

**musical
america** February 2026
SPECIAL REPORTS

The Musical America Guide to Top

COMPETITIONS

The Musical America Guide to Top COMPETITIONS



Editor's Note



When we assemble our annual Guide, we send out questionnaires designed to produce the most useful, up-to-date information for teachers and potential participants. We ask organizers to let us know the event type (Is the competition for instruments? Which one? Voice? Composition?); dates (Application deadline? Semifinals, Finals?); frequency (The range is annual to quinquennial); prizes (Cash? Performances? Both?), judges, contacts, eligibility, application fee, travel expenses, etc.

When I was a music student (composition), I always zeroed in on the application deadline (as in, can I still make it?). The annual Musical America Guide to Top Competitions is published in February and, while most of this year's entries have deadlines within 2026, this has not always been the case. Imagine this editor's frustration, then, when questionnaires came back with application deadlines already past, even if the actual competitions were still to come within the calendar year.

When it became obvious there's no one right time when all application deadlines would be in the future, we brainstormed the solution. This year, we added a line to fill in after "Application Deadline," just in case: "Next competition application deadline." It worked! For instance, if you missed the 2026 application deadline for the Triennial Cleveland International Piano Competition (it was last December), the respondents told us, "Applications for the 2027 Cleveland International Piano Competition will open in March 2026."

Aspiring competitors now have no excuse to avoid going for the gold—if the application deadline passed a while ago, you needn't be disappointed: Now you can prepare for the next one.

Regards,

Susan Elliott

Editor, News and Special Reports

COVER PHOTO: (L-R) Jung-rae Noah Kim, 2nd prize; Chelsea Marilyn Zurflüh, 1st prize; Barbara Skora, 3rd prize, at the Concours de Genève 2024 Voice Competition awards ceremony, Genève, Switzerland
CREDIT: © Anne-Laure Lechat

COMPETITIONS The following listings were drawn from the 2026 Musical America Worldwide database.
Note that the majority have first-prize monies of \$10,000 and over.

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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 1, 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 | 1 to 5 |

Application fee

No fee

Application deadline

February 1, 2026

Application notes

The APA process is done through a private nomination process, followed by a free application process. Please reach out if interested in becoming a nominator. You must be nominated to apply as a contestant. The 2027 American Piano Awards will be the jazz competition; nominations occurred in fall of 2025 and finalists will be announced in spring of 2026.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2026 (estimated), preliminary round;
October – February 2026 (estimated): first round

FINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2027 (estimated), finals week; all rounds take place in Indianapolis, IN

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



THE AMERICAN PRIZE NATIONAL NONPROFIT COMPETITIONS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

Based on record performances, The American Prize provides evaluation, recognition, and reward to America's finest performing artists, ensembles, conductors, composers, and stage directors. Professional, college/university, community, and high school artists are welcomed; there are no age limits.

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 | |
| | Sharon Sweet, Susanne Mentzer, voice; Jeffrey Biegel, Lorin Hollander, piano; Judith Zaimont, composition; Christoph Ptack, opera and musical theater |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | |
| | \$65 individuals, \$99 ensembles |
| Application deadline | May 19, 2026 |
| Application notes | |

Preliminary deadline for composers, chamber musicians, instrumental soloists, classical vocalists, and pianists is May 5, 2026. Deadline for conductors, ensembles, stage directors, arts administrators, and American music performance is May 19, 2026. See [here](#) for more information.

FINALS (live rounds)

The American Prize judges review recorded performances only.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



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FOUNDATION

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2026 NAUMBURG INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

LOCATION: NEW YORK CITY

DATES: OCT 27 - NOV 1, 2026

DEADLINE: SEP 7, 2026

1ST PRIZE: \$25,000

COMMISSIONED WORK & RECORDING
2 NYC RECITALS

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MAY 17



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Sunday, May 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall

PERFORMANCES BY

| | | | |
|------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----------|
| CAROL WINCENC | '78 | ERIN WAGNER | '21 |
| COLIN CARR | '81 | VALENTIN KOVALEV | '22 |
| CHARLES NEIDICH | '85 | JACK GAO | '24 |
| ANTON NEL | '87 | TERRA QUARTET | '25 |
| LEONIDAS KAVAKOS | '88 | EMERSON QUARTET | '78 |
| SETH KNOPP | '89 | LUCY SHELTON | '80 '77 |
| AWADAGIN PRATT | '92 | BRENTANO QUARTET | '95 |
| FRANK HUANG | '03 | STEVEN MACKEY WORLD PREMIERE | |

MORE
INFORMATION
NAUMBURG.ORG

CONCOURS GÉZA ANDA

Founded in 1977 in memory of the famous Hungarian-Swiss pianist Géza Anda (1921-1976), the Concours Géza Anda is one of the world's most respected piano competitions. The Géza Anda-Foundation offers all of its laureates free management services, mentorship, and involvement in other projects for three years.

MAIN OFFICE

Bleicherweg 18
CH-8002 Zürich
SWITZERLAND
+41 (44) 205 14 23
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 2027 Géza Anda Competition is open to participants from all countries who were born after May 26, 1995.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Triennial
Jury chair Gerhard Oppitz
Additional jurors To be announced
Jury size Not provided
Application fee €110
Application deadline February 1, 2027
Application notes
Applications open November 19, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 2-3, 2027, Stadthaus Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland; Mozart concertos

FINALS (live rounds)

June 5, 2027, Tonhalle Zürich, Switzerland; piano concertos

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

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 1997 and 2009.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Bassoon • Organ • Percussion
• String Quartet

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 chair Not provided
Additional jurors
See [here](#) for more information
Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline March 27, 2026
Application notes
Online application starting mid-February 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

2026 Munich, Germany: September 4-5, organ;
September 8, bassoon; September 10, string quartet and percussion

FINALS (live rounds)

September 9, organ; September 11, bassoon;
September 13, percussion, Herkulesaal der Residenz, Munich, Germany
September 12, string quartet, Prinzregententheater, Munich, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



THE AZRIELI MUSIC PRIZES

Created in 2014 by Dr. Sharon Azrieli CQ for the Azrieli Foundation, the Azrieli Music Prizes celebrate excellence in composition through three prizes, each valued at CAD \$250,000: the Azrieli Commission for Canadian 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 • Music Composition



DETAILS

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

Additional prizes

Performances, Recording
Jury chair To be announced

Additional jurors

Jurors for the 2028 competition will be announced in early 2026; see [here](#) for more information.

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline May 6, 2026

Application notes

The Call for Proposals for the 2028 competition will open on February 4, 2026 with a focus on chamber music works. 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 2028 AMP Gala Concert will be announced; check [here](#) for more information. The 2026 AMP Gala Concert will take place October 15, 2026, with Performance Partner l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and OSM Chorus conducted by Asher Fisch.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



2028 AZRIELI MUSIC PRIZES

Call for Proposals

Chamber Music
(Up to 15 musicians)

ATTENTION :
COMPOSERS

THREE \$250,000 PRIZE PACKAGES:

\$50,000 cash award
Gala Concert
International Showcases
Commercial Recording

Submission Dates: Feb. 4 – May 6, 2026



Find out more and apply:
azrielifoundation.org/amp



GINA BACHAUER INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR & YOUNG ARTISTS PIANO COMPETITIONS

The 2026 Gina Bachauer Piano Competitions include Junior Competitors ages 11-14, and Young Artists Competitors ages 15-18, who will vie for medals and their share of \$62,000 in cash prizes. Young Artists final round will be with the Utah Symphony. Note: The application deadline for the 2026 event has passed; the next application deadline is in 2027.

MAIN OFFICE

Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation
138 West Broadway, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
UNITED STATES
801-297-4250
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Junior Competition: ages 11 to 14; Young Artists Competition: ages 15 to 18; Artists Competition: 19 to 32

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Composition • Performance

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Recording |
| Jury chair | Douglas Humpherys |
| Additional jurors | Tanya Bannister, Alvin Chow, Daejin Kim, Alexander Korsantia, Carolyn True, Eleanor Wong |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$175 |
| Application deadline | May 15, 2027 |
| Application notes | Junior and Young Artists Competition application deadline has passed. Artists Competition details and application specific will be announced in spring 2027. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 15-18 (Junior) & 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 | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ Finals streamed |

SOCIAL LINKS



BANFF INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION

Since 1983, Banff International String Quartet Competition has celebrated the art of chamber music while providing career support for emerging string quartets. With large prizes in chamber music and a dedicated audience, a once-in-a lifetime experience unfolds for all, with 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 28, 2028. See [here](#) for additional eligibility requirements.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings • String Quartet

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Recording |
| Jury chair | Barry Shiffman, director, BISQC |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$200 |
| Application deadline | March 1, 2028 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

August 28 – September 3, 2028, up to ten competing quartets perform in all four preliminary rounds; Jenny Belzberg Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity Banff, AB, Canada.

FINALS (live rounds)

September 3, 2028, three quartets advance to the finals; Jenny Belzberg Theatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, AB, Canada.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



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 a complete work at the finals on October 15, 2026. 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 age of 16 and 30 on the date of the finals, October 15, 2026. 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 June 14, 2026.

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 | |

Julie Andrijeski, violin, head of historical performance, Case Western Reserve, director of Baroque Ensembles, Cleveland Institute of Music; Hye-Jin Kim, violin, East Carolina University, Taos School of Music, member of Cooperstown Quartet; Nicholas Cords, viola, New England Conservatory of Music, founding member of Brooklyn Rider; Colin Carr, cello, 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 14, 2026 |
| Application notes | |

The application for the 2026 Competition will be available on the Competition website on March 1, 2026.

FINALS (live rounds)

October 17, 2026, 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 2026 winning composer receives a \$15,000 commission for a major new work for Two Pianos and Two Percussionists. The work will be played by a consortium of performers to be announced.

MAIN OFFICE

Barlow Endowment
701 East University Parkway
189 WCO
Provo, UT 84602
UNITED STATES
801-422-8271

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

There are no restrictions with regard to musical style, nationality, age, gender, race, religion, or political persuasion; previous Barlow Prize winners 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 |
| Smallest prize | \$11,000 to \$50,000 |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | No fee |
| Application deadline | June 1, 2026 |

Application notes
This deadline is a receipt deadline, not mailing deadline.

FINALS (live rounds)

By September 15, notification of winners is announced each year on the website and Facebook

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



BARTÓK WORLD COMPETITION

Bartók World Competition rotates among disciplines each year, with the composition competition taking place in even years, such as 2026; 2023 was for violinists, 2025 for pianists, and 2027 will be for string quartets.

