

PYCO School of Music
Youth String Competition
Saturday, March 26, 2022

Eligibility:

- The PYCO School of Music Youth String Competition is for students of violin, viola, cello, and bass.
- Participants must live or study in Allegheny County, PA.
- Students are eligible to win the Division Prizes once per division, and the Coda Bow prize once per lifetime. Previous prize winners are always welcome to participate for consideration for the Winners Recital. The Winners Recital will take place on Saturday, April 2, 2022.

Age and Requirements:

- Elementary Division students (ages 11 and under) and Intermediate Division students (ages 12–14) prepare one piece.
- Senior Division students (ages 15–18) prepare two pieces in contrasting styles by different composers.
- *Determine your student's age as of January 1, 2022. Students whose birthday is on January 1 should compete in the younger category.*

Students are required to play all works by memory, except Classical, Romantic or Modern sonatas. Students must prepare complete works or complete single movements; cuts are encouraged in piano tutti sections. Because the audition time may be shorter than the entire length of the piece(s), teachers should suggest appropriate cuts for the audition presentation. However, students are expected to prepare the entire piece(s), and the judges may ask for any portion outside of the cuts the teacher suggests.

Elementary and Intermediate level students are scheduled in 6-minute audition slots to play a maximum of 4 minutes of music from one piece. Senior level students are scheduled in 10-minute audition slots to play a maximum of 8 minutes of music from two contrasting pieces.

The competition timer will begin timing when the audition performance begins and will stop students at the conclusion of their 4- or 8-minute time limit. Tuning to the piano prior to a performance is not included in the playing time limits, but any transition time needed between the two pieces for Senior Division students is, as the clock only stops at the end of the maximum allotted playing time. The remaining two minutes of each audition slot allows for passing time between students, tuning of the next student, and for judges to finalize their thoughts and feedback in written comments.

As a courtesy and to receive more detailed comments, please provide a copy of your music for the judges.

Accompanists: Students must provide their own accompanist. Students should ensure that their accompanist will be available to perform with them at the Winners Recital on Saturday, April 2, 2022, if they are selected.

Application and Deadline: Application deadline is February 8, 2022. Application forms and complete payments must be received by the PYCO School of Music by the deadline in order to be scheduled for the competition. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. The \$50 application fee can be paid via check or by credit card over the phone or in person at the PYCO School of Music, 150 Lake Drive, Suite 103, Wexford, PA 15090.

Scheduling: Please plan on being available for the entire afternoon of the competition on Saturday, March 26, 2022 from 12:00 to 6:00 pm. Because judges must hear students from the same division in a block, we can accommodate special scheduling requests only within that block.

Notification and Winners Recital: The Winners Recital will include participants from all age groups. All entrants will receive an email on the evening after the competition with the list of prize-winners and performers selected for the Winners Recital.

Prizes:

- Senior Division: \$250
- Elementary and Intermediate Divisions: \$100
- In the event of a tie or very close result, judges will use their discretion in determining if prize money will be shared between multiple participants.
- A Diamond GX CodaBow, sponsored by Connections Dental in Oakmont, will be awarded to one student of all divisions.
- Eight to ten students will be selected to perform at the Winners Recital.

For more information, contact Lydia Miller Choorapuzha, lydiam30@gmail.com.