SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON SYMPHONY
YOUNG ARTIST AUDITIONS

Requirements and Procedures

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Southwest Washington Symphony (SWS) presents the Young Artist Auditions to provide an opportunity for the finest young musicians in our community to be showcased in a public performance. Applicants are expected to be worthy of public acclaim and honors for their musical achievements, and will be awarded such recognition through the media and on the night of the auditions. The winner of the competition will be awarded the rare experience of performing a solo with a reputable symphony orchestra. SWS will award a modest scholarship to be used for higher educational endeavors.
To maintain a commitment to fairness and equality, it is important that all participants in the audition process follow to the letter the requirements, procedures, and deadlines set forth below.

ELIGIBILITY

- This is a solo music competition. Other art forms and presentations involving more than one performer are not eligible to audition.
- High school juniors, seniors or undergraduate college students are eligible to audition.
- Previous Southwest Washington Symphony Young Artist winners are **not** eligible.
- Residency: students must live in Cowlitz, Columbia, Clatsop, Pacific, Clark, Lewis or Wahkiakum County.
- Any artist selected to perform with the symphony must be available for symphony rehearsals.
- Please note: The symphony does not have the means to provide an instrument for organ soloists.

MUSIC SELECTION

- Music should be selected from standard concert repertoire with orchestral accompaniment and readily available for purchase or rent.
- Recommendation for instrumentalists: a movement from a concerto or similar selection.
- Recommendation for vocalists: an aria or solo from an opera, oratorio or cantata, or an art song with orchestral accompaniment.
- If selected to perform with the symphony, the young artist will perform the audition piece in the concert.
- The young artist assumes the responsibility for the selection of literature. To verify the availability of an orchestral arrangement, the artist **must** contact the symphony librarian, Mr. Dick Uthmann, **before submitting the application.** Mr. Uthmann may be reached at (360) 636-2433.
- **An extra copy of your music must be brought to the audition** for the judges.

ACCOMPANIMENT

- Accompaniment is neither provided, nor required for the audition concert, but in most cases it is to the performer's advantage to play with the support of an accomplished accompanist.
- Note for pianists: only one piano will be furnished at the audition concert venue. Pianist applicants will perform without accompaniment at the audition.

PROCEDURES

Contact Amy Harding (swwsyoungartist@gmail.com or 785-577-5753; email preferred) immediately to establish your intention to apply for the auditions. As chairman of the Young Artist Auditions, she will answer any questions that you may have.

- The deadline for submitting applications is **February 13, 2027. If you need an extension, please contact Amy Harding.**
- Fill out the online application form found on the symphony website: https://swwsymphony.org/young-artists.htm
- You will be notified via email when your application has been accepted.
- Young Artist Auditions will be held **Saturday, February 27, 2027 at 7:00 PM** at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2021 Washington Way, Longview. This is a semi-formal recital/audition. Dress for the occasion. We suggest: slacks and ties for young men and nice dress or blouse and skirt/dress pants for young women. If selected for the Young Artist concert, formal concert attire is required. (Black tuxedos for young men and long dresses for young women.)
- The Symphony retains control of the order of performance at the concert.
- Adjudicators at the audition concert will provide written feedback to all participants in addition to selecting a winner. The adjudication panel reserves the right to select multiple winners, or no winners if performances are not deemed sufficiently prepared for public performance.
- Audition results will be announced about 30 minutes after the audition. When the adjudicators have arrived at a decision, the performers will meet with the adjudicators and be informed of the results. An announcement to the audience will follow.
- If you are selected to perform with the Southwest Washington Symphony, Dr. Robert Davis will work out a rehearsal schedule with you.
- The Southwest Washington Symphony Young Artist Concerts are scheduled for:

Saturday, April 17 at 7:00 PM
and
Sunday, April 18 at 3:00 PM
2027

- The location will be the Wollenberg Auditorium at the Rose Center for the Arts at Lower Columbia College, 1600 Maple Street, Longview, Washington.