MAIN OFFICE

8 Liszt Ferenc tér
1061 Budapest
HUNGARY
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to competitors of all nationalities under 40.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition

DETAILS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | Less than €10,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than €5,000 |
| Additional prizes | |
| Performances, Management, Recording | |

Jury chair

Anders Hillborg

Jury size

1 to 5

Application deadline

August 25, 2026

Application notes

It is usually August in the composition years; it is usually April or May in the instrumental years.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Semifinals are not open to the public in the Composers Competition

FINALS (live rounds)

Final gala concert and award ceremony of the Composers Competition is usually on the last Sunday of November at Liszt Academy Budapest, Hungary

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals

✗ Semifinals streamed

✓ Finals

✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



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2026

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PIANO COMPETITION

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MARCH 16 - 21, 2026

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PRESENTED BY THE HILTON HEAD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

BBC CARDIFF SINGER OF THE WORLD 2027

BBC Cardiff Singer of the World is known throughout the classical music world as one of the premiere showcases for young professional singers at the start of their careers. It is broadcast on BBC Television, Radio, and online, and can be seen and heard throughout the world. The Main Prize is for opera and oratorio with orchestra; the Song Prize is for art song with piano.

MAIN OFFICE

BBC Cardiff Singer of the World
BBC Studios
Roath Lock
Cardiff CF10 4AH
WALES
+44 7872 968098
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to singers of any nationality, at the beginning of their professional career, who will have probably studied at a conservatoire of music or equivalent. Entrants must be 18 to 34 years of age. See [here](#) for more details.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury chair | Welsh National Opera general director |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application deadline | November 23, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

June 2027 (dates to be announced), main prize and song prize finals; St. David's Hall, Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



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 one where candidates are selected during live preliminary rounds (and not on 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

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | To be announced |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Management |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | January 2027, specific date to be announced |
| Application notes | Applications expected to be open October 1, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

September 2027, 1st and 2nd rounds symphony; semifinals opera and concerto. Selection rounds take place in front of two jury members. Each candidate has to conduct two pianists playing two pianos. At the end of the selection rounds, 20 candidates will be selected for the final rounds with orchestra. Besançon, France

FINALS (live rounds)

September 2027, Final symphony and world premiere. Besançon, France

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.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| DETAILS | |
| Travel covered? | To be announced |
| 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 13, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
November 2026, various locations worldwide (Glocal Piano Festival)

FINALS (live rounds)
August 25 – September 5, 2027, Bolzano, Italy

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ 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. On the day of the competition, instrumentalists cannot be older than 32 and vocalists cannot be older than 35 years old. The music performed by the contestants must be written for their instrument and full orchestra.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES
Piano • Strings • Voice • Winds & Brass

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 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 13, 2027 |

Application notes
Applications for the 2027 Voice Competition will be accepted November 1, 2026 – January 13, 2027; applications must be received by the deadline.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
March 7, 2026, 8 am - 5 pm (times may vary). Winds & brass. Dort Music Center, Flint Institute of Music, Flint, MI

FINALS (live rounds)
March 7, 2026, 7 pm, winds & brass. Dort Music Center, Flint Institute of Music, Flint, MI

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

SOCIAL LINKS 

CHICAGO NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The 2026 Chicago National Chamber Music Competition is designed to provide an educational as well as 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

Piano • Strings • Brass • Percussion • Woodwinds

DETAILS

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Annual |
| First prize | Less than \$10,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury chair | To be announced |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | |
| \$150 for non-MYAC Ensembles | |
| Application deadline | January 25, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

February 18, 2026, Midwest Young Artists
Conservatory Center, Highwood, IL

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



19th International Chamber Music Competition For Piano Trio



Davidoff Trio - Winner 2025

Supported by The Tertis Foundation
The Adrian Swire Charitable Trust
Registered charity 1014284

- Auditions – Spring 2027 in London
- Finals Concert at Wigmore Hall

Deadline for applications 30 November 2026

Award details and application form:
www.parkhouseaward.com

The
PARKHOUSE AWARD

Nurturing excellence in chamber music

Patron Lady Judith Swire

53rd Annual Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition

May 8-10, 2026

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

Entry Deadline: February 18, 2026

54th Annual Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition

May 7-9, 2027

Over \$60,000 in prize money & tours!

Visit www.fischhoff.org to learn more.



FISCHOFF
NATIONAL CHAMBER
MUSIC ASSOCIATION



CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

With over \$30,000 in prizes, the Cleveland International Piano Competition and Institute for Young Artists offer 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

Young Artist competition 2026 for ages 10 to 18: Rising Stars (10 to 12), Junior Division (13 to 15), and Senior Division (16 to 18). The 2027 Cleveland International Piano Competition is for ages 18 to 32.

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 | Olga Kern, United States |
| Additional jurors | Shani Diluka, France; Álvaro Teixeira Lopes, Portugal; Matti Raekallio, Finland; Alexander Schimpf, Germany; Ilana Vered, United States/Israel; Xiaohan Wang, China; Amy Yang, United States |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | Applications for the 2027 competition open March 2026; the deadline for the 2026 events has passed |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 24-28, 2027, Mixon Hall at Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland, OH

FINALS (live rounds)

July 30, 2027, with Canton Symphony Orchestra; Kulas Hall at Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland, OH

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



EIGHTEENTH VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The next competition will take place in June 2029. Prizes are valued at more than \$2 million, including cash, 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 a 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 | Not provided |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$150 |
| Application notes | The next competition will take place in June 2029; application information will be announced at a later date. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 2029, Bass Performance Hall, Fort Worth, TX

FINALS (live rounds)

June 2029, Bass Performance Hall, Fort Worth, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PIANISTS

The quadrennial international competition for 13- to 17-year-old pianists will be held in June 2027 in Dallas, TX, on the campus of Southern Methodist University and at Meyerson Symphony Center. All performances will be webcast live and on demand; final round performances will be 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 of age

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 | November 17, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 2027, Caruth Auditorium at SMU, Dallas, TX

FINALS (live rounds)

June 2027, Meyerson Symphony Center. Dallas, TX

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



30.8.–18.9.2026
BASSOON
ORGAN
STRING QUARTET
PERCUSSION

75TH ARD
INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC
COMPETITION¹

Application deadline: March 27, 2026
Further information: ard-musikwettbewerb.de
Competition 2027: Flute | Piano Trio | Violin | Voice

COLORADO COLLEGE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Colorado College Summer Music Festival is an intensive three-week program for 52 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. Fellows accepted to the festival have the option of competing to perform a chosen piece in our Concerto Readings where the faculty critique the soloist. Fellows audition and two or three are chosen.

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; 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, 2026); financial needs are considered |
| Application deadline | February 15, 2026 |
| Application notes | Applications are submitted via SlideRoom; see here for application instructions and information. |

FINALS (live rounds)

June 6, 2026, String auditions for Fellows accepted in the 2026 Summer Music Festival; Packard Hall, Colorado Springs, CO

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



CONCERT ARTISTS GUILD LOUIS AND SUSAN MEISEL PRIZE

Concert Artists Guild is thrilled to announce a major update to its artist selection process. Starting with the 2025-2026 season, CAG will shift from its annual competition to a year-round artist selection model designed to prioritize accessibility, flexibility, and a deeper understanding of each artist's unique artistry and career trajectory.

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 upcoming competition is open to all instrumentalists, vocalists, conductors, and chamber ensembles. Unique chamber ensemble combinations are encouraged. Age limits: solo instrumentalists, 28 years old; solo singers, 30 years old; conductors, 35 years old; ensembles must have an average age of no more than 30 years old. See [here](#) for additional eligibility details.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

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

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Annual |
| First prize | No cash prizes awarded |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Management |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application fee | \$35 |
| Application deadline | June 30, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

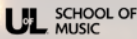
May 11, 2026, Kosciuszko Foundation, New York, NY: Winners of the CAG Louis and Susan Meisel Prize will be featured in a New York City showcase concert

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS





**The Elizabeth Huang
International Piano Competition**
will be held on November 14, 2026
at the University of Louisville.

Live round repertoire maximum 15 minutes of music
from at least two different styles.
Open to pianists aged 14-18 who are not
currently enrolled in college.
Application deadline October 2026.

Prizes

First Prize: \$2,000
Second Prize: \$1,000
Third Prize: \$500



Find out more



**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. Taking place in 2026: semifinals and finals of the Conducting Competition & Composition Competition.

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

The subject of the 2026 Composition Competition is a work for symphony orchestra and is open to candidates born after November 11, 1986.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

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

DETAILS

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

Additional prizes

Performances, Management, Recording

Jury chairs

Bertrand de Billy, conducting jury chair; Unsuk Chin, composition jury chair

Additional jurors

Conducting: Mark Stringer, vice chair, Sonia Ben-Santamaria, Baldur Brönnimann, Martin Campbell-White, Unsuk Chin, Marzena Diakun, Rémi Durupt, Laurent Gay, Claire Levacher, Sarah Nemtanu, Eva Ollikainen, Peter Oundjian, Natalia Ponomarchuk, Frauke Roth, Arturo Tamayo, Wingsie Yip
Composition: Toshio Hosokawa, Magnus Lindberg, Augusta Read Thomas, Katharina Rosenberger

Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline February 12, 2026

Application notes

[Programme, rules and registration](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 7-8, 2026, Concorde Espace Culture, Geneva, Switzerland: Semifinals 1 & 2, conducting competition, with the Orchestre de Chambre de Genève; November 9, 2026, Victoria Hall, Geneva, Switzerland: Semifinal 3, conducting competition, with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande

FINALS (live rounds)

November 11, 2026: Conducting Competition Final 1; November 11, 2026: Composition Competition (this round is both the Final Round of the Composition Competition and the first Final of the Conducting Competition); November 13, 2026: Conducting Competition Final 2; all finals with Orchestre de la Suisse Romande; Victoria Hall, Geneva, Switzerland

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



CELLO
MARCH 3-5, 2028

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

Application Deadline DECEMBER 1, 2027

For more information call 610.674.4389 or scan QR code:



CONCOURS MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL (CMIM)

The Concours Musical International de Montréal is a prestigious competition that showcases the international elite of the new generation of classical musicians. Each year, the Concours brings together exceptional young singers, violinists, and pianists to perform and launch their careers on the world stage from Montréal. The competition will be for violin in 2026, piano in 2027, and voice in 2028.

