

Tri-County Concerts Youth Festival 2021 Guidelines

www.tricountyconcerts.org

Auditions:

In 2021, instead of live in-person auditions, students will submit a recorded audition video online between **April 5** and **April 30, 2021** via the video platform **Acceptd**. Our 2021 Guidelines reflect this one change. Otherwise, the guidelines remain the same as in previous years.

Video submission instructions and guidelines will be posted on our website by January 1, 2021. (Note: There is a separate \$30 fee to submit a video, paid directly to the **Acceptd** site.)

Registration Deadline:

Registration forms must be submitted and registration paid for **ONLINE** to TCC by **Friday, March 26, 2021**.

Winners' Recital: The 2021 winners' audition videos will be featured in a virtual winners' recital.

1. Eligibility:

- Only students who have been **pre-registered** by **Wednesday, February 24, 2021**, 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 2021 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. 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. A second-place winner in 2019 must wait until 2022 (because 2020 auditions were canceled) to compete in the same division on the same instrument and category. However, a second-place winner in the Junior Division in 2019 may compete in the Senior Division in 2021 once the student has entered 9th grade. Also, a second-place winner may re-enter the competition in the same division on a different instrument in 2021.
- c. A winner in a solo category in a prior year may audition as part of an ensemble in 2021, or a member of a winning ensemble in a prior year may audition as a soloist in 2021.

Anyone who did not win a first or second place prize in the Junior or Senior Division in a prior year may audition in the same division in 2021.

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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.
- 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.

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 before the video submission start date, April 5, 2021.

6. Rules regarding accompanists and teachers:

- If a student is auditioning with a piece composed for an instrument with accompaniment, he or she must audition with an accompanist.
- Applications will be accepted only if the accompanist is listed.
- 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.

7. Deadlines and Fees:

- **Teachers' pre-registration forms** must be submitted online by **Wednesday, February 24, 2021** (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 **Friday, March 26, 2021** (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 (a PayPal account is not needed).
- **Video submission fee:** The online audition platform **Acceptd** charges a **\$30** fee, which the student pays directly to Acceptd after registering on its site.

Registered students will be notified of their audition ID by mail. After receiving the ID, those students will be able to create an account on **Acceptd** to submit their videos. Students can submit their videos at any time **between April 5 – 30, 2021**.

8. What to wear for the audition video:

- Appropriate dress is more formal than informal. Students should dress as they would if appearing on stage in an evening recital. (Note: This audition video is the one that will appear in the 2021 Youth Festival Concert video if the student wins a prize.)

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' audition videos will be featured in the virtual recital. Honorable Mention winners will be listed on the website and their certificates will be mailed to them.

Wendy Schmid and Eleanor James
Tri-County Youth Festival Co-Directors

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