtis Institute of Music; Rachel Naomi Kudo, United States, National Chopin Piano Competition prize winner; Garrick Ohlsson United States, 1970 International Chopin Piano Competition winner; Jon Nakamatsu, United States, Van Cliburn International and National Chopin Competition winner; Ewa Poblocka, Poland, International Chopin Piano Competition prize winner; Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń, Poland, acclaimed piano pedagogue; Dina Yoffe, Latvia, International Chopin Piano Competition prize winner

Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee \$125
Application deadline October 1, 2024
Application notes

This competition is held every five years and the deadline for the current competition has passed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 4-9, 2025—Live preliminary and semifinal rounds, University of Miami, Frost School of Music, Coral Gables, FL

FINALS (live rounds)

January 11-12, 2025—Finals with orchestra, University of Miami, Frost School of Music, Coral Gables, FL

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition, a flagship program of the Elevar Foundation, provides young violinists with management, communications, community engagement, and concert opportunities in addition to a monetary prize. These tools, coupled with a strong emphasis on connecting with underserved communities, are vital for building an impactful career.

MAIN OFFICE

3601 North Military Trail
Boca Raton, FL 33431
UNITED STATES
561-909-7261
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Violinists must be 18 years old at the time of submission and may not be more than 30 years of age by the conclusion of the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Strings • Violin

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize \$5,000 to \$10,000
Additional prizes Performances, Management

Jury chair Andrés Cárdenes
Additional jurors
To be announced spring 2025
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee \$135
Application deadline September 15, 2025
Application notes

Applicants must submit the necessary forms, the \$135 entry fee, a copy of a valid passport, and the required repertoire via YouTube link by the submission deadline. The application, once available in the spring of 2025, can be found on the EOIVC's website.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 14-15, 2026—Lynn Conservatory of Music, Boca Raton, FL

FINALS (live rounds)

January 18, 2026—Elaine and Keith C. Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center, Lynn Conservatory of Music, Boca Raton, FL

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



OPERALIA

Operalia's goal is to discover and help launch the careers of the most promising young opera singers of today, of all voice types and from all over the world.

MAIN OFFICE

425 East 58th Street, Apt. 20E
New York, NY 10022
UNITED STATES
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All voice types between the ages of 20 and 32

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize \$5,000 to \$10,000
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline May 15, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

To be announced

FINALS (live rounds)

To be announced

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE 12TH OSAKA INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The Osaka International Chamber Music Competition comprises Section I and Section II. Among the many forms of chamber music, the string quartet has been placed in Section I; Section II focuses on piano trio and piano quartet.

MAIN OFFICE

1-3-50 Shiromi, Chuo-ku
Osaka 540-8510
JAPAN
+81 6 6947 2184
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to ensembles of all nationalities, whose members were born on or after May 18, 1990.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Strings • String Quartet • Piano Trio • Piano Quartet

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	¥2.5 million
Smallest prize	¥800,000
Additional prizes	Performances

Jury chair

Monika Henschel, violist, Henschel Quartet

Additional jurors

Weigang Li, violinist, Shanghai Quartet; Kazuki Sawa, violinist, Sawa Quartet; Oliver Wille, violinist, Kuss Quartet; Mai Motobuchi, violist, former Borromeo String Quartet member; Alasdair Tait, cellist, former Belcea Quartet member; Sung-Won Yang, cellist, Trio Owon; Rieko Aizawa, pianist, Horszowski trio; Ichiro Nodaira, pianist, president, Tokyo College of Music

Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	¥20,000
Application deadline	October 12, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Section I: May 17, first round; May 19, second round; May 21, third round
Section II: May 18, first round; May 20, second round.
All 2026 events held at Sumitomolife Izumi Hall, Osaka, Japan

FINALS (live rounds)

Section I: May 22
Section II: May 22
All 2026 events held at Sumitomolife Izumi Hall, Osaka, Japan

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



PARKHOUSE AWARD

For three decades, The Parkhouse Award has been discovering outstanding young ensembles of piano with strings worldwide, presenting them in London and across the United Kingdom for the best possible start to their careers. Support and advice are offered over a two-year period with continuing support thereafter.