MAIN OFFICE

305 Mont-Royal Avenue East
Montréal, QC H2T 1P8
CANADA
514-845-4108

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

ELIGIBILITY

The Concours Musical International de Montréal is open to classical artists of all nationalities in the early stages of a professional performing career. Laureates from previous editions are not eligible to apply. Age limits are 16 to 30 for violin and piano editions; 18 to 32 for voice editions.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Strings • Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Annual
Additional prize Performances, Recording

Jury chair

Lucie Robert, Manhattan School of Music
Additional jurors
Ju-Young Baek, Seoul National University; Glenn Dicterow, former Concertmaster, New York Philharmonic; Simin Ganatra, Pacifica Quartet, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music; Yuzuko Horigome, Royal Conservatory of Brussels, Conservatorium Maastricht; Régis Pasquier, Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris; Barry Shiffman, Banff International String Quartet Competition and Festival; The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto; Pavel Vernikov, University MUK in Vienna, Sion Festival-Switzerland

Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee CAD \$150
Application deadline October 31, 2026
Application notes

The next application period will be for the Piano edition in 2027. Interested applicants should refer to the competition website starting summer 2026.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 27-31, 2026, Salle Bourgie, Montréal, QC, Canada: Violin

FINALS (live rounds)

June 3-4, 2026, Maison Symphonique de Montréal, QC, Canada: Violin

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



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, 2026
Application notes

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

FINALS (live rounds)

April 29 – May 3, 2026, Cork, Ireland; April 28 – May 2, 2027, Cork, Ireland

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



GEORGE ENESCU INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Intended as a natural extension of the George Enescu Festival, the most important international cultural event organized by Romania and a true national cultural brand, George Enescu International Competition recognizes, supports, and promotes young talents worldwide, endorsing in this way the future golden generations of the universal classical music.

MAIN OFFICE

Victoria Business Center
Calea Victoriei, nr. 155, bl. D1, sc. 8, et. 2
Bucuresti cod 010073
ROMANIA
(+40) 21-311 02 00

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Participants of all nationalities, born after August 1, 1991; no exception to this age limit

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings

DETAILS

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | €10,000 to €50,000 |
| Smallest prize | €5,000 to €10,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury members | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | |
| €120 for cello, violin, and piano competition; | |
| €50 per work for composition competition | |
| Application deadline | May 10, 2026 |
| Application notes | |
| June 30 for Composition applications | |



SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

2026, Romanian Athenaeum, Bucharest, Romania:
September 5, cello; September 11, violin,
September 17, piano
August 22-23, composition: The jury will meet in
Bucharest, Romania, to review the works submitted
for the composition category.

FINALS (live rounds)

2026, Romanian Athenaeum, Bucharest, Romania:
September 7, cello; September 13, violin,
September 19, piano
Composition: the winners will be announced
during the opening concert of the George Enescu
International Competition, August 23

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

PAST COMPETITION WINNERS

2024 Mayumi Kanagawa, violin
2024 Roman Lopatynskyi, piano
2024 Yo Kitamura, cello
2022 Alexandra Segal, piano
2022 Benjamin Kruithof, violoncel
2021 Valentin Șerban, violin
2021 Jaemin Han, cello
2016 Zlatomir Fung, cello
2014 Josu de Solaun, piano
2011 Tlan Bonian, cello
2007 Anna Tifu, violin
1964 Elisabeth Leonskaja, piano

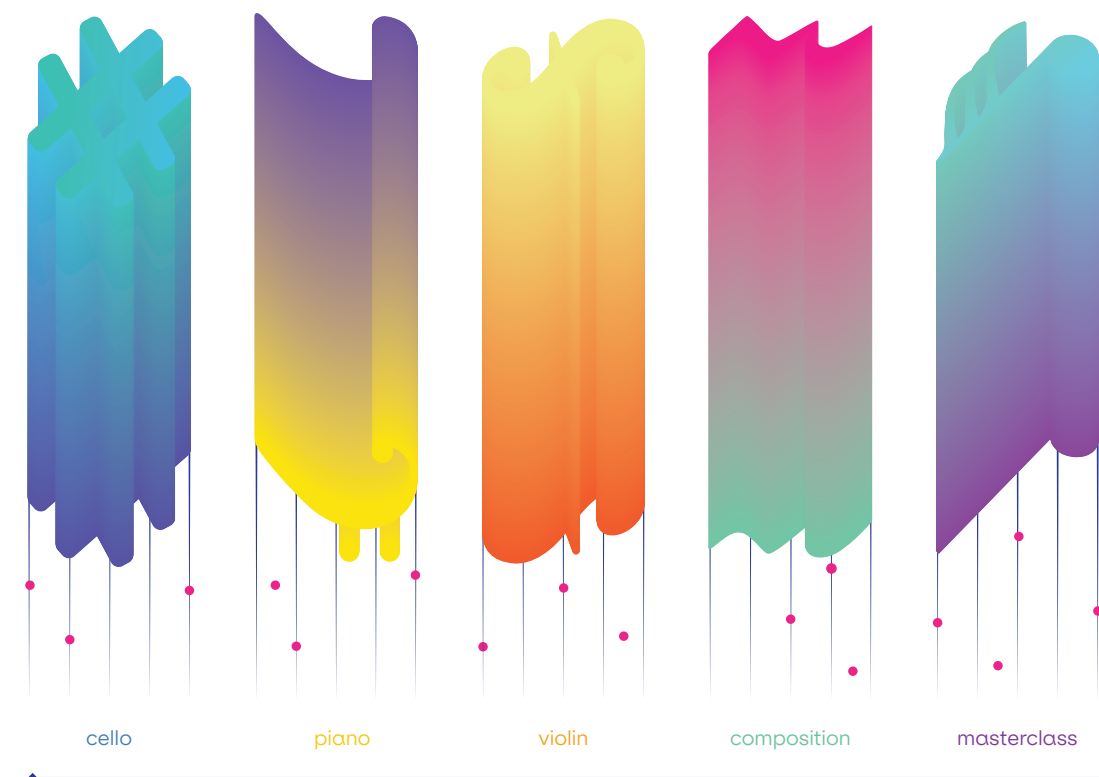
SOCIAL LINKS



GEORGE ENESCU INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

BUCHAREST ————— 23.08 - 19.09.2026

20TH EDITION ————— In pursuit of excellence



Event held under
the High Patronage
of the President of Romania

Cultural Project financed by the
Romanian Government through
the Ministry of Culture



MINISTERUL CULTURII



FISCHOFF NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The 53rd Annual Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition takes place May 8-10, 2026, in South Bend, IN, at the University of Notre Dame. The competition is open to ensembles with three to six members and includes senior and junior divisions. More than \$60,000 in prize money and performance opportunities 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 |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application fee | Trio \$135; quartet \$175; quintet \$215; sextet \$255 |
| Application deadline | February 18, 2026 |
| Application notes | Entries must be received by 11:59 pm Eastern, February 18, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 8, 2026 quarterfinals, Junior Division. DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN; May 8, 2026 quarterfinals, Senior Division. O'Neill Hall of Music, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN; May 9, 2026 semifinals, All Divisions. DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

FINALS (live rounds)

May 10, 2026, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, 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 international music competition that celebrates independent musicians. Global Music Awards is widely recognized by industry insiders as giving legitimacy to highly talented artists and as music's golden seal of approval. It is a competition 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 competition looks for artists and composers with outstanding emotional communication, the ability to transcend and make the listener experience something new and compelling.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

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

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Quadrennial |
| Jury chair | Thomas Baker, Ph.D., Founder, Global Music Awards |
| Additional jurors | Each 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; Malek Jandali, composer, humanitarian; Berta Moreno, jazz instrumentalist; Tri Nguyen, zither master, fusion; Dorothy Hindman, composer; Dorothy Hindman, composer |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$60 |
| Application deadline | April 3, 2026 |
| 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 Trolldhaugen, Edvard Grieg's picturesque home in Bergen, Norway, dates to be announced. Competitors 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 Strømkaiaen 7
5008 Bergen
NORWAY
+47 53 00 97 00
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY TBA

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 | To be announced |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | April 1, 2026 |
| Application notes | Dates of competition and application deadline TBA. The above date is only a suggestion. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

August/September 2026 (dates to be announced), quarter and semifinals. Kode, Edvard Grieg Museum Trolldhaugen, Bergen, Norway.

FINALS (live rounds)

September 2026 (date to be announced) with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Grieg Hall, Bergen, Norway.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



MICHAEL HILL INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The competition hosts 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 age 18 to 26

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings • Violin

DETAILS

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Recording |

Jury chair

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Additional jurors

James Ehnes, Edward Dusing, Josef Spâcêk, Geneva Lewis, Prof Vera Tse Weiling, Natsuko Yoshimoto, Andrew Beer

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee \$150

Application deadline November 20, 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, Queenstown, New Zealand; 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



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 threshold 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

For 2026, young pianists age 13 to 17; updated details for 2028 will be available late March 2027

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, United States

Additional jurors

Angela Cheng, Canada; Marian Hahn, United States; Spencer Myer, United States; Daria Rabotkina, Russia/United States

Jury size 1 to 5

Application fee \$150

Application deadline

September 30, 2027 for 2028 HHIPC event for adult pianists

Application notes

The next HHIPC event for adult pianists 18-30 will take place mid-March 2028; applications will be available online on June 1, 2027

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, Finals/Round III (five concerto movements). First Presbyterian Church, Hilton Head Island, SC

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



William C. Byrd Young Artist Competition



Saturday, March 6, 2027

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
Gold Prize - \$8,000 and a guest artist performance
with the Flint Symphony Orchestra
Silver Prize - \$4,000
Bronze Prize-\$2,500
Two \$1,000 Laureate Prizes

Application deadline ~ January 13, 2027

www.ByrdArtists.com

YOUR STAGE AWAITS



2026–2027 MTNA COMPETITIONS

Composition • Brass • Piano • String • Voice • Woodwind • Chamber Music • MTNA–Stecher & Horowitz Two Piano Competition

The prestigious MTNA competitions recognize talented young artists and their teachers in their pursuit of musical excellence.

Finalists compete at the MTNA National Conference
in St. Louis, Missouri, April 2–6, 2027.



LEARN MORE

For more information, visit www.mtna.org



HONENS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Canada's Honens International Piano Competition is one of the world's most prestigious piano competitions, dedicating itself to identifying the next generation of complete artists—pianists with exceptional skill, innovative vision, an ability to connect with audiences, and an understanding of their role in today's cultural and social landscape.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists at least 20 years old on the first day of semifinals and no older than 30 years of age on the last day of finals. Previous Honens Laureates and professionally managed pianists are not eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize More than \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000

Additional prizes

Performances, Management, Recording

Jury chair

Jon Kimura Parker, artistic director

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee CAD \$185

Application deadline June 30, 2027

Application notes

The date will be announced when applications for the 2028 Honens International Piano Competition are open.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

2028, Calgary, Canada (dates and place to be announced)

FINALS (live rounds)

2028, Calgary, Canada (dates and place to be announced)

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



ELIZABETH HUANG INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION AT UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

The Elizabeth Huang Competition will be held on November 14, 2026, at the University of Louisville. The competition is open to pianists age 14 to 18 who are not currently enrolled in college. The live round repertoire has a maximum 15 minutes of music from at least two different styles; cash prizes are \$3,500.

