

Rules and Guidelines for the 2020 Young Artists Auditions

NOTE: These rules and guidelines are reviewed and updated annually.

The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (HSO) *Young Artists Auditions* 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 as soloist with the HSO may be awarded.

Preliminary Submission Due:	by Monday, November 25, 2019
Contestant Status Notification:	by Friday, December 20, 2019
Confirmation letter and \$50 fee:	by Monday, January 6, 2020
Final Recital:	Sunday, January 12, 2020

Eligibility

Previous 1st 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 attend an orientation meeting in order for their students' submissions to be considered. To accommodate teachers from out of town, an orientation will be conducted via conference call.

Any teacher who did not attend **one** of the scheduled meetings that were held for the 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, or 2018 auditions should contact the HSO Director of Education at sharon@hso.org, (256) 539.4818. **Teachers who attended an orientation meeting for the 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, or 2018 auditions are not required to attend one for 2019.**

The HSO requests that the applicant's teacher contact 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 (open to the public). 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 12, 2020**, and in case they are selected to perform with the HSO at the Young People's Concert Series, they must also be available on **February 26, 2020**, for rehearsal and **February 27 and 28, 2020**, for performances in the Mark C. Smith Concert Hall of the VBC.

- Contestants will submit an application and an audition recording via the *Acceptd* website no later than **Monday, November 25, 2019**. 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 **January 6, 2020**.
- 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 **Friday, December 20, 2019**. Those who are selected to perform in the Final Recital are obligated to do so.
- The Final Recital will be held on **January 12, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.** in Roberts Recital Hall on the campus of UAH. 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

Due to sharply increased music rental costs, **repertoire selections must be approved** by the HSO Librarian **prior to the Preliminary Submission**. Please contact the HSO Librarian at curtis@hso.org, (256) 539.4818, as soon as possible to discuss repertoire selections.

- In case the Winner(s) are invited to perform with the HSO, any orchestral music rental costs in excess of \$250 will be the responsibility of the contestant.
- Each contestant is to perform **one movement** of a concerto or long-form piece from the standard concertante repertoire. To qualify, the selected repertoire must be an original composition for solo instrument with orchestral accompaniment. Arrangements do not qualify.
- 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.**
- If chosen to perform with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra at the Young People's Concert(s), the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Music Director may require that additional cuts to the length of the selection be made before it is performed with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra. **If cuts are to be made, they will be decided exclusively by the Music Director, and the decision is final and without appeal.**
- **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 at Roberts Recital Hall.
- Each contestant must provide one high-quality copy and one original copy of his/her music to the judge(s), a total of two copies. 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 during the 2020 HSO Young People's Concert Series.
- The HSO Music Director may revoke the Winner(s)' privilege of performing at the Young People's Concert Series at any time for any violation of the published rules.

THANK YOU for your interest in the 2020 Young Artists Auditions!
Please address any inquiries to Sharon Hicks, *HSO Director of Education*.
sharon@hso.org | (256) 539.4818