

**2027 YOUNG ARTIST AUDITIONS REQUIREMENTS****CA 12-1&2**

This document is the CA 12-1 and the CA 12-2.

Biennial – Odd-numbered Years

**Deadline for Entry:** All printed application materials, photos, bios and YouTube videos must be submitted/uploaded to NMFC by the deadline of 12:01 AM, Eastern Standard Time, February 1, 2027.

**Entry Fee:** \$100.00 non-refundable fee. Visit [www.nfmc-music.org/payment](http://www.nfmc-music.org/payment) to pay entry fee.

**All applicants must be American citizens:** Federation membership is NOT required.

**Young Artist Classifications are:**

- Piano
- Woman's solo voice
- String instruments (violin, viola, cello and double bass)
- Man's solo voice

**Age eligibility of the above categories:**

- Vocalist: 25 through 36 (not 37 by June 1, 2027)
- Instrumentalist: 18 through 29 (not 30 by June 1, 2027)

**AWARDS:** \$20,000 First Prize in each category and a performance at the NFMC 2027 Biennial Convention plus two years of NFMC Booking Engagements.  
\$5,000 Second Place Prize in each category.

Entrants should be ready for a professional concert career, *must not be, and must not ever have been, under professional management* (i.e. paying an agent); however, Young Artist winners are free to secure professional management immediately after winning the Young Artist Awards.

**COMPETITION LEVELS:**

**Level I: Preliminary:** Auditions via a 60-minute high quality video recording plus a concerto (vocalists exempt) uploaded to the NFMC website.

**Level II: Finals:** A maximum of five (5) finalists in each category will be chosen from the preliminary level for final adjudication. The winner in each category will perform at the 2027 NFMC Biennial Convention. (Location and date to be determined)

**MUSIC REQUIREMENTS:****PIANO, VOICE, AND STRINGS:**

All music must be memorized; however, an ipad or tablet may be used occasionally for reference. No arrangements of original selections are allowed. Any standard edition may be used. All compositions must be published and available on the commercial market or from rental libraries.

**Strings:**

All music must be memorized, with the exception of a duo sonata (sonata with piano). An ipad or tablet may be used occasionally for reference. String entrants are limited to one duo sonata with piano. In addition to one duo sonata, memorized solo sonatas are allowed. No arrangements of original selections are allowed. Any standard edition may be used. All compositions must be published and available on the commercial market or from rental libraries.

### **Collaborative Pianist:**

Winners are strongly encouraged to furnish their own collaborative pianist for their performance at the 2027 NFMC Biennial Convention. Entrants who are unable to furnish their own collaborative pianist will be provided with a list of local universities, colleges, symphonies, opera companies, etc. that the entrant may contact to hire their own pianist. All arrangements with, and vetting of, the collaborative pianist are the responsibility of the entrant.

### **Social Security Numbers and W-9 Forms:**

Winners will be asked to submit their social security number to the NFMC National Treasurer and complete a W-9 Form at the conclusion of the competition. (IRS requirement).

### **Birth Certificate:**

The entrant will provide a copy of their Birth Certificate, Naturalization documentation or passport.

### **For all categories:**

Entrants should be ready for a professional concert career and, on their submitted video, include a sufficient variety of musical styles, periods and languages to meet the demands of a concert career.

## **PIANO & STRINGS**

### **LEVEL I: Preliminary Requirements**

- A recital-length, high quality, unedited video recording of approximately 60 minutes, to include a sufficient variety of musical styles and periods to meet the demands of a concert career plus a concerto uploaded to the NFMC website. At least one selection of music must be a legally published composition by an American composer.\*\*
- Smart phones or tablets may be used for recordings if video and audio components are of high quality.
- Piano and Strings - all recorded orchestral works must be accompanied by piano.
- Strings may include unaccompanied Bach or other composers.
- The 60-minute video may contain previously recorded performances; however, all recordings must be linked in one continuous submission when uploaded to the NFMC website.
- The video concerto recording may be recorded separately but must be linked to the 60-minute solo recording upon submission.
- Strings may include no more than one duo sonata.
- Judges for Preliminary Level I will only adjudicate the 60-minute video.
- A maximum of five applicants from each category will be selected for the finals.

### **LEVEL 1: Recording and Submission Instructions:**

- The name of the video recording file must be: *Your Name, Level I Recording.*
- Do not announce your name on the recording and do not include identifying name on the Level I printed program.
- The name of the Level I printed program file must be: *Your Name, Level I Printed program.*

## LEVEL II: Finals

- A different set of judges will adjudicate the videos of a maximum of five Level I finalists from each category to choose the First and Second Place winners.
- The winner in each category will be required to attend an orientation and perform at the 2027 NFMC Biennial Convention where they will be presented with their award.
- The second place winner in each category will receive their award via mail.

## VOCALISTS

For vocalists, original language texts must be used, except in the Slavic languages. Arias must be sung in the original key; art songs may be sung in the appropriate key for the voice type.