MAIN OFFICE

105 West Brandeis Avenue
Louisville, KY 40208
UNITED STATES
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists age 14 to 18 who are not currently enrolled in college

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

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

Jury chair

Dr. Anna Petrova, associate professor of piano, University of Louisville

Additional jurors

Additional jury members for the upcoming competition will be announced. Past jury members include Anton Nel, Marina Lomazov, Ilya Itin, Lora Tchekorotova, Heather Conner, and others.

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline October 1, 2026

FINALS (live rounds)

November 1, 2026, University of Louisville, School of Music, Louisville, KY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✗ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERCONTINENTAL MUSIC AWARDS

InterContinental Music Awards comprise the most cultural and inclusive Los Angeles-based music competition. ICMA evaluates entries from a global and ethnical perspective by a panel of judges who are industry professionals and music industry executives. ICMA has been recognized by the City of Los Angeles and the California Senate.

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 of ICMA

Additional jurors

Fred Nowshad, orchestra conductor, composer & music mentor; Neivi Martinez, international soprano, CEO Amadeus Artists agency; Mari Nobre, artist & ethnomusicologist, vocalist on Latin GRAMMY®-winning album; Omar Akram, GRAMMY® winning pianist & composer; Juliet Lyons, singer/songwriter, film/TV composer; Sophia Agranovich, concert pianist, educator, mentor, Steinway artist; Vahagn Stepanyan, music producer, songwriter, composer, and more.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application fee | \$69 |
| Application deadline | April 15, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

To be determined

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| TBD Semifinals | TBD Semifinals streamed |
| TBD Finals | TBD Finals streamed |

SOCIAL LINKS



INTERNATIONAL ART SONG COMPETITION STUTTGART

The International Art Song Competition Stuttgart is intended for lied duos. The competition, which will be live-streamed in its entirety, offers young singers and pianists an international platform where they can immerse themselves in art song and present it to a large audience.

MAIN OFFICE

Internationale Hugo-Wolf-Akademie
für Gesang, Dichtung, Liedkunst e.V. Stuttgart
Jägerstraße 40
70174 Stuttgart
GERMANY
+49 (0) 711-221177

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The International Art Song Competition Stuttgart 2026 is open to singers and pianists of all nations born after December 31, 1992.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Lied Duo (Voice and 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

Brigitte Fassbaender, Germany, voice

Additional jurors

Juliane Banse, Germany, voice; Christoph Berner, Austria, piano; Hans Eijsackers, The Netherlands, piano; Werner Güra, Germany, voice; Susan Manoff, United States/France, piano; Roman Trekel, Germany, voice

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | July 6, 2026 |

Application notes

[See here for more information](#)

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 1, 2026, Concert Hall, State University of Music and Performing Arts, Stuttgart, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

October 3, 2026, Concert Hall, State University of Music and Performing Arts, Stuttgart, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ 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, president emerita, New York Philharmonic




Additional jurors
Cathy Milliken, composer; Ulrike Niehoff, strategic & artistic consultant; Andrés Orozco-Estrada, conductor; Christina Pluhar, director, L'Arpeggiata ensemble; Kwamé Ryan, conductor; Ed Spanjaard, conductor; Elmar Weingarten, former intendant, Berliner Philharmoniker; George Wiegel, director, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra; Eric Whitacre, composer & conductor; Bas Wiegers, conductor; Mark Williams, CEO, Toronto Symphony Orchestra; Yip Wing-Sie, conductor; and more.

Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline December 1, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
July 1-4, 2027, 24 contestants conduct

FINALS (live rounds)
August 21 – September 3, 2028. Six contestants conduct different orchestras in five different rounds

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ 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 world-wide 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 1994 and 2008; [see here for further details](#).

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 To be announced
Additional jurors Viviana Barrios, head of young artists relations, casting, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Germany; Rosetta Cucchi, artistic director, Wexford Festival Opera, Ireland; David Gowland, artistic director, Jette Parker Artists Programme, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, London, United Kingdom;



Dorothea Hartmann, intendantin, Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden, Germany; Christoph Seufferle, operndirektor, 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; and more.

Jury size 11 or more
Application fee €65 registration fee; €179 finals fee
Application deadline 43 qualifying rounds around the world with various deadlines from February 24 to May 12, 2026; [see here for details](#).

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
May 31 – June 7, 2026, enrollment, first rounds, semifinals. Dzintari Concert Hall, Jurmala, Latvia

FINALS (live rounds)
June 7, 2026, finals concert with orchestra. Dzintari Concert Hall, Jurmala, Latvia

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

SOCIAL LINKS  

INTERNATIONAL LONG-THIBAUD COMPETITION

The LTC 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

The 2026 violin competition is open to all nationalities from 16 to 33 years old; pre-selection by video only before November 1, 2026. Eighteen candidates from the pre-selection will qualify to take part in the elimination round.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano • Strings • Violin

DETAILS

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Annual |
| First prize | €10,000 to €50,000 |
| Smallest prize | €11,000 to €50,000 |
| Additional prizes | |
| Performances, Recording | |

Jury chair

Gerard Bekerman, chairman of the foundation

Additional jurors

Gerard Poulet, Pavel Vernikov, Vera Weiling Tsy, Gidon Kremer, Mihaela Martin, Corina Belcea, Silvia Marcovici, Maxim Venguerov

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee \$80

Application deadline July 1, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 12, 2026, Paris: Each semifinalist must perform one recital piece of their own choice plus one of four specified works: The total performance time must not exceed 40 minutes; four musicians will qualify for the finals. Conservatoire Claude Debussy, Paris, France.

FINALS (live rounds)

November 14, 2026, Finalists will perform one concerto accompanied by Orchestra of the Republican Guard, Théâtre des Champs Élysées, Paris, France:

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 a top-class jury giving comprehensive feedback, which is extended during the finals with concert presenters, the competition offers a highlight in the category Lied with its commissioned work—to be performed after 36 hours of study time. The competition will involve: duo for voice and piano (Lied); trio for piano, violin, and violoncello; piano duo; and composition piano trio.

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Lied Duo
• Various Chamber Music Formations (to be announced)

DETAILS

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prize | |
| Performances, Management, Recording | |
| Jury chairs | |
| Joseph Breinl, lied duo; Chia Chou, piano trio; Sivan Silver-Garburg & Gil Garburg, piano duo | |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | September 28, 2027 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz) Campus, Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, KUG (Kunstuniversität Graz), MUMUTH (House for Music and Music Theatre), Leonhardstraße 15, Graz, Austria

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | TBD 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

Violinists of all nationalities 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, jury president

Additional jurors

Jury for the 12th Quadrennial Competition will be announced at a later date.

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee \$125

Application deadline February 28, 2026

Application notes

See [here](#) for the most updated information on the 2026 Competition.

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

SOCIAL LINKS



THE INDIANAPOLIS

12TH QUADRENNIAL INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION
SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 4, 2026
JAIME LAREDO, JURY PRESIDENT

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

Application Deadline
February 28, 2026

VIOLIN.ORG

Leonidas Kavakos
Augustin Hadelich Claire Wells
Livi 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

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

Singers: Must not be a previous first-, second-, or third-place award winner of the Competition; must have been a permanent legal resident of the United States for at least one year on the first day of the competition, May 18, 2026; must be at least 25 years old by the first day of the competition (May 18, 2026) and no older than 35 years at the competition’s end (May 23, 2026); must not be a past or current recipient of a contract for a principal role with an OPERA America Budget Level I company or its international equivalent. Cover, chorus, and comprimario roles with Level 1 companies are acceptable. See additional eligibility information [here](#).

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; Kirsten Chambers, soprano |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$25 |
| Application deadline | March 15, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 18-21, 2026, Preliminary judging, New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

May 23, 2026, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

JOSEPH JOACHIM VIOLIN COMPETITION

We are seeking inquisitive minds who demonstrate an impeccable command of their instrument while remaining humble servants of great composers and their scores; young artists who bravely strive for individuality, making bold musical statements with the violin; musicians whose voice inspires deep emotions and who show an exceptional degree of versatility.

MAIN OFFICE

Stiftung Niedersachsen
Joseph Joachim Violinwettbewerb
Sophienstr. 2
30159 Hannover
GERMANY
+49 (511) 990540

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

ELIGIBILITY

Age 18 to 32

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Recording |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | February 28, 2027 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

September 24-29, 2027, Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media, Hanover, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

October 2, 2027, NDR Konzerthaus, Hanover, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ 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 through 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 here 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 UCC, Washington, DC

FINALS (live rounds)

March 2028, violin, viola, and cello. First Congregational UCC, Washington, DC

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



OLGA KERN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

The Fifth Olga Kern International Piano Competition will take place fall of 2028. 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

Pianists of all nationalities between the ages of 18 and 32 at the time of the competition in 2028.

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

Olga Kern, artistic director & jury president

Additional jurors To be determined

Jury size 6 to 10

Application fee \$250

Application deadline June 1, 2028

Application notes

Incomplete applications will not be accepted; submitted materials will not be returned. The screening jury will admit 18-20 contestants to compete in the first round.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Fall 2028 (dates to be announced), National Hispanic Cultural Center and Popejoy Hall, Albuquerque, NM

FINALS (live rounds)

Fall 2028 (dates to be announced), usually consisting of contestant's choice from list (to be determined) of one concerto for piano and orchestra, National Hispanic Cultural Center and Popejoy Hall, Albuquerque, NM

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



LA MAESTRA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR WOMEN CONDUCTORS

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 (0)1 40 26 77 94
[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

Oksana Lyniv, music director, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, and principal guest conductor, Kyiv Symphony Orchestra

Additional jurors

Claire Gibault, artistic & musical director, Paris Mozart Orchestra, and co-founder/co-director, La Maestra; Wayne Marshall, conductor, organist & pianist; Vineta Sareika, violinist, former concertmaster, Berlin Philharmonic; Matias Tarnopolsky, president & CEO, New York Philharmonic; Fabienne Voisin, executive director, Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal; Philipp von Steinaecker, conductor

Jury size

6 to 10

Application deadline

July 8, 2025

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

February 23-24, 2026, quarterfinals;
February 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



INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION FOR YOUNG OPERA SINGERS 2026

qualifying rounds worldwide –
jury members of the
most important opera houses –
many engagements –
final rounds 2026
in Jūrmala, Latvia

www.belvedere-competition.com

Young Artists Concerto Competition

Semi-Finals: April 19th, 2026

Finals: June 23rd, 2026

Open to Ages 13-26

Entrance Fee: \$75

Application Deadline:
March 9th

www.redlandsbowl.org
youngartists@redlandsbowl.org



Scan for more details



Redlands, CA

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 | February 4, 2026 |

Application notes

The above deadline is to submit an online application with video audition for the preliminary round; [apply here](#).