MAIN OFFICE

Hamilton Cottage
Waterloo Road, Cranbrook
Kent TN17 3JJ
UNITED KINGDOM
+44 (0)772 167 2348
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Please [see here for details](#).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Ensembles of Piano with Strings
• Duo to Piano Quartet

DETAILS

Frequency	Biennial
Prizes	Performances, Management
Jury chair	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	€60
Application deadline	December 31, 2026
Application notes	The date above is the deadline for entries for the 2027 Award; the deadline for the 2025 Award has passed. Please see here for details .

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2027. Preliminary auditions are held during the spring every other year on the first and second day of a four-day period. The four ensembles chosen to proceed for the finals are informed at the end of the second day; the finals concert takes place on day four. London, United Kingdom

FINALS (live rounds)

Finals for the 2025 Award (applications are closed) will take place April 11 at Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



PIANOARTS

PianoArts semifinalists perform competitive solo recitals and partner with Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra violinists and cellists to perform duo recitals. All competitors are required to speak about their music. Finalists perform complete concertos with the MSO. Numerous prizes include PianoArts fellowships and performances for diverse audiences.

MAIN OFFICE

2642 North Summit Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53211
UNITED STATES
414-962-3055
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

For pianists, ages 17 to 22 of any nationality, living or studying full time in North America.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application fee	\$150
Application deadline	January 26, 2026
Application notes	

The application requires the submission of a video performance of a concerto and two solos of contrasting periods.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 30-31, 2026—piano solo and collaborative recitals, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, Milwaukee, WI

FINALS (live rounds)

June 2, 2026—piano concerto round with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Bradley Symphony Center, Milwaukee, WI

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- TBD Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



PLOWMAN CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

Since 2006, the Plowman Chamber Music Competition has provided an opportunity for aspiring chamber musicians to perform live in front of an audience and a panel of judges for cash awards totaling over \$12,000, including \$5,000 Grand Prize and a concert at the Odyssey Chamber Music Series in 2026.

MAIN OFFICE

Plowman Chamber Music Competition
c/o Odyssey Chamber Music Series
1112 East Broadway
Columbia, MO 65201-4910
UNITED STATES
573-825-0079
[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 March 2025 are not eligible. The ensemble may not have more than one piano. See [here](#) for complete details.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Woodwinds • Brass • Percussion

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Ida Kavafian, violin
Additional jurors	Edward Auer, piano; Chien-Kwan Lin, saxophone
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$50 per person; \$60 after February 7
Application deadline	February 7, 2025
Application notes	

Deadline for late applications, which will include a late fee, is February 14, 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 22, 2025—First Baptist Church, Columbia, MO

FINALS (live rounds)

March 23, 2025—First Baptist Church, Columbia, MO

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



PRINCESS ASTRID INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Established in 1953, this biennial competition hosted by the Trondheim Symfoniorkester & Opera rotates between violin and conducting. Conductors younger than 35 years are eligible for the 2026 competition; 2028 will feature the violin. Candidates from around the world are invited to be assessed by an internationally distinguished jury. Princess Astrid of Norway is royal patron of the competition.

MAIN OFFICE

Kjøpmannsgata 46
Trondheim
NORWAY
+47 900 93 139
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2026 competition is open to conductors below 35 years of age at the time of the competition. The candidate must give mandatory information such as name, date of birth, nationality, address, and email, as well as upload a CV, biography, artist picture, and two application videos.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting • Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	NOK 10,000 to 50,000
Smallest prize	Less than NOK5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	April 10, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Three rounds, all with Trondheim Symfoniorkester & Opera, Olavshallen, Trondheim, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)

Public concert with Trondheim Symfoniorkester & Opera, Olavshallen, Trondheim, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✗ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



QUEEN ELISABETH COMPETITION—BELGIUM

One of the most demanding and widely publicized international competitions since its creation in 1937, the Queen Elisabeth Competition has established itself as a springboard for young violinists, pianists, singers, and cellists on the threshold of an international career.

