

Young Artist/Junior Young Artist Competition

Rules & Regulations

Preamble

Young Artist Competition ("Senior Competition") is an annual winter event open to any* North Olympic Peninsula instrumentalist (piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussionists, etc.), who is within the age range of 4 – 22 years old at the time of the competition, and who did not win first prize in the Senior Competition of the preceding year.

Junior Young Artist Competition ("Junior Competition") is an annual winter event open to any* North Olympic Peninsula instrumentalist (piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussionists, etc.), who is age 14 or under at the time of the competition, and who did not win first prize in any prior Junior or Senior Young Artist Competition.

1. ELIGIBILITY

Only applicants who have lived at least 6 months of the prior year in either Clallam or Jefferson Counties are eligible to compete in the Competitions, with the following exception:

Out-of-county applicants may be eligible if they have participated for a full season with either the Port Angeles Symphony or any other similar musical ensemble (including applicable school ensembles) in Clallam or Jefferson Counties during the year prior to the Competition.

Competitors in the Junior Competition are not eligible for placement or award if they have won 1st Prize in a prior Junior Competition.

Competitors in the Senior Competition are not eligible to win 1st Prize two years in a row. Competitors in the Senior Competition are not eligible to win 1st Prize more than twice in total.

Prior 1st Prize winners may be allowed to perform for the judges for purposes of non-competitive adjudication and commentary, if there is adequate time available in the competition schedule.

2. HOW TO ENTER

Please review all Rules & Regulations before beginning the application process. Entry Forms are available starting on our website **www.portangelessymphony.org.** Fill out the Entry Form completely and legibly, review the fee amount listed on the form (fees may change from year to year), and mail the Entry Form with the fee to **Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra, P.O. Box 2148, Port Angeles, Washington 98362.**

Please be advised that all applications must be postmarked by December 31, 2026. **No late entries will be accepted**. If there are any changes to the program, these must be communicated by Monday January 18, 2027.

NOTE: These Competitions are live; all competitors must be present in order to participate. *No recordings or substitutions of any kind shall be accepted.*

3. TIME LIMITATION

The music performance is not to exceed 10 minutes. The judges will give comments following each performance. Competitors will leave the stage immediately following their being excused by the judges.

4. REPERTOIRE AND PRESENTATION

Repertoire categories:

Competitors are to perform one selection of music of concert quality, ideally demonstrating their level of proficiency and musicianship. A concerto *per se* is not required. However, competitors are to choose pieces that are generally considered part of the classical music repertoire.

Presentation:

Upon taking the stage, competitors are not required to speak but should comport themselves with the courtesy and dignity befitting young performing artists.

Scores:

Competitors shall have four copies of the complete score, including both the solo part and piano accompaniment/reduction, made available to the judges directly prior to the performance. (Please contact the Symphony office if furnishing four copies of the music presents a financial burden on the competitor.) Competitors are urged to utilize the most authoritative editions of their competition pieces.

NOTE: All entrants and accompanists must abide by federal Copyright Law. Photocopies in place of originals are strongly discouraged.

Accompanists:

Competitors must provide their own piano accompanist for the Competitions, if needed. Only piano accompaniment is permitted. Port Angeles Symphony will provide one piano for the accompanists' use during the competition. *Unaccompanied performances will be allowed only if the competition piece is intended specifically for the solo instrument alone.*

5. DATE AND TIME

The Competitions will begin at approximately 9:00 a.m., and competitors should arrive at least 20 minutes prior to their performance. Warm-up facilities will be available to each competitor twenty minutes before their scheduled time slot. A schedule for the day will be sent by email to all participants before the competition date. Please note that the official schedule is subject to change, for any reason, before or on the Competition day.

Competitors who arrive late for their performance may *or may not* be permitted to compete, which decision is left entirely to the judges' discretion. If the judges are not in agreement, then the competitor will be allowed to perform.

Competitors may leave as soon as their performances are completed. Competitors and the public at large are welcome to stay and enjoy the other competitors' performances as long as they are respectful, quiet, and avoid causing any and all distraction to other competitors. Any violation shall result in the immediate dismissal of the competitor from the premises and that competitor will be disqualified from any competition award.