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 26-27, 2026, New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

May 9, 2026, Rochester, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



THE GERDA LISSNER FOUNDATION IVC IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIEDERKRANZ FOUNDATION

The Gerda Lissner Foundation conducts two annual competitions: the Art Song Competition and the International Vocal Competition. The Art Song Competition focuses on the exploration and interpretation of text and styles, as well as effective physical presence and excellent vocal technique. The International Vocal Competition provides young opera singers with financial support and performance opportunities at Carnegie Hall, WQXR's The Greene Space, and on-air via WQXR's Young Artists' Showcase.

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.

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, Arlene Shrut, co-artistic directors/
The Gerda Lissner Foundation

Additional jurors

Laura Alley, Ken Benson, F.Paul Driscoll,
Susan Quittmeyer, Midge Woolsey

Jury size 1 to 5

Application deadline December 29, 2025

Application notes

The competitions are annual; deadline for the 2026 application has passed. The specific applications date for the 2027 competitions will be at the end of December 2026 or start of January 2027.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 9-12, 2026, The Kosciuszko Foundation, New York, NY

FINALS

March 13, 2026, The Kosciuszko Foundation, New York, NY; April 29, 2026, Winners Concert, Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York, NY.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



FRANZ LISZT CENTER INTERNATIONAL ONLINE PIANO COMPETITION

Since 2020, the competition has offered great professional possibilities, including recitals, concerts with orchestra, scholarships, and master classes. The competition is a talent-friendly event seeking to motivate young and professional pianists with five age categories and free repertory.

MAIN OFFICE

Plaza de Almassera 1
La Nucia
SPAIN
+34 622 73 22 77
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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 | February 22, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

One round

FINALS (live rounds)

March 23 – April 5, 2026, online

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS 



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

Offers over \$750,000 in awards annually

\$20,000 Ellis Duo Pianists Award (odd years)
\$2,000 Classical Guitar Award
\$2,000 Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award
\$1,500 Gretchen Van Roy Music Education Scholarship
\$1,500 Dorothy Dann Bullock Music Therapy Scholarship
and many more....



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

LISZT UTRECHT

Liszt Utrecht actively presents, develops, and promotes piano talents from around the world. The competition will take place in 2029 with submissions in the preceding years. The January 2026 competition showcased the works of Carl Maria von Weber and Franz Liszt.

MAIN OFFICE

Ganzenmarkt 14
3512 GD Utrecht
THE NETHERLANDS
+31 620877936
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to pianists between 20 and 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 Cynthia Wilson

Additional jurors
Nino Gvetadze, Leslie Howard, Igor Roma,
Muza Rubackyte, Enrico Pace, Suzana Bartal,
Mariam Batsashvili, Andrea Bonatta, Severin von
Eckardstein, Janina Fialkowski, Saskia Giorgini,
Alexander Gravylyuk, Yingdi Sun
Jury size 11 or more

Application notes
The next deadline for the triennial competition will
be in early 2027, specific date to be announced.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



LYON INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

The Lyon International Chamber Music Competition allows young ensembles—among the brightest worldwide hopes—to perform in public and in front of peers and artistic programmers. The competition offers prizes, awards, concerts, professional opportunities, and recommendations. Since 2004, more than 1,400 young artists of 35 different nationalities have taken part in the event, seeking to boost their career and reveal their talent. The competition highlights the city of Lyon and the richness of the cultural activity in the regional area to the world of music.

MAIN OFFICE

11 place Tobie Robatel
69001 Lyon
FRANCE
+33 6 52 14 80 45
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The 21st Lyon International Chamber Music Competition is dedicated to the woodwind quintet; open to artists of all nationalities born after April 14, 1993.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice • Trio (Violin, Cello & Piano) • String Quartet • Duo (Violin & Piano) • Duo (Voice & Piano) • Duo (Cello & Piano) • Woodwind Quintet

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
Carlo Colombo, Lyon, bassoon; Philippa Davies, London, flute; Pascal Moraguès, Paris, Lausanne, clarinet; Alexei Ogrintchouk, Amsterdam, Geneva, oboe; Milena Viotti, München, Geneva, horn
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline December 31, 2025

Application notes
The application deadline for the 2026 competition has passed. The deadline for the 2027 competition will be at the end of 2026, specific date to be announced.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 14-18, 2026, Woodwind quintet, Université Lumière Main Hall, Lyon, France

FINALS (live rounds)

April 18, 2026, Woodwind quintet + Harp, Molière Hall, Lyon, France

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ 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 up to 35 years old 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
Marina Mahler, Thomas Ades, John Carewe, Sian
Edwards, Pablo Heras-Casado, John Storgårds,
Deborah Borda, Mauro Bucearelli, Martin Campbell-
White, Ara Guzelimian, Marcus Rudolf Axt, Bamberg
Symphony Orchestra

Jury size 11 or more
Application deadline October 31, 2025
Application notes

The application deadline for the triennial
competition in 2026 has passed. The deadline for
the 2029 competition will be late fall 2028, specific
date to be announced.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 30, 2026, Concert Hall Bamberg, Bamberg,
Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

July 1-3, 2026, Concert Hall Bamberg, Bamberg,
Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



MALKO COMPETITION FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS 2028

The Malko Competition is the Danish National
Symphony Orchestra's international competition
for conductors. It has been held every three years
since 1965. The goal is to identify and bring out
those great young musical talents who will one day
grace the podiums of leading orchestras all over
the world.

MAIN OFFICE

DR-Byen
Emil Holms Kanal 20 5-3
DK -0999 Copenhagen
DENMARK
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open for young conductors of all nationalities
between 18 and 35 years of age

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Conducting

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Triennial
First prize \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair

Fabio Luisi, chair & principal conductor, The Danish
National Symphony Orchestra

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline November 1, 2027
Application notes

The above application deadline is for the 2028
competition; the website will be updated with
additional details as they are confirmed.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

2028: Dates and location to be announced

FINALS (live rounds)

2028: Dates and location to be announced

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



7TH ÉVA MARTON INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION

Éva Marton International Singing Competition is an unmissable opportunity for entry into the international opera scene. Members of the jury are looking for artists who seem to be capable of realizing what Éva Marton achieved, whose career is founded on an incredible level of hard work and much learning.

MAIN OFFICE

Secretariat of the International
Éva Marton Singing Competition
Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music
8 Liszt Ferenc Square
1061 Budapest
HUNGARY
+36 1 4624600 / 139
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to singers from all nationalities, minimum 18 years old on opening day of the competition and no older than 32 for female and 35 for male candidates.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | \$5,000 to \$10,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances, Management |
| Jury chair | Éva Marton |
| Additional jurors | Anatoli Goussev, Vittorio Terranova, Deniz Uzun, Peter Mario Katona, Miguel Lerín, Andrea Meláth, Szilveszter Ókovács, Dmitry Vdovin |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | April 27, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

August 30 – September 6, 2026, Liszt Academy Budapest, Hungary

FINALS (live rounds)

September 5, 2026, Liszt Academy Budapest, Hungary
September 6, 2026, Hungarian State Opera House: Gala Concert

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



MOSTARTS FESTIVAL YOUNG PIANIST COMPETITION

Open to high school students ages 13 to 18. Finalists will perform a solo recital and a concerto with the International MostArts Festival Orchestra during the MostArts Festival week, July 12-18, 2026. There are \$20,000 in cash prizes including a \$10,000 grand prize plus a return concert in 2027.

MAIN OFFICE

Miller Performing Arts Center, Alfred University
1 Saxon Drive
Alfred, NY 14802
UNITED STATES
607-382-2336
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The MostArts Festival Young Pianist Competition is open to high school pianists ages 13 to 18 as of the competition date. Applicants must not be under professional management and must attend a school in the United States. Finalists will be announced in May and are expected to perform at the festival July 12-18, 2026.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

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 | Anthony Pattin, University of Montebello, professor emeritus, performing artist |
| Additional jurors | Asiya Korepanova, international concert artist; Lucy Mauro, University of West Virginia, professor of piano |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$50 |
| Application deadline | April 17, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

July 12-18, 2026, Miller Theater, Alfred University, Alfred, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



FERRUCCIO
BUSONI

INTERNATIONAL
PIANO COMPETITION



Ferruccio
Busoni

66th International
Piano Competition
2026–2027

Yifan Wu, 1st Prize 2025

For bookings:
concerts@busoni-mahler.eu

Applications open
February 13 – May 13, 2026

Follow us to stay up to date:
#busonicompetition fb ig yt
busoni-mahler.eu/competition



MTNA COMPETITIONS

The MTNA Competitions are the most successful and prestigious student competitions in the country. The purpose of the Music Teachers National Association 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 \$135

Application deadline

Dates in September and December 2026, and January 2027

Application notes

September 9, 2026, 3 pm Eastern, composition and performance except for chamber, brass, voice; December 2, 2026, 3 pm Eastern, chamber, brass, voice; January 4, 2027, 3 pm Eastern, Stecher & Horowitz Two Piano

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

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

FINALS (live rounds)

March 21-23, 2026, Finals at National MTNA Conference (March 21-25), Chicago, IL
March 24, 2026, Winners concert, Chicago, IL

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 stimulates the creation of quality vocal literature through the cooperation of singer and composer. The first-place winning composition will be premiered at a national NATS event.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to any composer; submissions must be: a song cycle, group of songs, or extended single song roughly 20 minutes; for solo voice and piano; text in English for which the composer has 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 find success on Broadway, tours, and theaters across the country.

ELIGIBILITY

All singers 22-30 as of September 15, 2027.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Frequency | Biennial |
| Cash prizes | More than \$14,000 |
| Application deadline | September 15, 2027 |

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

January 2028, New York, NY (final date and place to be determined)

NATS ARTIST AWARDS (NATSAA)

The biennial NATS Artist Awards Competition is designed to assist classical singers prepared to launch a professional career.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants: must be 21 to 35 years old as of September 8, 2027; must 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 13, 2027 |

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

January 2028, New York, NY (final date and place to be determined)

NATS NATIONAL STUDENT AUDITIONS

The exciting experience of NATS Student Auditions continues in 2026 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 10, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS and FINALS (live rounds)

July 3-5, 2026, San Antonio, TX

SOCIAL LINKS



NATIONAL CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION

The next National Chopin Piano Competition will be held in January 2030. Open to U.S. citizens who perform at a professional level, the National Competition follows the rules of the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw. The 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 2030 National Chopin Piano Competition is open to pianists holding U.S. citizenship (native born or naturalized) born 2000 to 2014.