MAIN OFFICE

Rue aux Laines, 20
1000 Brussels
BELGIUM
+32 2 213 40 50
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is limited to musicians 18 to 30 years old. *Note:* As the 2020 Piano Competition had to be postponed to 2021, the following cello, voice, and violin competitions also have been postponed. As a result, the upper age limit for candidates has been raised by one year, in order not to disadvantage the young musicians preparing for the sessions of 2022 through 2025. From 2026, the normal age limit will apply again.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Recording
Jury chair	Gilles Ledure
Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	€100
Application deadlines	November 26, 2025
Application notes	Cello 2026 application deadline: Wednesday, November 26, 2025, 12 pm Greenwich Mean Time

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 5-17, 2025, Piano 2025; May 4-16, 2026, Cello 2026. First round and semifinals, Flagey, Brussels, Belgium

FINALS (live rounds)

May 26-31, 2025, Piano 2025; May 25-30, 2026, Cello 2026. Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



QUEEN SONJA SINGING COMPETITION

Queen Sonja Singing Competition is one of the world's leading singing competitions that transforms the careers of all participants. The Competition brings together 40 of the best young singers from around the world to compete for its main prizes and to receive coaching, master classes, career development sessions, and international exposure.

MAIN OFFICE

Haakon VII's gate 2
0161 Oslo
NORWAY
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Singers born in 1993 or later may apply to take part in the 2025 competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?

No

Frequency

Biennial

First prize

€50,000

Smallest prize

Less than €5,000

Additional prize

Performances

Jury chair

To be determined

Additional jurors

To be announced

Jury size

6 to 10

QUEEN SONJA SINGING COMPOSITION (cont'd)

Application deadline April 1, 2025

Application notes

Applications open February 1, 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 11-12, 2025—Preliminary rounds will be held live and online; all participants in the preliminary round must provide their own pianist, a suitable room, and the technical equipment needed for their performance.

August 17, 2025—Semifinal: each participant performs one to two arias and two to three Lieder, accompanied by piano. Accompanists will be provided by the competition, though candidates

may use their own. Norwegian Opera & Ballet, Oslo Opera House, Oslo, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)

August 22, 2025—Six finalists perform with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra from repertoire chosen by the jury from the contestant's list of arias. Final concert will be live-streamed and distributed via OperaVision. Oslo Konserthus, Oslo, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



LA MAESTRA
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APPLICATIONS
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THE 18TH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN INTERNATIONAL PIANO MASTER COMPETITION

The competition will be held April 28 – May 15, 2026. Stage I recitals will be 35-40 minutes; Stage II recitals will be 50-60 minutes. Final stage will consist of three concerts: chamber music, classical concerto, and grand concerto. More than \$120,000 in cash prizes will be awarded; hotel accommodations will be free as will partial coverage of flight expenses; a practice piano will be provided in each hotel room.

MAIN OFFICE

9 Bilu Street
Tel Aviv 6522214
ISRAEL
+972 3 685 6684
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to pianists of all nationalities; the age range is 18 to 32 years of age

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Arie Vardi, pianist, conductor, and piano pedagogue
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	\$180
Application deadline	August 31, 2025
Application notes	The above application deadline is not final; check website for details.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 29 – May 4, 2026—Stage I Recitals; Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
May 5-7, 2026—Stage II Recitals; Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel

FINALS (live rounds)

May 8-9, 2026—Chamber music, Tel Aviv Museum of Art; Tel Aviv, Israel
May 10-11, 2026—Classical concerto, Charles Bronfman Auditorium; Tel Aviv, Israel
May 13-14, 2026—Grand concerto, Charles Bronfman Auditorium; Tel Aviv, Israel

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS  

SCHADT NATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

The competition began in 1997 following a bequest to the Allentown Symphony Association from Edwin H. and Leigh W. Schadt. The competition alternates biennially between violin and cello. The first prize is \$12,000 and a solo concerto with the ASO; second prize is \$5,000 and a solo recital engagement. Third Prize is \$2,500.

