

Tri-County Concerts Youth Festival 2019 Guidelines

www.tricountyconcerts.org

Auditions: Saturday, April 27, 2019 - All instruments and divisions, West Chester University, Swope Music Building, 817 South High Street, West Chester, PA 19383

Registration Deadline: Registration forms must be submitted and registration paid for **ONLINE** by **Monday, March 25**.

Winners' Recital: Sunday, June 9, 2019, at 3 p.m., at Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, PA.

1. Eligibility:

- Only students who have been **pre-registered** by **Monday, February 18, 2019**, by their music teachers may audition.
- Any student in grades 6 through 12 whose permanent residence is in Chester, Delaware, or Montgomery County or who attends, as a residential student, a school in those counties may audition. The music teacher or music school need not reside in those counties.
- All members of ensembles must meet residency requirements. All students in an ensemble must be at least in grade 6.

2. Categories: Junior Divisions—grades 6 through 8. Senior Divisions—grades 9 through 12.

- Soloists: Junior and Senior Divisions of Piano, Voice, Strings, Winds, and Musica Diversa (an extended category including the less frequent symphonic instruments of harp, classical guitar, and percussion).
- Ensembles: Junior Ensemble Division and Senior Ensemble Division. If an ensemble includes both Junior and Senior students, it must compete as a Senior Ensemble.

Generally, first- and second-place prizes are given in each category, depending upon the number of participants and the level of performance. However, winners are not necessarily chosen in every category. All winners must meet a high standard of skill and artistry.

3. Audition and performance time limits:

Senior Division—12 minutes (maximum)

Junior Division — 9 minutes (maximum)

Note: Shorter pieces are completely acceptable and equally competitive.

4. Restrictions:

A student in 2019 may choose to audition either as a soloist or as a member of an ensemble (but not both) and on one instrument (voice is understood as the vocalist's instrument).

Ensembles must audition with the members specified on their registration form. Winning ensembles must perform with the same members who auditioned or they will forfeit their prize. No member substitutions are permitted.

Former Winners: The following rules apply to those who have competed in prior years.

- a. A first-place winner in the Junior or Senior Division may not re-enter the competition in the same division. However, a first-place winner in the Junior Division may compete in the Senior Division once the student has entered 9th grade. Also, a first-place winner may re-enter the competition in the same division on a different instrument in a subsequent year.
- b. Second and third-place winners in 2018 must wait until 2020 to compete in the same division on the same instrument and category.
- c. A winner in a solo category in a prior year may audition as part of an ensemble in 2019, or a member of a winning ensemble in a prior year may audition as a soloist in 2019.

Anyone who did not win a first, second, or third place prize in the Junior or Senior Division in a prior year may audition in the same division in 2019.

5. Repertoire:

The repertoire performed will be from the traditional classical repertoire or a work of an established 20th or 21st-century classical composer (i.e., not pop, jazz, or rock). Memorization is required for those auditioning in piano, strings, and voice.

- Pianists will audition with a single selection from the solo, not concerto, literature. The selection must be a work originally composed for piano. Transcriptions, arrangements, and cuts are not allowed.

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- Instrumentalists will audition with a single selection, one movement from a multi-movement work, or two consecutive movements that flow from one to the other to form a continuous whole (cuts of the accompaniment are acceptable); instrumental ensembles, a single selection from a duo, trio, quartet, etc.
- Vocalists will audition with two art songs or arias of contrasting style. (Winners will perform only one of these pieces at the concert.)

Changes:

- Students must audition with the repertoire stated on their application form or they will be disqualified. Any changes in repertoire must be approved by the co-directors at least one week before the audition.
- Students selected to perform in the winners' recital must perform the same work evaluated in the audition.

6. Rules regarding accompanists, teachers, and parents:

- If a student is auditioning with a piece composed for an instrument with accompaniment, he or she must audition with an accompanist.
- **Students must provide their own accompanists for auditions. Applications will be accepted only if the accompanist is listed** to avoid audition scheduling difficulties. If a student is chosen for performance, the same musician must accompany, unless another is authorized by one of the Festival Co-Directors.
- The audition accompanist may be anyone except the teacher. For a non-student accompanist with an ensemble, registration approval is required. A list of accompanists will be available by request.
- Only the auditioning student(s) and accompanist are allowed in the audition room. All teachers and parents must remain in the designated waiting room area.

7. Deadlines and Fees:

- **Teachers' pre-registration forms** must be submitted online by **Monday, February 18** (with student's name, address including county, email, instrument, grade, but not repertoire).
- **Students' registration forms** must be completed online and registration fee paid online by **Monday, March 25** (repertoire decision needed).
- **Fees: \$50 for solo entrants, \$25 per member for each member of an ensemble.** Registration is complete after the non-refundable application fee is paid online via PayPal.

Students will be notified of their audition time by mail.

8. What to bring and wear to the audition:

- All students must bring one publisher's copy of the music for the judges to consult during the audition. The music will be returned at the conclusion of the audition.
- Students should consult their teachers concerning appropriate dress for auditions. Appropriate dress is more formal than informal (e.g., no jeans, t-shirts, sneakers, or flip-flops).

9. Rules and questions:

- To ensure fairness, the rules are the same for everyone; requests for exceptions will be denied.
- Written questions about procedure should be mailed or emailed; reading the guidelines will often eliminate the need for a question.

10. Judges' decisions are final and indisputable. Those who violate this rule by contacting the judge will be permanently disqualified from entering all future Tri-County auditions.

11. Winners' recital: All winners must perform on the program and attend the awards ceremony at the end of the program to receive cash prizes and recognition. The winners must perform the pieces exactly as they were approved for the audition, without additions or deletions. If a chosen winner cannot perform, the succeeding winners may be advanced. Honorable Mention winners must be present to receive their certificates.

Wendy Schmid and Hanna Shapira
Tri-County Youth Festival Co-Directors

Questions? Email the Youth Festival directors at tricountyyouthfestival@gmail.com or visit <www.tricountyconcerts.org>