



Women's Symphony Association (WSA) 2020 Youth Instrumental Competition Application

Please read completely (Note: Significant changes from previous years are in red):

Dear Students, Teachers, and Parents,

This is the necessary information you will need to review before your participation in the **Women's Symphony Association Youth Instrumental Music Competition** in partnership with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**. The competitions will be held on the following dates:

Junior Competition - For students in grades 7-9

Sunday, February 16, 2020 from 12:30pm-5:30pm

Highland Presbyterian Church, 500 E. Roseville Rd. Lancaster, PA 17601

The winner of the Junior Competition will be invited: (a) to compete for the *\$5,000 college scholarship during the Senior Competition to be held the following week* (see below for details) and (b) to perform in the Young Music Masters Showcase with Allegro Orchestra to be held Sunday, June 14, 2020 at the Ware Center.

Senior Competition - For students in grades 10-12

Sunday, February 23, 2020 from 12:30pm-5:30pm

Highland Presbyterian Church, 500 E. Roseville Rd. Lancaster, PA 17601

On this date, performers will be competing for a \$5,000 WSA college scholarship. In addition, six soloists will be chosen from the Senior Competition, two from each of the **three** following categories: **Piano, String, and Brass, Woodwind & Percussion**,* to perform in the Young Music Masters Showcase with Allegro Orchestra to be held Sunday, June 14, 2020 at the Ware Center.

*Number & organization of the categories subject to change based on the number of competitors. Changes, if any, will be at the discretion of Dr. Brian Norcross and the Chair of the YIC. Any changes will be communicated to all participants in a timely manner.

Young Music Masters Showcase

Sunday, June 14, 2020 at 3:00pm

The Ware Center, 42 North Prince St. Lancaster, PA 17603

The finalists will perform with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**, appearing as guest soloists during the showcase.

*Note: This concert will be a **showcase** of our young musicians' talent and **not** a competition.*

Rehearsal Dates for the Showcase:

There will be two rehearsals for the soloists:

Thursday, June 11, 2020 from 7:00pm to 9:45pm at First United Methodist Church, 29 E. Walnut St., Lancaster.

Saturday, June 13, 2020 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at The Ware Center, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster.

In addition, each soloist will rehearse with Dr. Norcross twice prior to the first rehearsal. The private rehearsal will be scheduled during a time that is mutually convenient.

Deadline Information:

Please contact Dr. Brian Norcross by **December 31, 2019** to ensure the suitability and availability of your repertoire at brian.norcross@fandm.edu. The application deadline is **January 31, 2020**.

The registration forms and rules of the competition are attached. Please review and follow these requirements carefully. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact one of us directly. Thank you for your interest in these competitions. We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

Polly Pearce, Chairperson

2020 Youth Instrumental Competition

(717) 333-0551

polly.pearce22@gmail.com

PO Box 6154, Lancaster, PA 17607-6154

lancasterwsa.org

A copy of the registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

WSA Youth Instrumental Competition Requirements

Please read carefully:

The Junior and Senior Competitions are open to all students who reside in Lancaster County. Former WSA scholarship winners are **not** eligible to compete.

Junior Competition: Students in grades 7–9

Senior Competition: Students in grades 10–12

The registration deadline for the Junior and Senior Competitions is **Friday, January 31, 2020**.