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, United States

Additional jurors

Ning An, U.S., winner, 2000 National Chopin Piano Competition; Jon Nakamatsu, U.S., winner, Van Cliburn International, National Chopin Competitions U.S.; Dina Yoffe, Latvia, prize winner, International Chopin Piano Competition, and more.

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$125 |
| Application deadline | October 15, 2029 |
| Application notes | |

This competition is held every five years.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 2030 (dates to be announced), Live preliminaries through semifinals. University of Miami, Frost School of Music, Coral Gables, FL

FINALS (live rounds)

January 2030 (dates to be announced), 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



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

The National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) offers awards in several categories for ages 5 and up—more than \$750,000 in competition and award prizes on the local, state, and national level. The Biennial Young Artist and Ellis Duo-Pianists competitions award a total of \$92,000 and two years of performance bookings. Additional competitions are sponsored by the Federation in a wide range of categories.

MAIN OFFICE

1646 West Smith Valley Road
Greenwood, IN 46142
UNITED STATES
317-882-4003
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Various awards for Juniors (18 and under), Student/Collegiate (19 to 26), and Seniors (19 and older).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Conducting • Composition • Piano • Strings • Voice
• Dance • Woodwinds • Orchestra • Brass • Music
Education • Music Therapy

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 |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | 54 competitions; see website for details |
| Application deadline | Various deadlines for 54 different competitions among six age and artistic discipline categories; please see notes below. |
| Application notes | Various competitions have different deadlines ranging from January 10 to May 15. Please use links below for details about each competition: Junior Composers awards , four competitions, February 1 deadlines; Junior Division awards , 17 competitions, deadlines from January 10 to May 1; Student/Collegiate Division awards , 18 competitions, March 1 deadlines; Senior Division awards , 12 competitions, deadlines from January 15 to May 1; Ellis Duo award , one competition, February 1 deadline; Young Artist awards , one competition in four mediums, February 1 deadline |

FINALS (live rounds)

Online for most; [check website](#) for information.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS



THE WALTER W. NAUMBURG FOUNDATION

The Walter W. Naumburg Competition is the oldest classical music competition in the world. In 2026, our 100th anniversary year, we will be holding our international violin competition.

MAIN OFFICE

Walter W. Naumburg Foundation
130 Claremont Avenue
New York, NY 10027
UNITED STATES
917-493-4040

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to violinists of every nationality. The competitors must be at least 18 years old and no more than 32 years old and cannot be 33 years old on or before November 1, 2026.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings • Violin

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Annual |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | \$5,000 to \$10,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances, Recording |
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$150 |
| Application deadline | September 7, 2026 |
| Application notes | Repertoire choices and recorded performances should illustrate the extent of your technical command, variety of your interpretative abilities, and your understanding of different performance styles. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 30, 2026, New York, NY

FINALS (live rounds)

November 1, 2026, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



MICHAEL LUDWIG NEMMERS PRIZE IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

Established in 2003 by the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, the Michael Ludwig Nemmers Prize in Music Composition honors composers of outstanding achievement. The winner receives \$150,000 and is expected to participate in two nonconsecutive weeks of residency at the Bienen School.

MAIN OFFICE

Bienen School of Music
Northwestern University
Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Center for the Musical Arts
70 Arts Circle Drive
Evanston, IL 60208
UNITED STATES
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to living classical composers without regard to citizenship. Submit nominations by email to nemmersmusic@northwestern.edu. The recipient is expected to participate in two nonconsecutive residencies at the Bienen School.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
First prize More than \$50,000
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 1 to 5
Application deadline January 14, 2026
Application deadline See [here](#) for full application guidelines

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS [!\[\]\(0d5ec72f61334709c3fc9450209b754f_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(944d59db1282ea95b82255c3404a2195_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(f81abf985c764528084c28d544d04dc4_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(6158d677a88ef2c71bd9d0110ea6e33c_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(0d9bf001ca2042a3be23eb3473c44af5_img.jpg\)](#)

NEP CALL FOR SCORES

Since 1985, the New England Philharmonic has been one of the few orchestras of its size in the country with a composer-in-residence program that holds an annual Call for Scores competition, receiving submissions from around the world. Winning scores are performed on one of our season's programs.

MAIN OFFICE

PO Box 231168
Boston, MA 02123
UNITED STATES
855-463-7445
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Submissions are welcome from all composers based in the U.S. and internationally. The submitted score must be no longer than 15 minutes. Application fee of \$40 per score must accompany each submission. Composers may submit as many scores as desired. Submissions must follow instrumentation guidelines.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Composition

DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Annual |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury chair | Carlos Carrillo, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign |
| Additional jurors | Jury comprised of members of the New England Philharmonic: Tianhui Ng, music director; Jason Coleman, principal cello; Jason Huffman, principal trumpet; Tammy Gibson, principal clarinet; Danielle Maddon, concertmaster |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$40 |
| Application deadline | September 15, 2026 |

FINALS (live rounds)

Winner will be announced by December 5, 2026.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Not open to the public

SOCIAL LINKS [!\[\]\(2885535958616e9ec6b97903614c334b_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(9617090d30d69647517339fb4821ff48_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(559d1ce848565d634b6a83442f2340e6_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(995894ac014332fa387035c79a674477_img.jpg\)](#)

NEUE STIMMEN INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION

NEUE STIMMEN is a unique platform designed to promote the careers of young opera singers. Aside from discovering talents, we offer long-term advice and provide personalized support. Singers may participate in concerts, master classes, workshops, and career coaching seminars. Former participants benefit from the international partner network.

MAIN OFFICE

Liz Mohn Center
Carl-Bertelsmann-Strasse 256
33311 Gütersloh
GERMANY
+49 5241 81 81 372
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Singers of any nationality; women and men up to 30 years old, born on or after October 11, 1995.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
First prize €10,000 to €50,000
Smallest prize €5,000 to €10,000
Additional prizes Performances, Management, Recording

Jury chair

Alexander Neef, general director, Opéra National de Paris

Additional jurors

Sophie de Lint, director, Dutch National Opera; Samuel Gelber, director of artistic planning & operations, Washington National Opera; Boris Ignatov, casting director, Opera Stuttgart; Bernd Loebe, general director, Opera Frankfurt; Elisabeth Sobotka, general director, Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Berlin; and more.

Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee No application fee
Application deadline February 8, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April-June 2026, cities worldwide such as Amsterdam, Berlin, Cape Town, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Munich, New York, Paris, Buenos Aires, Vienna, Warsaw, Zurich: Preliminary rounds

FINALS (live rounds)

October 3-10, 2026, Gütersloh, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

The triennial 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 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 Only

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
Jury size 6 to 10
Application fee \$135

Application deadline

2028; deadline to be announced

Application notes

The application deadline for the 2026 competition has passed; the application for the 2029 competition will be available in 2028 on the EOIVC website.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 8-10, 2026, in-person preliminary round; January 14-15, 2026, semifinal round; Lynn Conservatory of Music; Boca Raton, FL

FINALS (live rounds)

January 18, 2026, Elaine and Keith C. Johnson World 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, Suite 20E
New York, NY 10022
UNITED STATES
212-580-3011
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

All voice types between the ages 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 10, 2026 |

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 PARKHOUSE AWARD

For over three decades The Parkhouse Award has been selecting outstanding emerging ensembles of piano with strings, presenting them in London and across the United Kingdom. Support and advice is offered over a two-year period with continuing support thereafter. For 2027, the Award is open to piano trios only.

MAIN OFFICE

Hamilton Cottage
Waterloo Road, Cranbrook
Kent TN17 3JJ
UNITED KINGDOM
+44 07721 672348
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Piano Trio

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| Additional Prizes | Performances, Management |
| Jury chair | To be announced |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | €60 |
| Application deadline | November 30, 2026 |
| Application notes | The application for the 2027 competition will be available mid-2026; see website for details |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2027 (dates to be announced), London, United Kingdom

FINALS (live rounds)

Spring 2027 Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS





GEZA•ANDA FOUNDATION

CONCOURS GÉZA•ANDA

17TH INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

INFORMATION



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JURY CHAIR
GERHARD OPPITZ
MUSIKKOLLEGIUM WINTERTHUR

TONHALLE-ORCHESTER ZÜRICH

26TH MAY > 5TH JUNE
2027



2026 Lillian and Maurice Barbash J.S. Bach Competition

For string players ages 16-30

Submission Deadline: June 14, 2026

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

Second Place: \$2,500 | Finals: Thursday, October 15, 2026
Staller Center Recital Hall, Stony Brook University, NY

jsbachcompetition.org



PLOWMAN CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

Since 2006, The Plowman Chamber Music Competition has provided an opportunity for aspiring chamber musicians to perform live for an audience and a panel of judges, with cash awards totaling over \$12,000, including \$5,000 Grand Prize and a concert at the Odyssey Chamber Music Series in 2028.

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 April 2027 are not eligible. The ensemble may not have more than one piano. See [here](#) for 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 | To be announced |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$50 per person (\$60 after Feb 8) |
| Application deadline | February 8, 2027 |
| Application notes | Regular deadline: February 8, 2027; deadline with late fee: February 15, 2027 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 3, 2027, First Baptist Church, Columbia, MO

FINALS (live rounds)

April 4, 2027, Missouri Theatre, Columbia, MO

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ 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. The year 2026 features conductors younger than 35 years. A worldwide scope of candidates is invited to be assessed by an internationally distinguished jury. The 2028 competition will focus on violin. Princess Astrid of Norway is the royal patron of the competition.

MAIN OFFICE

Kjøpmannsgata 46
7010 Trondheim
NORWAY
+47 900 93 139
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Conductors below age 35 at the time of the competition. The candidate must provide 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 \$10,000 to \$50,000
Smallest prize Less than \$5,000
Additional prize Performances

Jury chair

Oksana Lyniv, conductor

Additional jurors

Martyn Brabbins, conductor; Margareth Brouwer, composer; Simon Rössler, CEO, Karajan Academy; Julia Neher, principal viola, TSO; Håvard Gimse, concert pianist; Mei-Ann Chen, conductor

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline April 10, 2026

Application notes

Applications open as of January 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

August 24-27, 2026, Three rounds with orchestra. Trondheim Symfoniorkester & Opera, Olavshallen, Trondheim, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)

August 24-27, 2026, Public concert. Trondheim Symfoniorkester & Opera, Olavshallen, Trondheim, Norway

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



PRISMA FESTIVAL & ACADEMY:
CONCERTO COMPETITION

PRISMA's annual Concerto Competition provides young, talented instrumentalists with an opportunity to showcase their musical prowess and win prizes. There are two categories: strings and others (woodwinds, brass, percussion). The competition consists of two rounds, preselection and competition. One winner in each category will perform with the PRISMA Festival Orchestra.