### LEVEL I: Preliminary Level Requirements

- A recital-length, high quality, unedited video recording of approximately 60 minutes, uploaded and unenhanced, to include a sufficient variety of musical styles and periods to meet the demands of a concert career. At least one selection must be a legally published composition by an American composer.\*\*
- Smart phones or tablets may be used for recordings if video and audio components are of high quality.
- All works must be memorized; however, an Ipad or tablet may be used occasionally for reference.
- All recorded works must be accompanied by piano.
- Three operatic arias must be included, and one of these must be in English. No more than three arias are permitted: one aria by a composer from the Classical Period between the years 1750-1820; one legally published aria by an American composer;\*\* and one aria of the entrant's choice.
- Three languages, in addition to English, must be represented on the video recordings.
- The program must include one oratorio aria.
- No more than 15 minutes of the 60-minute program may include selections from musical styles other than opera/classical (operetta, musical theater, jazz, pop, spirituals, folk songs, etc)

### LEVEL 1: Recording Instructions:

- The video recording may contain previously recorded performances; however, all recording must be linked in one continuous submission when uploaded to the NFMC website.
- Do not announce your name on the video recording and put no identifying name on the Level I printed program.
- The name of the video recording file must be: *Your Name, Level I Recording.*
- The name of the Level I printed program file must be: *Your Name, Level I Printed program.*
- The judges will select a maximum of five applicants in each category from the Preliminary Level to move to the Finals.

## LEVEL II: Finals

- The full recital video program from Level I will be adjudicated.
- A different set of judges will adjudicate the videos of a maximum of five Level I finalists from each category to choose the First and Second Place winners.
- The winner in each category will be required to attend an orientation and perform at the 2027 NFMC Biennial Convention where they will be presented with their award (location and date to be determined).
- The second place winner in each category will receive their award via mail.

\*\*U.S. composer is defined as either native-born or one whose background and training have largely been in the United States.

Submit the following seven items by midnight, February 1, 2027 to the NFMC website - <https://forms.nfmc-music.org>

- 2027 Young Artist Audition forms CA 12-1/CA 12-2, completed and signed by applicant.
- Printed document with a link to the high quality video recording.
- Printed program of the recorded repertoire to include titles, composers' names and timing for each piece. There should be no identity or name on the printed program.
- Brief (1-2 page) performance resume, including list of institutions attended and teachers with dates of study.
- Contact information for two professional references.
- Copy of your Birth Certificate, Naturalization Documentation or Passport.
- A \$100 non-refundable entry fee is required. The entry fee is payable at [www.nfmc-music.org/payment](http://www.nfmc-music.org/payment).

Check appropriate entry category:

Piano \_\_\_\_\_

Strings: Classifications: Violin \_\_\_\_\_; Viola \_\_\_\_\_; Cello \_\_\_\_\_; Double Bass \_\_\_\_\_

Woman's Voice: Your Voice Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Man's Voice: Your Voice Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Entrants Name: (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home State Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: (Street/City/State/Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Age by June 1, 2027: \_\_\_\_\_ (Vocalists may be 25 through 36, not 37 by June 1, 2027).

(Instrumentalists may be 18 through 29, not 30 by June 1, 2027).

Are you a former NFMC award winner? If so, indicate where and when: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

- I hereby certify I am eligible to enter these auditions according to the Biennial Young Artist Auditions Brochure and eligibility rules outlined on form CA 12-1.
- If declared a winner, I will acknowledge the NFMC in all future publicity and will comply with all conditions outlined in the YA Brochure and form CA 12-1
- If selected as an NFMC Young Artist, I recognize that receiving any prize money is contingent upon my not being under professional management, nor ever having been under professional management (i.e., paying an agent fee). If I have misrepresented this fact, I agree to return all prize money. However, I understand that any Young Artist winner is free to secure professional management immediately after winning a Young Artist award. I understand the NFMC concerts are not subject to professional manager approval or negotiation.
- I understand that Young Artists will receive \$300 per NFMC performance, with a possible \$200 from the NFMC Baiz/Sweeney Fund, if funds are available.
- I understand that the winner must perform for the NFMC membership for two years and recognize that a portion of the prize money is contingent upon fulfilling this obligation. I understand the \$20,000 first place prize will be divided into three separate payments:
  - \$10,000 will be given to each of the four Young Artist winners directly after their performances at the NFMC Convention.
  - \$5,000 will be given to the winners immediately after they turn in their bios, photos, etc. to the Presentation Chair.
  - \$5,000 will be given to the winners immediately after performing their third concert for NFMC membership.
- If any Young Artist winner has not been requested to appear for NFMC membership by the end of the first year, that winner will automatically receive the last \$5,000.
- Upon winning, I agree to submit my Social Security Number to the NFMC Treasurer, plus a CA 20-3 form at the conclusion of the competition.
- All awards are at the discretion of the judges and the Young Artist Committee.
- Incomplete or incorrect applications will result in disqualification.
- I understand that judges' decisions are final.

Direct all questions to the Category Chair before the deadline Any alterations/additions/corrections to any part of your materials must be made prior to 12:01 AM, Eastern Standard Time, February 1. **NO** alterations/additions/corrections to any part of your application, including repertoire, will be accepted after 12:01 AM, Eastern Standard Time February 1.

Direct all online application questions to the NFMC Office Manager at NFMC Headquarters.

\_\_\_\_\_ I give my permission to use my name, age, teacher's name, music school and performance for publicity if I win an award.

THE UNDERSIGNED hereby makes application to enter the above auditions.

I HAVE READ THE YOUNG ARTIST REQUIREMENTS AND UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THEM WILL RESULT IN MY DISQUALIFICATION. INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECT APPLICATIONS WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
This signature fulfills the signatures for both the CA 12-1 and the CA 12-2.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Category Chairs:

PIANO Andrew Armstrong, 914-815-0511, *tandrewarmstrong@gmail.com*

STRINGS Lana M. Bailey, 703-927-3912, *ZBLB@verizon.net*

WOMAN'S VOICE Dr. Candice Aipperspach, 806-777-2185, *candiceaipperspach@yahoo.com*, or  
*aipperspachc@obu.edu*

MAN'S VOICE Dr. Andre' Chiang, 215-786-1880, *andrechiangbaritone@gmail.com*