MAIN OFFICE

23 North 6th Street
Allentown, PA 18101
UNITED STATES
610-674-4389

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Age 18 to 30; must be 18 or not have reached 31st birthday by December 15, deadline year. Proof of United States citizenship is required; if not a citizen, a copy of your visa or green card is required with entry.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances

Jury chair

Diane Wittry, music director & conductor, Allentown Symphony Orchestra

Additional jurors

Jury members for the 2026 Violin Edition will be announced. Jury members for 2024 Cello Edition of the competition were: Anthony Elliot, Norman Fischer, Julian Schwarz, David Ying

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee \$75

Application deadline December 15, 2025

Application notes

The deadline date above is for the next Violin Competition; Cello 2028 Competition deadline is December 27, 2026. The following pieces are not allowed for the 2026 Competition: Violin concertos by Samuel Barber; Edward Elgar; or Felix Mendelssohn; *Scottish Fantasy* by Max Bruch.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 7, 2026—violin, Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown, PA

FINALS (live rounds)

March 8, 2026—violin, Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown, PA

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✗ Semifinals
- ✗ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals
- ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



SCHMIDT VOCAL COMPETITION

The Schmidt Vocal Competition is a program of Schmidt Vocal Arts held at regional locations across the country. The day-long competition affords singers an opportunity to perform live in front of an audience for the chance to win cash awards/scholarships and attend master class training with premier artists.

MAIN OFFICE

6 East 5th Street, Suite 406
Covington, KY 41011
UNITED STATES
513-783-2583

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be high school sophomores, juniors, or seniors and recommended by a voice or choral teacher.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

HEALTH & SAFETY

[Policies/procedures for this competition](#)

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Jury chair	Not provided
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$45
Application deadline	Not provided

Application notes

Application deadlines are specific to each competition. [See here](#) for specific information.

FINALS (live rounds)

[See here](#) for all competition dates and locations.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



SCHOENFELD INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

Schoenfeld International String Competition was founded in 2013 in honor of the violinist Alice Schoenfeld and the cellist Eleonore Schoenfeld, both legendary performers and pedagogues. As a member of WFIMC, the Schoenfeld aims to build a multifaceted platform for gifted violinists, cellists, and chamber music performers all over the world.

MAIN OFFICE

Los Angeles, CA
UNITED STATES

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to competitors from all nations who are not older than 32 years old. Previous 1st prize winners' resubmissions will not be accepted.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Strings • Chamber Music—String Quartet (two violins, viola, cello); Piano Trio (violin, cello, piano); Piano Quartet (violin, viola, cello, piano)

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Biennial
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Management, Recording

Jury chairs

Pierre Amoyal, violin division; Arto Noras, cello division; Wei He, chamber music division

Additional jurors

Richard Aaron, Dmitri Berlinsky, James Cuddeford, Zhinuo Ding, Anne Gastinel, Xenia Jankovic, Roman Kim, Jennifer Koh, Natalia Pavlutskaya, Shauna Rolston, Vineta Sareika, Alasdair Tait

Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	No fee
Application deadline	January 31, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

July 11-25, 2025—Violin, cello; Harbin, China

FINALS (live rounds)

July 25-28, 2025—Violin, cello, chamber music; Harbin, China

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION FRANZ SCHUBERT AND MODERN MUSIC

In addition to special features such as comprehensive feedback from a top-class jury (which is extended during the finals with concert presenters), the competition offers a highlight in the category Lied Duo with its commissioned work—to be performed after 36 hours of study time.