- This is a solo competition and is not open to ensembles (duets, trios, quartets, etc.).
- Repertoire: Competing students choose their own repertoire. Works need to have an available orchestra accompaniment and be 13 minutes or less. Longer repertoire selections will be considered by special request to Dr. Norcross. To confirm the orchestral availability, competing students will need to submit their repertoire selection to Dr. Brian Norcross, Artistic Director of **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**, at brian.norcross@fandm.edu. It is preferred that the solo repertoire not have any cuts. **Repertoire selections are due by Tuesday, December 31, 2019.**
- Applicants must supply four copies of their performance piece with each measure numbered. This will enable the judges to deliver a detailed evaluation.
- Applicants are not required to memorize their competition piece.
- Applicants must supply their own accompanist* for the competition.
**The winner of the Junior Competition (who competes the following week at the Senior Competition) will be compensated (by WSA) for her/his accompanist's performing at the Senior Competition.*
- During the Junior and Senior Competitions, the accompanist should limit lengthy introductory accompaniment to several lead-in measures. Our judges are only interested in the evaluation of the applicant's skills. The movement, when played in its entirety, must fit the guidelines above.
- Applicants must be able to perform their piece at the time of the competition and at a level which is suitable for performance with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**.
- Each applicant is limited to compete on one instrument.
- Rehearsal times for the Junior Competition will be **Saturday, February 15, from 9:00am to 12 noon.**
- Rehearsal times for the Senior Competition will be **Saturday, February 22, from 9:00am to 12 noon.**
Note: The Chair will coordinate specific rehearsal times with the performers.
- Special competition and rehearsal time requests must be made with the return of your completed application. The Chair will try to accommodate all requests within the scheduling format.

Contestants will be judged based on the attached rubric. The decisions of the judges are final. Great care is taken to supply qualified judges from the greater Lancaster music community.

The performances of the Junior and Senior Competitions will be closed to the public except for the judging panel, members of the Women's Symphony Board, and the respective performer's music instructor & parents.

The **Young Music Masters Showcase** in June will be open to the public.

WSA Youth Instrumental Competition Awards

All monetary awards are presented by the **Women's Symphony Association**.

Junior Competition Awards

The **First-Place** winner receives \$300; the opportunity to compete for the WSA Scholarship at the following week's Senior Competition **and** is invited to perform in the Young Music Masters Showcase with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**.

The **Second-Place** winner receives \$200.

The **Third-Place** winner receives \$100.

Senior Competition Awards

- There are three categories* for the Senior Competition:
 - Piano
 - String
 - Brass, Woodwind & Percussion
- The **First-Place** winner in **each** category (three first-place winners total) receives:
 - \$300 **and** is invited to perform in the Young Music Masters Showcase with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**.
- The **Second-Place** winner in **each** category (three second-place winners total) receives:
 - \$200 **and** is invited to perform in the Young Music Masters Showcase with **Allegro Orchestra Lancaster**.
- The **WSA Scholarship Winner** (to be chosen from among the three aforementioned First-Place winners and the winner of the Junior Competition) receives:
 - A \$5,000 college scholarship (\$1,250 per year)**.

* Number & organization of the categories subject to change based on the number of competitors. Changes, if any, will be at the discretion of Dr. Brian Norcross and the Chair of the YIC. Any changes will be communicated to all participants in a timely manner.

** The winner of this scholarship is not required to major in a music-related program, but must attend a college or university for four years in order to receive the full amount.

**WSA Youth Instrumental Competition
Student Application Form**

Check one: **Junior Competition**
 Senior Competition

Registration Deadline for Junior and Senior Competitions: Friday, January 31, 2020

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Parent's/Guardian's Name _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

School _____ Grade _____

Instrument _____ Years of study _____

Name of Private Teacher _____

Composer, Title, and Opus No. - **The duration of the work without cuts must not exceed 13 minutes, unless you have special permission from Dr. Norcross (brian.norcross@fandm.edu).**

_____ / _____

Name of Accompanist _____

I have read the rules of the competition and I agree to abide by all the rules and requirements.

Signature of Student _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Applicants will be notified of their performance time one week in advance.

**WSA Youth Instrumental Competition
Private Teacher Agreement Form**

Check one: **Junior Competition**
 Senior Competition

Registration Deadline for Junior and Senior Competitions: Friday, January 31, 2020

Teacher's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Student's Name _____

Instrument _____

Composer, Title, and Opus No. - **The duration of the work without cuts must not exceed 13 minutes, unless you have special permission from Dr. Norcross (brian.norcross@fandm.edu).**

_____ / _____

I have read the rules of this competition and I agree to abide by all rules and requirements. I understand that NO cuts are to be made in the music for the soloist or the accompanist. I understand that the repertoire, when performed in its entirety, must not exceed 13 minutes in length. I also agree to work with my student's accompanist to ensure that all rules of the competition are followed.

