

# 2021 YAA Rules and Guidelines Changes Due to COVID-19

YAA winner(s) will NOT perform at the 2021 Young People's Concerts.

YAA winner(s) may be awarded the opportunity to perform at an HSO-sponsored program.

Contestants may choose any competitive piece from their repertoire that is no longer than 10 minutes.

Winners will be awarded cash prizes.

Final Recital location will be the Ballet Room of the Von Braun Center.

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (HSO) Young Artists Auditions may provide an opportunity to perform in a public forum and give recognition to dedicated young musicians for their talent and accomplishments. In addition, an opportunity to perform at an HSO-sponsored program may be awarded.

Preliminary Submission Due:	by Monday, December 7, 2020
Contestant Status Notification:	by Monday, December 21, 2020
Confirmation letter and \$50 fee:	by Wednesday, January 6, 2021
Final Recital:	Sunday, January 10, 2021

## Eligibility

***Previous 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners of the Young Artists Auditions are not eligible to compete in the auditions on ANY instrument during the season immediately following their selection.***

Otherwise, **any student through Grade 12** in at least **one** of the following categories is eligible:

- A resident of one of the following counties:  
*Alabama:* Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, Winston.  
*Tennessee:* Giles, Franklin, Lincoln.
- A member of the Huntsville Youth Orchestra or Huntsville Symphony Orchestra.
- A son, daughter, or ward of a member of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra.
- A student of a music teacher residing in Madison County, Alabama.
- A student of a member of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra.

Music teachers of YAA contestants must contact the HSO Director of Education at [sharon@hso.org](mailto:sharon@hso.org) to schedule a brief orientation via conference call in order for their student's submissions to be considered.

The HSO requests that the applicant's music teacher contacts the HSO Director of Education, Sharon Hicks, prior to their student's registration for YAA on the *Accepted* website.

## Adjudication

- There are two (2) rounds of the Young Artists Auditions: the online Preliminary Submission (via the *Acceptd* website) and the Final Recital. All judges will be drawn from a pool of prominent musicians.
- Contestants will be judged on the degree of difficulty of their repertoire, tone, rhythm, style, execution, memory, musicianship, and professionalism.
- Judge(s) reserve the right to choose more than one winner, or not to select a winner.
- **Contact with judge(s)** prior to completion of the Final Recital is **not allowed** by participants, parents, or teachers. Students will be disqualified if any such contact is made.
- Participants will receive comment sheets from the judge(s) from each round.
- **Winners will be notified** by telephone and mail **within one week of the Final Recital**. All other contestants will receive notification within one week of the Final Recital.

## Auditions/Selection

All applicants must be available for the Final Recital on **Sunday, January 10, 2021**.

- Contestants will submit an application and an audition recording via the *Acceptd* website no later than **Monday, December 7, 2020**. An application fee of **\$30** is due at the time of submission. If the applicant is chosen to advance to the recital round, an additional **\$50** will be due via *Acceptd* by Wednesday, **January 6, 2021**.
- The contestant (student), parent/guardian, and music teacher must all read, agree to, and abide by all rules and regulations governing this competition.
- The judge(s) will utilize a blind reviewing option when evaluating application materials on the *Acceptd* web site.
- The **instrument, title, movement, and performance length of the piece** are to be indicated when submitting the recording to *Acceptd*. **Any piece over the 10-minute time limit will be immediately disqualified**. No change of repertoire will be allowed between rounds of the audition.
- Contestants will be notified of the results of their Preliminary audition by Monday, **December 21, 2021**. Those who are selected to perform in the Final Recital are obligated to do so.
- The Final Recital will be held on **January 10, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.** in the Ballet Room of the Von Braun Center. The facility will be open from 1:00 p.m. forward so that contestants can check in with staff and then warm-up/practice if they wish. **All contestants must check in by 1:45 p.m. in person at the venue in order to remain eligible for participation in the Final Recital.**
- The Final Recital is open to the public at no charge.
- Absolutely NO audio or video taping is allowed at the Final Recital.
- Performance order for the Final Recital is determined at the discretion of the HSO staff.
- During the Final Recital, all participating performers will remain in the Green Room area backstage to await their turn to perform. **This backstage area will be closed to all persons except Recital participants, accompanists, and YAA/HSO/HSO Guild staff.**

- **Dress Code:** Sunday dress is acceptable. No formal wear (tuxedos or evening gowns) is allowed. No flip-flops or tennis shoes are allowed.
- *Girls:* Dresses or skirts with blouses (a cardigan in the color of your choice worn over the dress is acceptable). No sequins. Female cellists or bassoonists may wear dress pants if desired.  
*Boys:* White or black shirt with collar (no T-shirts, and no ties). Black or khaki trousers with belt (no jeans). Dress shoes. Male bassists do not require a belt and/or buckle.

## Repertoire

**Contestants may choose any concerto (one movement) or long-form piece from their repertoire that is no longer than ten (10) minutes.**

**YAA winner(s) will NOT perform at the 2021 Young People's Concert.**

**YAA winner(s) may be awarded the opportunity to perform at an HSO sponsored program.**

- Duration of the selection **must be ten (10) minutes or less**. Selections longer than ten (10) minutes will be automatically disqualified.
- **Contestants must perform repertoire selections from memory.**
- **Each contestant must provide an accompanist** to perform the orchestral part of the audition in **both** the Preliminary Submission on *Accepted* and in the Final Recital.
- Each contestant must provide one high-quality copy or one original copy of his/her music to the judge(s). If the contestant fails to do so, he/she will be disqualified.

## Awards/Winner(s)

- **All contestants who perform in the Final Recital will receive recognition on the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra and Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Guild websites. The top 3 winners will receive a cash prize.**
- One or more of the Winners chosen from the Final Recital performers may be asked to perform at an HSO sponsored program.
- All awards will be revoked at any time for any violation of the published rules.

THANK YOU for your interest in the 2021 Young Artists Auditions!  
Please address any inquiries to Sharon Hicks, *HSO Director of Education*.

**sharon@hso.org | (256) 539.4818**