MAIN OFFICE

University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG)
Leonhardstraße 15
A-8010 Graz
AUSTRIA
+43 316 389-1900
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Performing musicians up to 35 years old (born after February 15, 1989)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Lied Duo • Piano Trio • Piano Duo

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	Less than €10,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Management, Recording

Jury chairs

Joseph Breinl, lied duo; Chia Chou, piano trio;
Sivan Silver-Garburg and Gil Garburg, piano duo

Additional jurors

Lied Duo: Lina Maria Åkerlund, Iain Burnside, Samuel Hasselhorn, Manuela Kerer, Toby Spence, Pauliina Tukiainen, Sarah Wegener
Piano Trio: Vincent Coq, Ellen Margrete Flesjø, Thomas Hoppe, Anssi Karttunen, Minna Pensola, Isabelle Van Keulen, Katharina Wincor
Piano Duo: Carlo Fabiano, Rico Gulda, Götz Schumacher, Adrienne SoóS, Arie Vardi, Lena-Lisa WüStendörfer, Shani Diluka

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline September 24, 2024

Application notes

Application deadline has passed; competition will take place in February 2025.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 10, 2025—piano trio; KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz) Campus, Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria
February 11, 2025—lied duo and piano duo; KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz) Campus, Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria

FINALS (live rounds)

February 12, 2025—piano trio; KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz) Campus, Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria
February 13, 2025—lied duo and piano duo; KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz) Campus, Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



SIEMENS HALLÉ INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTORS COMPETITION 2026

Celebrating the innovative and longstanding partnership between The Hallé and Siemens, the winner will become assistant conductor of the Hallé, working alongside Kahchun Wong for a minimum two-year period in a role that represents an invaluable chance to build a career and become established on the world stage.

MAIN OFFICE

Hallé Concerts Society
The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street
Manchester M1 5HA
UNITED KINGDOM
+44 0161 237 7018
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Emerging talented conductors with relevant postgraduate study qualifications and experience of conducting professional orchestras; applicants from any country are welcome to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered?	Yes
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	£10,000 to £50,000
Smallest prize	Less than £5,000
Additional prize	Performances

Jury chairs

Kahchun Wong; principal conductor and artistic advisor, The Hallé

Additional jurors

Stephan Frucht, Siemens AG, artistic director, Siemens' Arts Program; David Butcher, chief executive, The Hallé; Anna Hirst; head of artistic planning, The Hallé

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline July 21, 2025

Application notes

Applications will open in March 2025; check website and social media for further announcements.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

At Hallé St. Peters, Manchester, United Kingdom
March 29, 2026—Hallé Youth Orchestra Round
• March 30, 2026—Chamber Ensemble Round

FINALS (live rounds)

March 31, 2026—The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE SOLTI FOUNDATION U.S.

Honoring the memory of legendary conductor Sir Georg Solti and his dedication to helping young artists. Awards: \$30,000 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award includes door-opening introductions, ongoing professional mentoring, introductions to the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and The Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award (amount varies).

MAIN OFFICE

The Solti Foundation U.S.
1555 Sherman Avenue, Suite 310
Evanston, IL 60201
UNITED STATES
847-269-9050

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be: A career-ready artist in the field of conducting; developing a career as a symphonic/operatic conductor; and a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.; no more than 36 years of age as of January 15, 2021. Applicants must apply for awards.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Jury chair Elizabeth Buccheri, chair, artistic and awards committee
Additional jurors Duain Wolfe, Pamela Bullock, David Neely
Jury size 1 to 5
Application fee \$12
Application deadline January 15, 2025
Application notes

All details for applications for American conductors may be found [here](#). The award is based on professional experience in the conducting field and demonstration of advanced conducting technique. Written proposal required for use of the granted funds (see Application Requirements).