6. JUDGING CRITERIA

Each judge will evaluate the competitors on a number of criteria, such as range, artistic ability, technique, interpretation, phrasing and presence, among others, and will assign a ranking.

The competitors with the 3 highest rankings shall be granted 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and 3rd Prize awards.

Competitors cannot "tie" for a prize. In the event that two competitors' scores are equal, then the judges shall confer to decide a tie-breaking point between the two competitors, and place them accordingly.

Please note that the **decision of the judges is final**. Written feedback from the judges will be e-mailed to the performers or teachers, in a timely manner, provided an e-mail address is furnished.

7. AWARDS

Cash awards for the Senior Competition will be: 1st Prize – $500; 2nd Prize – $250; 3rd Prize – $200. For the Junior Competition, the awards will be: 1st Prize – $250; 2nd Prize – $125; 3rd Prize – $75.

There will not be an awards ceremony, so competitors are free to leave once their performances are completed. Results will be e-mailed to competitors by the evening after the Competitions.

The winners (or any participant) may be asked to perform at an orchestra concert or event. By accepting the award, winners agree to participate in a concert or event at the behest of the Port Angeles Symphony.

All awards and/or prizes will be awarded unless there is an insufficient number of eligible participants. Prizes and awards are non-assignable / non-transferable. Cash awards are paid in USD, currency conversions to local currency are at winner's expense at the time of conversion. All federal, state, provincial, autonomous, and local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.

8. TRAVEL EXPENSES

Competitors are responsible for their own as well as their accompanists' travel and accommodation expenses.

9. DRESS CODE

Proper dress attire is required for competitors. So, please **NO** dresses shorter than knee level, casual blue jeans, pants with holes, sneakers, tennis shoes, flip flops, shorts, tank tops, or t-shirts.

10. PHOTO/VIDEO

Photography and video recording are **strictly prohibited** during the Competitions. Port Angeles Symphony reserves the right to take video or photographs for its own uses, but will not do so during competition performances.

11. PUBLICITY

By submitting an entry form, each entrant, parent or legal guardian (if such entrant is a minor), authorizes the use of competitor's name, photo, audio and/or video recording for the publicity and advertisement purposes related to the Competitions by the Port Angeles Symphony.

12. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra, Inc. – A Nonprofit Organization – is not responsible for and shall not be held liable for (a) lost, late, delayed, damaged, incomplete, illegible, unintelligible, or misdirected entries; (b) telephone, electronic, hardware or software program, network, Internet, or computer malfunctions, failures, or difficulties of any kind; (c) failed, incomplete, partial, garbled, or delayed computer transmissions; (d) any condition caused by events beyond the control of Port Angeles Symphony that may cause the competition to be disrupted; (e) any printing or typographical errors in any materials associated with the competition; (f) any claims, suits, actions, liabilities, injuries, losses, or damages of any kind in connection with the competition or resulting from acceptance, possession, or use of any prizes and awards, or any damage to person or property that results from any condition of the premises or action or omission of any person.

By entering this competition, each entrant, parent or legal guardian (if such entrant is a minor) agrees to accept these rules and be bound by the decisions of Port Angeles Symphony, its judges and staff, which are final and binding in all matters.

Please note that all fees are ***non-refundable*** *and are quoted in USD. Port Angeles Symphony does not account or have any liability for any participants' bank fees and charges that may be levied as a result of currency conversion, foreign exchange transaction, or a non-sufficient funds (NSF) transaction. If a check bounces due to account closed, stop payment, fraudulent, or NSF, status you will be required to pay the full-face amount plus $30 penalty fee, in addition to any charges imposed by the participating bank or institution.*

Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Should any competitor be found to have operated any unfair advantage over other competitors, or in any way found to have sabotaged other performances or manipulated the results of the judges' opinions in any way, or shown to have placed undue pressure on any other competitor or accompanist, such competitor shall be removed from the premises and disqualified from any competition award.

By competing, each competitor acknowledges that the Port Angeles Symphony, the competition and all competitors and participants are the invited guests of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Each competitor agrees to treat the facility and its members and staff with respect and will behave with honorable dignity and respect while upon the premises.

All rules and regulations are governed by the laws of the State of Washington and are subject to change without notice.