MAIN OFFICE

4313 Alberta Avenue, Suite 9
Powell River, BC V8A 5G7
CANADA
855-5PRISMA
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Students accepted to attend the 2026 PRISMA Festival & Academy; previous first prize winners are excluded from the competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Strings • Winds • Brass • Percussion • All Instruments of the Orchestra

DETAILS

Travel covered? No
Frequency Annual
Additional prize Performances
Jury chair Not provided
Jury size 11 or more

Application fee \$60-\$85
Application deadline April 15, 2026

Application notes

Submit an unedited video via YouTube; send the video link to admissions@prismafestival.com before April 15, 2026. See [here](#) for full competition rules and details.

FINALS (live rounds)

June 17, 2026, 7:30 pm, piano. Evergreen Theatre, Powell River, BC, Canada; June 26, 2026, 7:30 pm, Showcase performances, Evergreen Theatre, Powell River, BC, Canada; June 27, 2026, 6 pm, Reprise performance. Willingdon Beach Park, Powell River, BC, Canada

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✗ Semifinals ✗ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



QUEEN ELISABETH COMPETITION—BELGIUM

Since 1937, The Queen Elisabeth Competition is one of the most demanding and widely publicized international competitions, having established itself as a springboard for young violinists, pianists, singers, and cellists on the threshold of an international career. In 2027, the Queen Elisabeth Competition will be dedicated to the voice; the best young singers from the four corners of the world will compete in Brussels, Belgium, May 9 – June 2, 2027.

MAIN OFFICE

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

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

See [Voice 2027](#) for details

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 chairs | Gilles Ledure, winner, cello 2026; Bernard Foccroulle, voice 2027 |
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application deadlines | November 25, 2026 |
| Application notes | The deadline above is for Voice 2027 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 4-16, 2026, cello; May 12-13, 2027: voice. Flagey, Brussels, Belgium

FINALS (live rounds)

May 25-30, 2026, cello; May 22, 2027: voice. Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



Alfred University

MostArts Festival



The 10th Season

YOUNG PIANIST COMPETITION

JULY 12-18, 2026

\$10,000 **Grand Prize**

\$5,000 **Second Prize**

\$2,500 **Third Prize**

\$500 **Audience Award**

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

APRIL 17, 2026

WWW.ALFRED.EDU/MOSTARTS

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 1995 or later may apply to take part in the 2027 competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Voice

DETAILS

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Biennial |
| First prize | More than \$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 deadline | April 1, 2027 |
| Application notes | Applications open February 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

June 2027: Preliminary rounds will be held online and live. All participants must provide their own pianist, a suitable room, and the technical equipment needed for their performance; August 28-29, 2027: Participants will perform one to two arias and two to three Lieder, piano accompanists will be provided, although candidates may bring their own if they prefer. Norwegian Academy of Music, Oslo, Norway

FINALS (live rounds)

September 2, 2027, Six finalists will perform with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra; repertoire chosen by the jury from the contestant's list of arias. Oslo Konserthus, Oslo, Norway The final concert will be live-streamed and distributed via OperaVision.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



REDLANDS BOWL PERFORMING ARTS YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION

The Redlands Bowl Young Artists Competition celebrates exceptional young instrumentalists and vocalists. Contestants gain auditioning and performance experience through a three-tiered process: video submissions, a semifinal round, and the Grand Finals at the Redlands Bowl Summer Music Festival featuring a full orchestra and cash prizes.

MAIN OFFICE

168 South Eureka Street
Redlands, CA 92399
UNITED STATES
909-793-7316

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

See here for [eligibility requirements](#)

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • Strings • Voice • Wind • Percussion

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 | March 9, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 19, 2026, University of Redlands, Redlands, CA

FINALS (live rounds)

June 23, 2026, Redlands Bowl Performing Arts, Redlands, CA

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



THE 18TH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN INTERNATIONAL PIANO MASTER COMPETITION

Named after one of the 20th century’s greatest pianists, the Competition is one of the world’s leading and most influential piano competitions. The 2026 Competition will take place April 28 – May 15, 2026.

MAIN OFFICE

9 Bilu Street
Tel Aviv 6522214
ISRAEL
972-3-6856684
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to pianists 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 & piano pedagogue

Additional jurors

Martha Argerich, Daniel Barenboim, Yefim Bronfman, Akiko Ebi, Taiseer Elias, Ian Fountain, Pavel Gililov, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Ella Milch-Sheriff, Piotr Paleczny, Soo Jung Shin

Jury size 11 or more
Application fee \$190
Application deadline August 15, 2025
Application notes

The Competition is held every three years; the deadline for the 2026 event has passed. The application deadline date for the 2029 competition will be in 2028, date to be announced.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

April 28 – May 15, 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; May 15, Awards ceremony and winners concert, Charles Bronfman Auditorium, Tel Aviv, Israel

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



SCHADT NATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

Begun in 1997 following a bequest to the Allentown Symphony Association from Edwin H. and Leigh W. Schadt, the Schadt National Competition alternates biennially between violin and cello. 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 age 31 by December 1, deadline year); proof of United States citizenship is required. If not a citizen, a copy of 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

2028 To be announced; jury members for the 2024 cello edition: Anthony Elliot, Norman Fischer, Julian Schwarz, and David Ying.

Jury size 1 to 5
Application fee \$80
Application deadline December 1, 2027
Application notes

The following pieces are not allowed for the 2028 competition: Joe Jaxson Cello Concerto; Aulis Sallinen Cello Concerto; and Richard Strauss *Don Quixote*

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

March 4, 2028, Cello. Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown PA

FINALS (live rounds)

March 5, 2028, Cello. 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 offers 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; the deadlines are three weeks prior to the competition dates.

FINALS (live rounds)

Please see [website](#) for all competition dates and locations.

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



THE NATION'S PREMIER VOCAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG SINGERS

PERFORMANCE & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG SINGERS

FEATURING:

- \$650K in Cash Awards & Scholarships
- Master Classes with Renowned Artists
- Direct Feedback from Adjudicators
- Divisions for High School & Undergrad Singers



FIND A REGIONAL COMPETITION NEAR YOU!

Visit our website to view the full schedule of competitions and more opportunities. [schmidt vocal arts.org](#)



SCHOENFELD INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

Schoenfeld International String Competition was founded in 2013 in honor of violinist Alice Schoenfeld and 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

Open to competitors from all nations who are not older than 32 years old; previous first prize winners are not eligible

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Piano • 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 chair | To be announced |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application fee | To be determined |
| Application deadline | January 1, 2027 |
| Application notes | The application guidelines and details will be announced in the fall of 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

July 2027 (dates to be announced). Violin, cello, Harbin, China

FINALS (live rounds)

July 2027 (dates to be announced). Violin, cello, Harbin, China

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



XIV INTERNATIONAL JEAN SIBELIUS VIOLIN COMPETITION

XIII International Jean Sibelius Violin Competition was held in Helsinki in 2025. First and second rounds with pianist and finals with two symphony orchestras, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra

MAIN OFFICE

Sibelius Academy
PO Box 38
FI-00097 Uniarts
FINLAND

+358 40 7104 217

[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all violinists born in 1995 or later, check website for up-to-date details

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings • Violin

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Travel covered? | To be determined |
| Frequency | Quinquennial |
| 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 | January 15, 2029 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Dates and location to be announced

FINALS (live rounds)

Dates to be announced, Violin soloist with two symphony orchestras, Sibelius Violin Concerto and a volitional concerto listed in the rules. Helsinki Music Centre, Finland

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 establish themselves 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

The winner of the competition will be an emerging talented conductor with relevant postgraduate study qualifications and experience of conducting professional orchestras. Applicants from any country are welcome to apply. Applications for the 2026 competition are now closed.

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 & artistic advisor, The Hallé

Additional jurors

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

Jury size 6 to 10
Application deadline Not provided

Application notes

Applications for the 2029 competition will be available 2028, details to be announced

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

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

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



SPHINX COMPETITION

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

MAIN OFFICE

2200 Hunt Street, Suite 461
Detroit, MI 48207
UNITED STATES
313-877-9100 x712
[email](#) [website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Junior Division participants must not have reached their 18th birthday by February 1, 2027. Participants in the Senior Division must be at least 18 years old but not have reached their 31st birthday by February 1, 2027. Participants must be a U.S. resident or have a valid U.S. visa.

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 1 to 5
Application deadline October 20, 2026
Application notes See [here](#) for application and details

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

January 22, 2027, Detroit, MI

FINALS (live rounds)

January 23-24, 2027, Detroit, MI

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

✓ Semifinals ✓ Semifinals streamed
✓ Finals ✓ Finals streamed

SOCIAL LINKS



11TH INTERNATIONAL LOUIS SPOHR COMPETITION | YOUNG VIOLINISTS

The Louis Spohr Competition is an instrument for promoting highly gifted musicians. Focusing on artists up to the age of 21, it offers the opportunity to attract the attention of an international jury. Divided into three age categories and three rounds, the competition promises prizes totaling €16,000 and special prizes.

MAIN OFFICE

Hochschule für Musik FRANZ LISZT Weimar
Competition Office
Platz der Demokratie 2/3
D-99423 Weimar
GERMANY
+49 (0)363 555 150

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

ELIGIBILITY

See [eligibility Information here](#).

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| First prize | €10,000 to €50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than €5,000 |
| Additional prizes | Performances |
| Jury chair | Friedemann Eichhorn, Weimar, Germany |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | €100 |
| Application deadline | June 15, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 2-4 2026, University of Musik FRANZ LISZT Weimar, Festsaal Fürstenhaus, Weimar, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)

November 5-6, 2026, Musikgymnasium Schloss Belvedere, Saal, Weimar, Germany

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 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 younger as of January 1. 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 | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Jury chair | Not provided |
| Additional jurors | Suli Xue, violin; James Dunham, viola; Anne Francis-Bayless, cello |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | \$150 |
| Application deadline | February 1, 2026 |
| Application notes | Applications are open annually October 15 – February 1 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

May 14, 2026 Semifinal rehearsals; May 15, 2026 semifinal performances. Twelve semifinalists perform the piece/movement(s) submitted in their application; no substitutions allowed. Total time for semifinals concerto performances must be no more than 20 minutes and be from memory; collaborative pianists will be provided. Six finalists will be chosen. Kalamazoo, MI

FINALS (live rounds)

May 16, 2026, Finalists perform additional repertoire to determine medalists. Performances limited to 15 minutes and can consist of single or multiple movements of a single work. Kalamazoo, MI

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



3RD STUTTGART INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

Taking place February 21-28, 2027, in cooperation with the University of Music and Performing Arts Stuttgart, the Guadagnini Foundation will host the 3rd Stuttgart International Violin Competition.