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

No live rounds

FINALS (live rounds)

No live rounds

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✘ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS 

SPHINX COMPETITION

The Sphinx Competition offers young Black and Latinx 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

2200 Hunt Street, Suite 461
Detroit, MI 48207
UNITED STATES
313-877-9100 x712

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes Performances, Management
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee No fee
Application deadline October 20, 2025
Application notes
[Access application here](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 22, 2026—Detroit, MI

FINALS (live rounds)

January 24, 2026—Detroit, MI

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS    

STULBERG INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

The Stulberg Competition was founded in 1975 in memory of Julius Stulberg, beloved teacher and conductor of the Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestras. The Stulberg provides performance and educational opportunities for young musicians as they prepare for their college studies and launch their performance careers.

MAIN OFFICE

359 South Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 14
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
UNITED STATES
269-343-2776

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Stulberg Competition is open to students of violin, viola, cello, or double bass. Applicants must be age 19 or under as of January 1, 2025. Proof of date of birth will be required if selected as a semifinalist. Current students of the judges are not eligible to apply.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Not provided
Additional jurors	
Rachel Barton Pine, violin; Li-Wei Qin, cello;	
Lucas Richman, composer	
Jury size	1 to 5



Application fee \$150
Application deadline February 1, 2025
Application notes
 Applications are open annually October 15 to February 1.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 17, 2025—The 12 semifinalists must be in Kalamazoo on May 16, 2025, for rehearsals, and May 17, 2025, for semifinals and finals. They must perform the piece/movement(s) submitted in their application (no substitutions allowed); perform a selection from a commissioned piece (music will be available to selected semifinalists); perform from memory; limit the semifinals concerto performances to no more than 20 minutes. Collaborative pianists will be provided. Western Michigan University, Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, MI.

FINALS (live rounds)

May 17, 2025—The six finalists will perform additional repertoire at a finals concert to determine medalists.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- ✓ Semifinals
- ✓ Finals
- ✓ Semifinals streamed
- ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



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SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The next Sydney International Piano Competition will be held over three weeks in July 2027 and involve solo recitals, chamber music rounds, and final rounds with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box R104
Royal Exchange NSW 1225
AUSTRALIA
+61 2 9241 3291

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Must be 18 to 32 years of age

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

HEALTH & SAFETY

[Policies/procedures for this competition](#)

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
First prize AU\$50,000
Smallest prize AU\$10,000
Additional prizes Performances, Management, Recording
Jury chair Piers Lane
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline November 30, 2026

FINALS (live rounds)

July 2027—Sydney Opera House, Sydney, Australia

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



TAKAMATSU INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Takamatsu International Piano Competition, held every four years at the seafront with distinguished jury members, aims to nurture young talented pianists. Prize winners receive numerous opportunities to perform in Japan and overseas. Highly acclaimed for its musical quality, it has sent many outstanding pianists into the world.

MAIN OFFICE

Central Tamachi Building 6F
11-5 Tamachi, Takamatsu, Kagawa 760-0053
JAPAN
+81 87 812 5583

[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

For the 6th Takamatsu International Piano Competition: Individuals born between January 1, 1991, and January 1, 2011

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Quadrennial
First prize ¥3 million
Smallest prize ¥2 million
Additional prize Performances

Jury chair Susumu Aoyagi, pianist

Additional jurors Vincenzo Balzani, pianist; Dang Thai son, pianist; Pascal Devoyon, pianist; Akiko Ebi, pianist; Shinichiro Ikebe, composer; Jan Jircek von Arnim, pianist; Yoheved Kaplinsky, pianist; Daejin Kim, pianist; Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń, pianist; Antti Siirala, pianist

Jury size 11 or more

Application fee

Entry fee required for participants: ¥20,000

Application deadline August 20, 2025

Application notes

[Access application here](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 17-18, 2026—Main Hall, Sunport Hall Takamatsu, Takamatsu, Japan

FINALS (live rounds)

February 21-22, 2026—Main Hall, Sunport Hall Takamatsu, Takamatsu, Japan

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



TORU TAKEMITSU COMPOSITION AWARD 2026

A cash prize of ¥3 million is awarded 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

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes

Frequency Annual

First prize

Total prize money: ¥3 million

Jury chair

Jörg Widmann, Germany

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee No fee

Application deadline September 30, 2025

Application notes

Please submit two copies of the bound score, together with a completed entry form. Mailed entries must be received by the above dates by 6 pm Japan Standard Time.

