



SAN JOSE YOUTH
SYMPHONY

YAIR SAMET, MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

SJYS Concert Orchestra Solo Competition

The San Jose Youth Symphony's Concert Orchestra holds its annual **Solo Competition** every spring, proudly sponsored by the San Jose Symphony Foundation.

The Competition will take place on **Sunday, April 13, 2025, 6:30 pm**, in the **Sanctuary of Los Gatos United Methodist Church (LGUMC)** at 111 Church Street, Los Gatos.

Please read all the following pages carefully and thoroughly to familiarize yourself with the competition's rules and guidelines.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The Solo Competition is open only to members of the Concert Orchestra -- ***who have demonstrated full commitment within the terms of the SJYS Membership Agreement [i.e., exemplary attendance at rehearsals and all concerts, summer camp (for the season of the competition and the season of performance), and tour (if promoted to the Philharmonic Orchestra, and the tour occurs during the season of the performance)]***
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- Members of the Concert Orchestra ***may not compete in the year they are graduating from SJYS.***
- Winners of the competition will perform their piece in one of the Concert Orchestra's concerts scheduled for the following season, and will receive a monetary prize in the form of a discount applicable towards the following season's member tuition:
 - 1st prize -- \$300
 - 2nd prize -- \$200
 - 3rd prize -- \$100
- SJYS cannot guarantee that the winners will be able to perform their piece in its entirety as it depends on the length of the piece and its instrumentation.



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APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications are being accepted from now until **January 31, 2025**. No new applications will be accepted after this deadline.
- Fill out and submit the online **Solo Competition application form**; **within a week after submission, a request for payment by PayPal/Credit for the \$40 application fee, will be sent to you by email.**
- All applicants **MUST EMAIL A LINK TO A RECORDING OF THEIR PERFORMANCE of the selected piece for the competition; The recording must include two contrasting movements (or one if the piece has only one movement).**
- All applications will be prescreened. A maximum of 10 applicants will be chosen for the competition and will be announced within two weeks from the application filing deadline.
- SJYS will schedule a performance time and will notify the applicant of the assigned time no later than two weeks prior to the competition date.
- All applicants must be on call to perform at any time during the evening of the competition, in case of potential last-minute schedule changes.

COMPETITION RULES

- Contestants may play any orchestral instrument.
- Double or triple concertos are accepted.
- Vocalists or pianists or non-orchestral instrumental musicians may not apply.
- Contestants are not permitted to enter the competition with a concerto that was performed by the Concert Orchestra during the previous year.



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- SJYS strongly recommends that contestants choose pieces from the sample list included later in this document (at pp. 4-6).
- If the applicant wishes to perform a concerto that is not included in the sample list, ***he/she must submit a request for approval from the Conductor, Dr. Scott Homer, by October 31, 2024.***
- SJYS will notify the applicant by the end of November, whether the concerto selected is acceptable, based on the level of the piece, instrumentation, and other relevant factors.
- ***All contestants must prepare two full contrasting movements from their concerto. SJYS highly encourages Concert Orchestra members to play their piece from memory, although it is not required.***
- All contestants must provide their own accompanist for the competition and ***notify SJYS of their choice of accompanist by NO LATER THAN February 15, 2025.***
- ***All contestants MUST SUBMIT TWO COPIES OF THEIR MUSIC (EITHER THE SOLO OR THE ACCOMPANIMENT) of the music performed, WITH THE APPLICATION;***
- Contestants who arrive after their assigned time will not be allowed to perform. Please plan to arrive early and warm up in the room provided;
- Contestants may not exchange audition times with other contestants.



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THE COMPETITION

- The competition will be divided into three categories: strings, woodwinds/brass, and double/triple concertos;
- No more than three winners will be chosen. The judges have the right to choose no winners in the event that the level of performance does not meet the standards of competition. The decision of the judges is final;
- The judges will announce the winners at the conclusion of the competition;
- SJYS members and parents are welcome to attend the competition as observers;
- SJYS expects that the winners keep their performance level as high or higher by the first rehearsal date with the orchestra. There will be a mandatory meeting with the conductor one month prior to the first rehearsal date, where the winners are expected to demonstrate their competence in performing the work.
- Competition winners **must be prepared to play their piece for any set of the following season in the event of an exigency**, regardless of which set they are initially assigned to perform or will be disqualified from playing.

Sample list of accepted concerti for Concert Orchestra Solo Competition

Flute:

Chaminade – Concertino op. 107

Haydn – Concerto

Mozart – Andante K. 315

Mozart – Concertos No. 1 or 2

Reinecke – Ballade Op. 288 for flute and orchestra



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Oboe:

Albinoni – Concertos, op.7 No. 3, and op. 9 No. 2

Bellini – Concerto E- flat major

Cimarosa – Concerto c minor

Donizetti - Concertino F major

Haydn – Concerto

Marcello – Concerto c minor

Mozart – Concerto K. 314

Clarinet:

Mozart – Concerto K.622

Stamitz – Clarinet Concerto No. 3

Weber, C.M. – Concertos No. 1or 2, Concertino op. 26

Bassoon:

Mozart – Concerto

Weber, C.M. - Concerto op.75

Horn:

Haydn – Concertos No.1 or 2

Mozart – Concertos No. 1 or 3

Trumpet:

Haydn – Concerto

Hummel – Concerto

Trombone:

Baroque concertos;

L. Mozart

Violin:

Accolay - Concerto

J.S. Bach – Concertos No. 1 & 2

Beethoven – Romances op. 40 & op.50

Bruch – Concerto No. 1 in G minor

Dvorak – Romance in F minor op. 11

Haydn – Concertos no. 1 in C and no. 2 in G

Mozart – Concertos No. 3, 4 or 5

Sarasate - Introduction and Tarantella for Violin and Orchestra



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Violin (continued):

Viotti – Concerto No. 23

Vivaldi – any concerto

Wieniawski – Legende Op. 17, Concerto in d minor Op. 22

Viola:

J.C. Bach – Concerto

Handel – Concerto

Hoffmeister - Concerto

Telemann – Concerto

Stamitz – Concerto in D Major

Violoncello:

Boccherini (Grutzmacher) – Concerto in B-flat Major

Goltermann – Concertos

Haydn – Concerto No. 1&2

Vivaldi – any concerto

Double Bass:

Bottesini – Concerto No. 2

Dragonetti – Concerto

Dittersdorf – Concerto

Double/triple concertos:

Any combinations of solo instruments from Baroque, early Classical and the Classical era.