MAIN OFFICE

Guadagnini Stiftung
Postfach 150502
70077 Stuttgart
GERMANY
+49 170 80 578 32
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Violinists of all nationalities no older than 28 years of age at the date of the registration deadline are entitled to participate. See [website](#) for details.

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 | Prof. Christoph Poppen |
| Additional jurors | Prof. Nora Chastain, Dr. Harald Eggebrecht, Prof. Ning Feng, Prof. Ida Kavafian, Prof. Friederike Starkloff, Prof. Ulf Wallin, Prof. Tianwa Yang |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | July 31, 2027 |
| Application notes | here for details |

FINALS (live rounds)

February 25, 2028, Rehearsals with orchestra for finals. Concert Hall UMPA; Beethoven Hall, Stuttgart, Germany
February 27, 2028, Final round with orchestra. Beethoven Hall, Stuttgart, Germany
February 28, 2028, First prize winner gala concert with orchestra, Liederhalle, Stuttgart, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



TORU TAKEMITSU COMPOSITION AWARD 2027

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

HEALTH & SAFETY

[Policies/procedures for this competition](#)

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Annual |
| First prize | \$10,000 to \$50,000 |
| Smallest prize | Less than \$5,000 |
| Jury chair | Sean Shepherd, United States |
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | Free |
| Application deadline | September 30, 2026 |
| Application notes | Please submit two copies of the bound score, together with a completed entry form. Mailed entries must be received by 6 pm Japan Standard Time on the application deadline date. |

FINALS (live rounds)

May 30, 2027, 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 choice to the compulsory program. Next competition will take place December 2027.

MAIN OFFICE

c/o Beethovenfest Bonn
Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 3
53113 Bonn
GERMANY
+49 (0)228 - 20 10 3 52
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

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

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Piano

DETAILS

Travel covered? Yes
Frequency Biennial
First prize More than €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 2027; specific date to be announced
Application notes
Application forms will open approximately December 2026.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
December 2027, Preliminary and semifinal rounds;
Telekom Zentrale, Bonn, Germany

FINALS (live rounds)
December 2027, The orchestra final will take place at the Telekom Forum Telekom Zentrale, Bonn, Germany

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?
✓ Semifinals ✓ 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 the top of artistic careers. It is renowned for its high standards, awards, and prestigious jury.

MAIN OFFICE

Via Monte di Pietà 39
13100 Vercelli
ITALY
+39 0161 255 575
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Pianists of all nationalities no older than 30 years old

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Voice

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 December 7, 2026

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)
October 9-14, 2026, Piano, first round through semifinals. City Theatre of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

FINALS (live rounds)
October 17, 2026, Piano. City Theatre of Vercelli, Vercelli, Italy

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

SOCIAL LINKS    

WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The WIC for piano, voice, strings, and composition occurs annually each spring in three-year rotation: the 2026 event will be for voice and the 2027 competition will be for 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

Singers, ages 18 to 32 as of May 23, 2026. Applicants must not be under professional management. Previous first-prize winners of the competition and current students of the judges may not apply. See here for [full eligibility details](#).

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 |
| Jury chair | Not provided |

Additional jurors

Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano; Nicholas Phan, tenor; Karen Slack, soprano

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Jury size | 1 to 5 |
| Application fee | No application fee |
| Application deadline | February 15, 2026 |
| Application notes | |

In the preliminary round, the preliminary jury will review submissions and select approximately 16 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, 2026, The George Washington University, Washington, DC

FINALS (live rounds)

May 24, 2026, 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



17TH INTERNATIONAL HENRYK WIENIAWSKI VIOLIN COMPETITION

The Competition started in 1935 and is the world's oldest violin competition. Among the prize-winners: Ginette Neveu, Ida Haendel, David Oistrakh, Igor Oistrakh, Wanda Wilkomirska. It is conducted every five years. Contestants perform with piano and chamber orchestra and with symphony orchestra (two concertos, including one by H. Wieniawski).

MAIN OFFICE

Swietoslawska str. 7
61-840 Poznan
POLAND
+48 61 852 26 42; +48 601 757 030
[email](#)

[website](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Violin players of all nationalities born between 1996 and 2008.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Strings • Violin

DETAILS

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Travel covered? | Yes |
| Frequency | Quinquennial |
| First prize | More than €50,000 |
| Smallest prize | €5,000 to €10,000 |
| Additional prize | Performances |

Jury chair

Bartłomiej Nizioł, violonist, 1991 Wieniawski Competition winner

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Jury size | 11 or more |
| Application deadline | January 9, 2026 |

Application notes

The deadline for the 2026 competition has passed. The deadline for 2031 competition will be in January 2031; the specific date will be announced.

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

October 17-18, 2026, Stage 3, Adam Mickiewicz University Auditorium, Poznan, H. Wieniawski str. 1, Poland

FINALS (live rounds)

October 20-22, 2026, Stage 4, Adam Mickiewicz University Auditorium, Poznan, H. Wieniawski str. 1, Poland

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



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 at the start date of the Competition for which they are applying.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES Piano • Voice

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Quadrennial |
| 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 announced |
| Application notes | The dates of the next Competition and the associated application deadline will be announced. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Semifinals | ✓ Semifinals streamed |
| ✓ Finals | ✓ 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 prizewinners.

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 next Competition.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE Strings

DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Travel covered? | No |
| Frequency | Triennial |
| Additional prize | Performances |
| Jury chair | John Gilhooly CBE, director, Wigmore Hall |
| Additional jurors | To be announced |
| Jury size | 6 to 10 |
| Application deadline | October 15, 2027 |
| Application notes | This application deadline is subject to change; the dates of the next competition are not confirmed and will be in 2028 or 2029. |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, Wigmore Hall, London, United Kingdom

FINALS (live rounds)

Date to be announced, 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 | 6 to 10 |
| Application fee | \$95 |
| Application deadline | August 3, 2026 |

SEMIFINALS (live rounds)

November 4-6, 2026, New York, NY

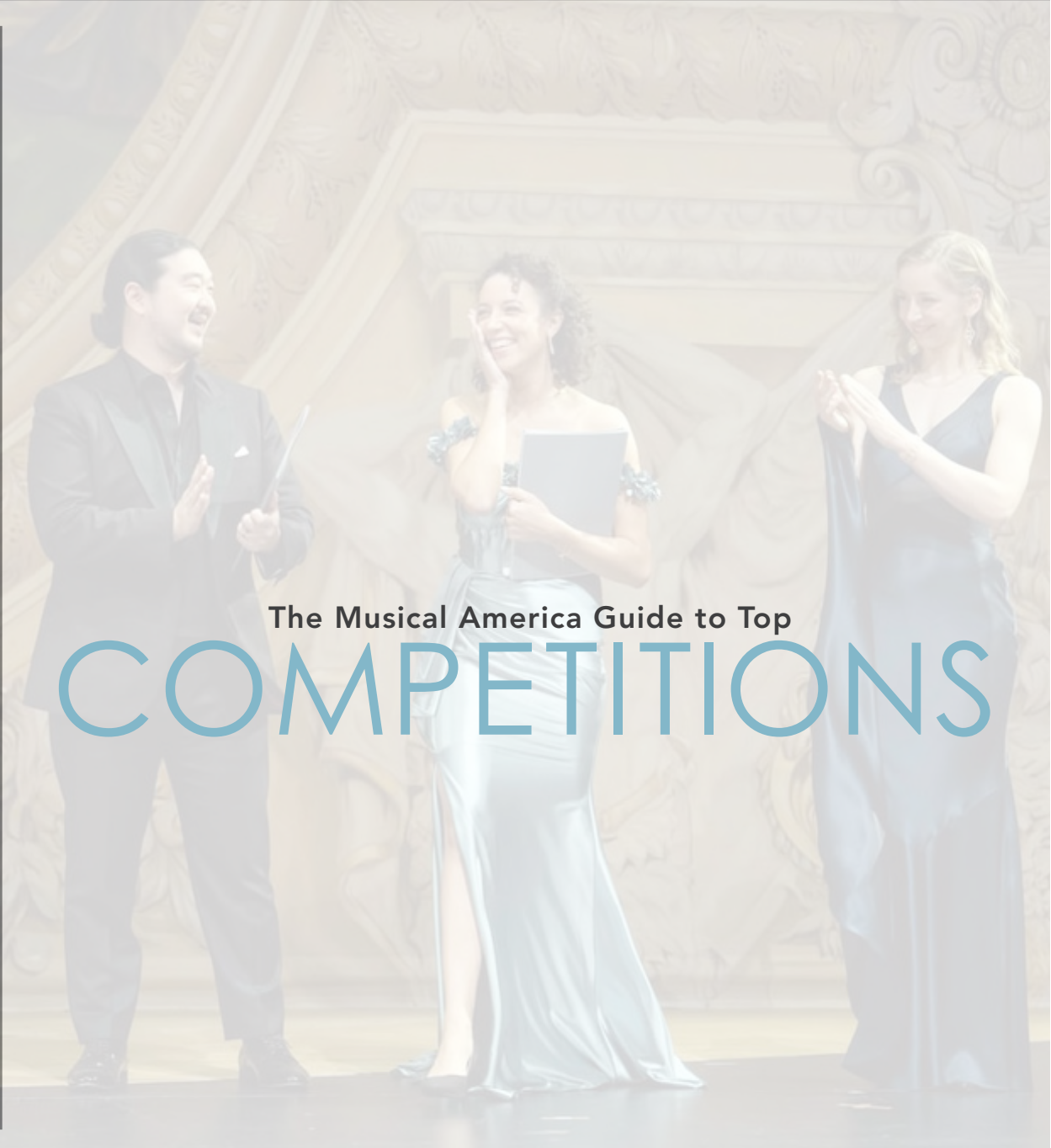
FINALS (live rounds)

November 8, 2026, New York, NY

COMPETITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

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

SOCIAL LINKS



The 2026 Guide to Summer Festivals

Coming 7 April 2026

2026-27 Guide to Music Schools

Coming 8 September 2026

2027 Guide to Summer Camps, Institutes & Programs

Coming 3 November 2026

Questions? Email info@musicalamerica.com

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