FINALS (live rounds)

July 12, 2026—Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall, Tokyo, Japan

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed

✓ Finals ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



TELEKOM BEETHOVEN COMPETITION

The competition focuses on works by Beethoven from every phase of his creative life, along with compositions by his predecessors, contemporaries, and successors. Candidates may add works of their choosing to the compulsory program. Next competition will take place December 1-9, 2025.

MAIN OFFICE

c/o Beethovenfest Bonn
Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse 3
53113 Bonn
GERMANY
+49 (0)228 - 20 10 3 52

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes

Frequency Biennial

First prize €50,000

Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Recording

Jury chair

Prof. Pavel Gililov, artistic director

Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline May 14, 2025

Application notes

The application, including all required documents, must be carried out entirely via our website.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

December 5-10, 2025—Preliminary and semifinal rounds, Telekom Zentrale, Bonn, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

December 12, 2025—Chamber music final; Telekom Zentrale, Bonn, Germany

December 13, 2025—Orchestra final; Telekom Forum, Bonn, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals

✓ Semifinals streamed

✓ Finals

✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



ROSALYN TURECK INTERNATIONAL BACH COMPETITION

The Eighth TIBC welcomes pianists ages 8 to 28 from the world over who pursue the musical ideals espoused by the late Mme. Rosalyn Tureck. The competition consists of eight categories divided by repertoire difficulty. Competitors may compete in up to three categories and are required to perform a contemporary work.

MAIN OFFICE

23 West 73rd Street
New York, NY 10023
UNITED STATES
212-873-6087
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Ages 8 to 28 limit, based on eligibility for certain categories.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances
Jury chair	To be announced
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$180
Application deadline	March 21, 2025
Application notes	Applicants supply link to unedited YouTube video and repertoire intended to be performed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 2025 (exact date to be determined), live on Zoom

FINALS (live rounds)

Date and location in New York, NY, to be determined. Gala Winners Concert, date to be determined, DiMenna Center for Classical Music, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

TBD Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS  

GIAN BATTISTA 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 reach top artistic careers. It is renowned for its high standard, awards, and prestigious jury.

MAIN OFFICE

Via Monte di Pietà 39
13100 Vercelli
ITALY
+39 016 1255575
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 75th Gian Battista Viotti International Music Competition 2025 is open to opera singers of all nationalities; age limit is 32 years old.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Voice • Violin

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Annual
First prize	€10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize	Less than €5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Pietro Borgonovo, artistic director, Viotti Music Competition
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	July 13, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 13-14, 2025—City Theatre of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

FINALS (live rounds)

October 18, 2025—Final with orchestra, City Theatre of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS    

WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The Washington International Competition for piano, voice, strings, and composition occurs annually each spring in three-year rotation: 2025 Strings & Composition, 2026 Voice, 2027 Piano. Semifinalists receive feedback from distinguished jurors. Winners receive substantial cash awards and the opportunity to perform in recital or as soloist with orchestras in prestigious Washington venues.

MAIN OFFICE

755 8th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
UNITED STATES
202-445-7505
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

WIC Strings open to violinists, violists and cellists, ages 18 to 30 as of May 23, 2025. WIC Composition open to composers, ages 18 to 35. Applicants must not be under professional management. Previous first-prize winners of the competition and current students of the judges may not apply. [See more information here.](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances

Jurors

Jennifer Koh, violin; Yura Lee, violin and viola; Matthew Zalkind, cello
Composition jury: Kevin Puts, Christopher Theofanidis, Michael Torke

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee

\$125 strings; \$45 composition

Application deadline February 15, 2025

Application notes

In the preliminary round of the competition, the preliminary jury will review submissions and select approximately 30 semifinalists, who will be invited to perform live before a distinguished panel of internationally renowned jurors in the semifinal round.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 23- 24, 2025—violin, viola, and cello, The George Washington University, Washington, DC

FINALS (live rounds)

May 25, 2025—violin, viola and cello. The winning composition will be performed by professional musicians from the Washington, DC, area during the WIC Strings finals, The Terrace Theater of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



WIDEMAN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

To encourage and provide young pianists with an opportunity to play with an orchestra, give recitals, and win cash prizes. Please visit [the website](#) for more information on prizes, winners' recitals, and application.

