



## **The Reno Philharmonic Youth Orchestras' Annual Concerto Competition**

The purpose of the competition is to set a high bar for young musicians. The RPA recognizes the talent of young musicians in our region and wants to challenge them beyond standard youth literature. This annual competition provides both motivation for area musicians to improve and a venue for the community to hear the winner(s) perform with a full orchestra. Additionally, preparation for the winner's performance provides youth orchestra musicians the opportunity to collaborate with a soloist.

All young people, including RPYO members, may choose to participate in the Reno Philharmonic Youth Orchestras' annual Concerto Competition. The categories are junior strings, senior strings, junior piano, senior piano, and winds/brass/percussion. \$250 cash prizes are given to winners of each division. One or two grand prize winners may be selected. Grand prize winners perform their concerto with the YSO. Entry fee of \$50 is due at the time of application submission and is non-refundable. Students may submit entries in two categories if they choose.

Applications are available at [renophil.com](http://renophil.com) and are due by December 1, each year. Entry fee of \$50 is due within 2 business days of application submission and is non-refundable.

- Works on the Pre-Approved Concerti list at [renophil.com](http://renophil.com) are acceptable for entry without further approval. Both concerto and non-concerto works for solo/duo and orchestra not on the list are acceptable if approval is given directly by Dr. Altieri. Works can be approved at any point during the year by e-mailing the Youth Orchestra Manager. Considerations for approval are: length, difficulty, cost of music purchase/rental, and recent performance of the work.
- Typically only a single movement is performed, but multiple shorter movements will be considered. Applicants should indicate which movement(s) are being entered in the competition. Total time should not exceed 15 minutes.
- Memorization is encouraged but not required.
- The competition is open to public viewing.
- There is an "on-deck" room where each entrant will be allowed to warm up just prior to going on stage. All other practice and preparation should be done prior to arriving on site.
- Deadlines are in place so that accompanists, judges, and other competitors are not inconvenienced. Once distributed, the schedule will not be modified for late applicants.
- Students must provide their own accompanist. Cuts in the accompaniment are acceptable.
- The grand prize winners have the opportunity to perform with the YSO. (The winning concerto must be the piece performed with the YSO.) Seniors



will typically play on the Spring concert, other winners could be featured on either the Spring or Fall concert. Other performance opportunities, Renown concerts, and tours may also include a winning concerto. Winners should plan to attend at least three Monday night rehearsals with the YSO.

## **Eligibility**

- Any elementary, middle or high school student residing in the following counties may compete:
  - Nevada: Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Esmerelda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, Washoe, White Pine
  - California: El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sierra
- Junior divisions are for musicians 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below. Senior divisions are for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above. All winds/brass/percussion entries compete in the same division.

## **Adjudication**

- A panel of three judges will be selected who can provide an informed and impartial assessment of each entry. Initial suggestions for adjudicators will be provided by the youth orchestra manager for final approval by Dr. Altieri.
- To promote impartiality, judges will not be announced prior to the competition
- All entrants receive a digital summary of comments from each judge.
- Entries will be judged in the following categories:
  - Tempo
  - Sound Production/Quality
  - Accuracy of Rhythms/Notes
  - Phrasing/Dynamics
  - Style/Interpretation
  - Technical Fluency/Command
  - Stage Presence
  - Intonation (n/a piano and percussion)
  - Balance (piano only)
  - Pedaling (piano only)