Women's Symphony Association (WSA)

2023 Youth Instrumental Music Competition (YIMC)

Dear Students, Teachers, and Parents,

This is the necessary information you will need to review before your participation in the WSA's YIMC. As in the past, students are competing for a $5,000 scholarship, other monetary prizes as well as for one of three opportunities to perform with Allegro Orchestra Lancaster (Allegro). In addition, the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra (LSO) is planning to provide performance opportunities for YIMC participants. More information to follow.

All monetary awards are presented by the WSA.

Note: Awards will be given only to those with an average Judges’ score of at least 40 (please see attached Judge’s Rubric).

Junior Competition (Grades 7 through 9) – Saturday, March 11, 2023 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
First United Methodist Church, 29 E. Walnut Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 (parking lot access from E. Lemon Street).

● The First-Place winner receives $300 and the opportunity to compete for the WSA $5,000 Scholarship at the Senior Competition (details below).
● The Second-Place winner receives $200.
● The Third-Place winner receives $100.

Senior Competition Awards (Grades 10 through 12) – Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
First United Methodist Church, 29 E. Walnut Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 (parking lot access from E. Lemon Street).

There are three judging categories* for the Senior Competition:

● Piano
● Strings
● Brass, Woodwind & Percussion

○ The First-Place winner in each category (up to three first-place winners total) receives: $300 AND the opportunity to perform with Allegro at its June 2023 concert. (EXCEPTION & details on next page).
○ The Second-Place winner in each category (up to three second-place winners total) receives: $200.
○ The Third-Place winner in each category (up to three third-place winners total) receives: $100.

● The WSA Scholarship Winner (to be chosen by the Senior Competition judges 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).**

* The number & organization of the categories subject to change based on the number of competitors. Changes, if any, will be made by the Coordinator of the YIMC in consultation with Dr. Brian Norcross, Artistic Director of Allegro. 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.

Deadline Information:
Verify with Dr. Brian Norcross (brian.norcross@fandm.edu) your anticipated piece/repertoire by 12/31/2022.
Send your COMPLETE application packet by 1/31/2023.
The requirements and application materials follow. We look forward to your participation this year!
Applications can also be found at our website: lancasterwsa.org.

Please share with teachers and students who would be interested in our competition.
A reminder: Being a resident of Lancaster County is NO LONGER a requirement for participation.

Sincerely,

Polly Pearce, Coordinator
2023 Youth Instrumental Music Competition
(717) 333-0551
polly.pearce22@gmail.com
Please read carefully and completely:
The Junior and Senior Competitions are open to all students.
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 **Monday, January 31, 2023**.

**NOTE**: Special SENIOR COMPETITION “Number of Entries” Limit:
Due to competition time constraints, the WSA will only accept 12 Senior YIMC entries for the March competition. If the WSA receives more than 12 Senior entries, the Coordinator will arrange to have all entrants judged via recording submissions. In such a case, all relevant instructions will be sent in a timely manner. The top 12 chosen will compete in March.

**YIMC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ENTRANTS:**

- This is a solo competition and is not open to ensembles (duets, trios, quartets, etc.).
- Repertoire: Competing performers 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 of Allegro at brian.norcross@fandm.edu. It is preferred that the solo repertoire not have any cuts. **Repertoire selections are due by Friday, December 31, 2022.**
- Performers must supply four copies of their performance piece with EACH FIRST MEASURE NUMBERED. This will enable the judges to deliver a detailed evaluation. **[PLEASE make sure that all pages of your score are oriented the same (ALL “portrait” OR ALL “landscape”).]**
- Performers are not required to memorize their competition piece.
- An **accompanist is required** for the performance.
- Performers must supply their own accompanist* for the competition.
  *The winner of the Junior Competition (who will also compete 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 just several lead-in measures. Our judges are only interested in the evaluation of the performer’s skills. The movement, when played in its entirety, must fit the guidelines above.
- Performers 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.
- Performers will appear for the competition in **concert dress**.
- **NOTE**: If a performer wishes to compete on no more than TWO distinct instruments, the performer must pay TWO application fees with TWO separate application packets. If said performer has two distinct private instructors, the WSA will need BOTH instructors’ information.
- Rehearsal times for the Junior Competition will be **Friday, March 10**, from 3:00 to 7:00 pm.
- Rehearsal times for the Senior Competition will be **Friday, March 17**, from 3:00 to 7:00 pm.
  - Rehearsals will be held at First United Methodist Church, 29 E. Walnut Street, Lancaster 17602 (parking lot access from E. Lemon Street).
  - **Notes:**
    - The Coordinator will schedule specific rehearsal times for the performers.
    - Special competition and rehearsal time requests must be made with the return of your completed application. The Coordinator will try to accommodate all requests within the scheduling format.
    - 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. To limit distractions of both students and the judges, we must ask all parents to sit in the back.

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.

**Allegro’s June Concert** – Details

YIMC performers at this concert will be the three senior category winners.

**EXCEPTION**: If the YIMC JUNIOR winner ALSO wins the WSA Scholarship, the Junior will replace the Senior winner of the Junior’s category.

**Example**: If the Junior is a pianist & wins the scholarship, the Junior will replace the Senior winner in Piano for the concert. [i.e. There will be no more than three (3) YIMC performers at Allegro’s concert in June.]