MAIN OFFICE

2900 Wheless Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71104
UNITED STATES
318-834-9218
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Must be 18 and not older than 30 years old by December 5, 2025, and must be residents of or studying in North America. See [here](#) for complete eligibility requirements.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Annual
First prize	\$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	Alon Goldstein, artistic director
Jury size	1 to 5
Application fee	\$150
Application deadline	October 15, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

December 5-6, 2025—Hurley School of Music, Centenary College, Shreveport, LA

FINALS (live rounds)

December 7, 2025—Hurley School of Music, Centenary College, Shreveport, LA

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	TBD Finals streamed

WIGMORE HALL INTERNATIONAL SONG COMPETITION

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 foundation 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
+44 0207 258 8244

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All singers and accompanying pianists must be under 33 years old at the start date of the Competition for which they are applying.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	£10,000 to £50,000
Smallest prize	Less than £5,000
Jury chair	John Gilhooly CBE, director, Wigmore Hall
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	6 to 10
Application deadline	To be determined

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Date to be determined

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be determined

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

TBD Semifinals	TBD Semifinals streamed
TBD Finals	TBD Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



WIGMORE HALL INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

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

MAIN OFFICE

Wigmore Hall
36 Wigmore Street
London W1U 2BP
UNITED KINGDOM
+44 0207 258 8244

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All members of quartets wishing to apply must be under 35 at the start date of the 2025 competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

Travel covered?	No
Frequency	Triennial
First prize	£10,000 first prize; £6,000 second prize; £3,000 third prize; plus various repertoire prizes of £1,000 each
Additional prize	Performances
Jury chair	John Gilhooly CBE, director, Wigmore Hall
Additional jurors	Peter Jarůšek (Pavel Haas Quartet); Nina Lee (Brentano Quartet); Heime Müller (ex-Artemis Quartet); Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt (ex-Dover Quartet); Lesley Robertson (St. Lawrence String Quartet); Mark Steinberg (Brentano Quartet)

Jury size 6 to 10

Application deadline October 17, 2024

Application notes

Applications for the 2025 Competition are now closed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 5, 2025—Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

FINALS (live rounds)

April 6, 2025—Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals	✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



YCA SUSAN WADSWORTH INTERNATIONAL AUDITIONS

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

MAIN OFFICE

1776 Broadway, Suite 1500
New York, NY 10019
UNITED STATES
212-307-6656
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants at the 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

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

DETAILS

Travel covered?	To be determined
Frequency	Annual
First prize	Less than \$10,000
Smallest prize	Less than \$5,000
Additional prizes	Performances, Management
Jury chair	Daniel Kellogg, president
Additional jurors	To be announced
Jury size	11 or more
Application fee	\$65 early deadline / \$95 final deadline
Application deadline	August 4, 2025
Application notes	Early deadline: Monday, June 2, 2025; final deadline: Monday, August 4, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 2025 (exact dates to be announced), New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

October 2025 (exact dates to be announced), New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals	✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals	✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



The Musical America Guide to Top COMPETITIONS



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 2025!

[A Musical America Guide to Competitions](#)

Our Special Report on the top competitions in the world.

In The Next Issue...

FESTIVALS The 2025 Summer Guide

Coming 8 April 2025

Questions? Email info@musicalamerica.com

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PUBLISHED BY
Performing Arts Resources, LLC
Your source for news and information

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