



ECSO Instrumental Competition Guidelines - 2020

Competition finals will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020, at Evans Hall, Connecticut College, New London, CT, at 1:00pm.

1. Previous First Place Prize Winners in an Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra competition are ineligible.
2. Eligibility is restricted to persons born on or after March 14, 1994.
3. Contestant must not be under professional management.
4. A certified copy of the contestant's birth certificate or other proof of age is required with the completed application, available on ECSO's website – ectsymphony.com.
5. **Completed applications must be received in the office or by email on or before FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020 and include a good quality CD or .mp3 (320kbps quality)** of one movement from your competition piece. This movement should demonstrate a range of technique, skill, and musicianship. CD can be returned if a self addressed stamped mailer is enclosed. The contestant may perform any ONE or ALL movements of the competition piece on the submitted CD or .mp3. CD's must be labeled with the contestant's name, instrument and piece they are prepared to perform. **(Deadline strictly observed.)**
6. First round is judged through CD or .mp3 submission. Finalists will be notified by email or phone on Friday, February 28, 2020. A maximum number of 12 contestants will be selected for the final round.
7. The contestant must appear at the final round at his/her expense. Volunteer-hosted housing can potentially be arranged for finalists from outside of the New England area, subject to availability. Failure to appear forfeits the contestant's entry fee.
8. **Contestant MUST provide their own accompanist** and may not participate without one. The contestant will assume any accompanist fees, as well as arrange for rehearsal ahead of time.
9. Works must be those originally written for solo instrument and standard symphony orchestra. Transposition or arrangements are not permitted.
10. **The contestant will perform ALL the movements of the same concerto at the finals as she/he played on the submitted CD or .mp3.** The contestant should be prepared to play any movement or portion of any movement at the direction of the judges. **Contestant must perform from memory. Music will not be allowed.**

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11. The first prize winner will receive a cash award of \$2,000 and a possible appearance as guest soloist with the orchestra. Second prize will be a \$1,000 cash award. Third prize will be a \$500 cash award.
12. The decisions of the judges shall be final and accepted by all entrants. The winner must perform the same piece with the orchestra should that opportunity arise unless the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra Music Director asks for a substitution.
13. All applicants will receive a pair of tickets to any 19-20 ECSO concert of their choice.
14. A non-refundable registration fee of \$50 must accompany a completed application.
15. Competition finals are open to the public; therefore appropriate dress is suggested.

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