**Saturday, June 17, 2022, 7:30 pm**

@ the Gardner Theatre at Lancaster Country Day School, 725 Hamilton Rd, Lancaster PA 17603.

This concert will be open to the public.

If a contestant is selected to perform here, the Rehearsals will occur on:

**Monday, 6/12; Wednesday, 6/14; Friday, 6/16 @ evening times & place(s) TBD.**
NEW FOR 2023: Each participant will introduce her/him/themselves prior to her/his/their performance. If you need assistance, please consult your private instructor. Please be prepared for this.

Check one:  □ Junior Competition
          □ Senior Competition

[PLEASE PRINT NEATLY]
Registration Deadline for Junior and Senior Competitions: Monday, January 31, 2023

Participant’s First & Last Name ____________________________________________ Date of Birth ___________ Age ______

Address No./Street __________________________________________ City________________________ State_____ Zip__________

Parent’s/Guardian’s First & Last Name __________________________________________________________________________________

Parent’s Email ____________________________________________ Participant’s Email ____________________________________________

Parent’s Phone (                   ) – ___________________ Participant’s Phone (                   ) – ___________________

School ____________________________________________________________________________________ Grade__________________

Instrument Years of study_______________ Name of Private Instructor (indicate Dr./Ms./Mr./etc.) ________________________

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).

Accompanist’s First & Last Name (indicate Dr./Ms./Mr./etc.) ________________________ Accompanist is required.

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 (the one identified above) __________________________

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

Reminder to YIMC SENIOR (Grades 10-12) ENTRANTS:

If WSA receives more than 12 Senior entries, the Coordinator will arrange to have all entrants judged via recording submissions. In such a case, all relevant instructions will be sent in a timely manner. The top 12 chosen will then compete in March. NO RECORDINGS ARE REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.

Note: The WSA is committed to inclusion across race, gender, religion and identity.
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/Guardian Must Sign for a Minor)

Printed name of signatory: __________________________

Participant’s Name: ________________________________

Address No./Street __________________________________ City________________________ State_____ Zip_______________

Parent’s email (only if Parent signed) ____________________________ Participant’s email ____________________________

Parent’s Phone (only if Parent signed) (_______) _______ – ___________ Participant’s Phone (_______) _______ – ___________.
Private Instructor Agreement Form
Fill in completely and Return

Check one:
☐ Junior Competition
☐ Senior Competition

[PLEASE PRINT NEATLY]
Registration Deadline for Junior and Senior Competitions: Monday, January 31, 2023

Instructor’s First & Last Name:
(indicate Dr./Ms./Mr./etc.)
___________________________________________________________________________

Address No./Street ____________________________ City________________________ State_____ Zip_______________

Best Phone (                   ) – EMAIL ____________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Student’s (Participant’s) First & Last 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 Instructor_______________________________________________________________________________________________

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

NEW FOR 2023: Each participant will introduce her/him/themselves prior to her/his/their performance. Please assist your student in preparing for this.

Note: The WSA is committed to inclusion across race, gender, religion and identity.
WSA Youth Instrumental Competition
Registration Checklist
Fill in completely and Return

Participant’s First & Last Name _________________________________

Ensure that each of the following is enclosed in the following order:

TOP

1. $20.00 non-refundable check made out to the Women’s Symphony Association

2. Performer’s complete and signed registration form

3. Private Instructor’s complete and signed registration form

4. One non-returnable recent photo of the performer, high quality, glossy (300dpi) 3”x5” or 2”x4”

5. Completed and signed (by parent) photo release (attached).

6. Four copies of your performance piece with every FIRST measure numbered*. [Photocopies are acceptable for these copies, and will be recycled after the competition.]

   * EVERY FIRST MEASURE MUST BE NUMBERED.

7. This completed checklist

BOTTOM

Unless you have a message for the YIMC Coordinator, nothing else should be included in your application packet.

Please mail all of the above by Monday, January 31, 2023 to:

Polly Pearce
12 Red Leaf Lane
Lancaster, PA 17602-7000

Youth Instrumental Music Competition
Women’s Symphony Association
(717) 333-0551
polly.pearce22@gmail.com
### Competitor/Instrument/Piece

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

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.

<<<<<< Award Winners (1st/2nd/3rd place winners) must attain a minimum average Judges’ Score of 40 >>>>>>

### Comments/Constructive Criticism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score 1 - 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tone Quality</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beauty, resonance, control of ranges, clarity, focus, consistency, warmth</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interpretation/Musicianship</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style, artistry, phrasing, tempo, dynamics, emotional involvement, expression, continuity, mood</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance with accompaniment Choice/Challenge of piece Mastery of technical difficulty</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technique</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intonation, rhythm/rhythmic consistency, attacks and releases, stability of pulse, ornamentation, physical articulation (posture/playing position)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Factors</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appearance, improvisation, poise, stage presence, etc.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Following All Directions</th>
<th>NOTE - Please pay attention!</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes or No. Determined by Coordinator or her designee prior to competition.</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**GRAND TOTAL**: 62

Judge’s Printed Name & Signature: _____________________________ / ______________________________

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