Signature of Teacher _____

This form must be returned with your student's registration form. Without this form, your student's registration will not be complete.

WSA Youth Instrumental Competition Registration Check List

Student's Name _____

Ensure that each of the following is enclosed:

- _____ **\$20.00** non-refundable check made out to the Women's Symphony Association
- _____ Student's signed registration form
- _____ Teacher's signed registration form
- _____ One non-returnable recent photo, high quality, glossy (300dpi) 3"x5" or 2"x4"
- _____ Completed and signed (by parent) photo release (attached).
- _____ Four copies of your performance piece with **measures numbered**.
Photocopies are acceptable for these copies, and will be recycled after the competition.
- _____ This completed checklist

Please mail this checklist and all related documents by Friday, January 31, 2020 to:

Women's Symphony Association
PO Box 6154
Lancaster, PA 17607-6154
Attn: Polly Pearce

Youth Instrumental Music Competition
Women's Symphony Association
(717) 333-0551, polly.pearce22@gmail.com

**WSA Youth Instrumental Competition
PHOTO/IMAGE CONSENT/RELEASE FORM**

I hereby grant to the Women's Symphony Association of Lancaster, PA (WSA) and its designees or assignees, my consent to use, in whole or in part, my photo or graphic image, as taken/created by WSA. This may be used for the purpose of reproducing, distributing, displaying publicly, and/or modifying the photo by any means, whether in print or electronically, on a royalty-free, world-wide basis. These photos/images may be used for advertising, publicity, and other purposes determined appropriate by WSA.

In regard to the use of these photos/images, I hereby waive any right that I may have to monetary compensation, or to inspect or approve the finished product, or the advertising or other uses made of the product. I also release WSA and its designees or assignees from any and all liability that may or could arise from the taking and use of these images.

I have read and understand the assignment and release conditions described above. All of my questions regarding this form have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(Parent or Guardian Must Sign for a Minor)

Printed name of signatory: _____

Participant's Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone:** _____

**Women's Symphony Association
Youth Instrumental Music Competition
JUDGES' FORM/RUBRIC**

Competitor/Instrument/Piece _____:

Judge the competitor in each of the categories below on a scale from 1 to 10, where 10 represents the best.

You can use the following as guidelines as you judge each category:

- 8-10: Competitor demonstrates mastery of most to all of the descriptors in the category.
- 6-7: Competitor demonstrates mastery of some key descriptors in the category.
- 4-5: Competitor demonstrates mastery of only a few descriptors in the category.
OR Competitor is inconsistent in demonstrating mastery of some to most of the descriptors in the category.
- 1-3: Competitor demonstrates little to no mastery of most to all of the descriptors in the category.

| | Comments/ Constructive Criticism | Score 1 - 10 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Tone Quality</u> Beauty, resonance, control, clarity, focus, consistency, warmth | | 10 |
| <u>Interpretation/Musicianship</u> Style, phrasing, tempo, dynamics, emotional involvement, expression, continuity, mood | | 10 |
| <u>Presentation</u> Balance with accompaniment Choice/Challenge of piece Mastery of technical difficulty | | 10 |
| <u>Technique</u> Artistry, intonation, rhythm/rhythmic consistency, attacks and releases, ornamentation, physical articulation (posture/playing position) | | 10 |
| <u>For Piano/Harp:</u> Stability of pulse, wrist and hand control, pedaling OR <u>For Winds/Brass/Strings:</u> Control of ranges, bowing | | 10 |
| <u>Other Factors</u> Appearance, improvisation, poise, stage presence, etc. | | 10 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 60 |

Judge's Name: _____