

COMPETITION RULES

Applicants must be 22 years of age or younger on the date of the performance.

Applicants must play orchestrated pieces such as a movement of a concerto or a solo piece with orchestral accompaniment. The music must be memorized.

Applicants must secure their own accompanists.

Applicants may select a block of time that works best for the audition. Please ensure that the accompanist is also available at that time. Accompanists are welcome to practice with the applicant during the scheduled warm-up time. No additional practice space is available for accompanists to warm up alone.

Please note that in case of inclement weather, the competition would be moved to the following week. Accompanists should be informed of this at the time they are hired. In case of inclement weather, you will receive a text on the evening before the competition.

Applicants are not permitted to practice at the audition venue prior to the audition date. Please do not contact the church for any reason. If you have questions after the application has been sent, please contact Ms. Joul at 248-909-1832.

Applicants will be contacted by email approximately 10 days prior to the competition date. The email will provide a check-in time, warm-up time, and performance time. Also included will be directions on where to enter the building. Your scheduled time is based on the information provided in the on-line application. No refunds will be given.

It is important that you communicate with us. After the application submitted, you will receive an email confirmation within 3 days. Additionally, you will receive another email 7-10 days prior to the contest with your performance time and directions to the church. If you do not receive these emails, please text Ms. Joul at 248-909-1832. You can also check your spam folder if these emails are missing.

Applicants may bring a parent or adult guest to listen to the audition. After the audition, applicants are kindly asked to leave the building.

Absolutely no hard copies of music are accepted on the day of the contest. The adjudicators will be able to locate cuts and other musical markings, even if they are not in the electronic file you uploaded.

Applicants are asked to limit the audition to 8 minutes by adding cuts, if needed. If there is a cadenza, it should be included. The auditions are timed and you will be asked to stop if it exceeds 8 minutes.

The winning applicant will be notified by phone after all applicants have auditioned. The winning applicant must be available for two rehearsals and a performance with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra in May 2027. A \$1000 prize will be presented at the concert.

The competition will be held on Saturday, January 9th 2027. In case of inclement weather, the contest will take place on Saturday, January 16th, 2027.

Applications will be accepted until we reach a total of 20. Submitting your application prior to December 25, 2026 is highly encouraged.

Thank you for being a part of the Rita May Young Artist Competition and for your support of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra.