



IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE ITS 2nd ANNUAL CONCERTO COMPETITION



2025 Concerto Competition

PERFORMERS WILL COMPETE IN FOUR CATEGORIES

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| I. Junior Piano (up to age 13 or in 8 th grade) | \$100 1 st Place Award |
| II. Senior Piano (up to age 18, not in college) | \$150 1 st Place Award |
| III. Winds/Brass (up to age 18, not in college) | \$150 1 st Place Award |
| IV. Strings/Harp (up to age 18, not in college) | \$150 1 st Place Award |
- ***All finalists eligible*** \$100 Audience Favorite

On Sunday, January 26, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., up to two finalists in each category will perform in the Sinfonietta Bel Canto (SBC) concert at St. Paul's UCC Church in Downers Grove. All finalists will perform with orchestra accompaniment. During the concert, one winner will be chosen from each category; also, the audience will select their favorite performer. Each 1st place winner and the "Audience Favorite" will receive a monetary award as enumerated above.

(In cases of Audience Favorite ties, monetary award will be divided.)

NEW THIS YEAR!: Additionally, "SBC Concerto Competition" now offers The Invitational Concert

Pending covid & other issues, up to 5 select non-finalist competitors will be invited to also perform with the SBC orchestra in Fall 2025. (Invitational performers will be notified in Spring/Summer 2025 once rehearsal & concert dates/times have been confirmed.)

Application Process:

1. Entrants apply online at www.sinfoniettabelcanto.org--click "The SBC Concerto" tab near the top--which includes all forms, guidelines, and payment button. A completed submission includes all authorizations, attachments, fees, and video link (see next page).

Submission deadline is 11:59 p.m., Friday, December 13, 2024

2. Finalists from each category will be chosen to compete in the live concert on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

SBC reserves the right to limit the number of applicants, combine categories and/or otherwise alter the number of finalists.

3. Finalists must also be available to rehearse on Saturday, January 25, 2025 from 1 - 4 p.m. and on Sunday, January 26, 2025 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

SBC Concerto Competition 2025: Application/Competition/Audition Rules

Application/Competition Rules (in addition to previous page)

1. Open to performers up to the age of 18, not in college, who live within a 25 mile radius of Downers Grove IL. Performers will compete in one of four categories; all ages are by the date of the Finalists concert:

- I. Junior Piano (up to age 13 or in 8th grade)
- II. Senior Piano (up to age 18, not in college)
- III. Winds/Brass: standard winds/brass in an orchestra, including saxophone (up to age 18, not in college)
- IV. Strings/Harp: standard strings in an orchestra, plus harp (up to age 18, not in college)

All finalists are invited to compete in a **live, final round with orchestra**.

2. **Before applying, entrants should consult/download the “Repertoire Guidelines” PDF, which includes sample repertoire, under “The SBC Concerto” tab on the SBC website:** www.sinfoniettabelcanto.org. Please email SBCConcerto@gmail.com if you have questions about repertoire. **Entrants will be disqualified if repertoire does not follow the “Repertoire Guidelines” PDF.**

3. **Entrants must select repertoire according to the “Repertoire Guidelines” PDF.** Entrants can select any classical repertoire with orchestral accompaniments available through **Luck’s Music Library**, www.lucksmusic.com. The piece must not exceed 7 minutes in length. **Music must be for purchase only, not for rental.** Past finalists/winners must choose new repertoire. While SBC will purchase the orchestral parts, the price may not exceed \$150. On the Luck’s website, the piece’s listing must indicate a “Set” with a price and usually a string count. If Luck’s website states “Score,” this does NOT mean individual orchestra parts; it must state “Set.” If you can’t find a particular piece on the Luck’s website, contact Luck’s directly. See the “Repertoire Guidelines” PDF for sample repertoire & instructions.

4. Entries are submitted to SBCConcerto@gmail.com **by 11:59pm, Friday, December 13, 2024.**

5. Entries must include the following 2 steps:

- a. Items in one email with entrant’s name in subject line: (Incomplete entries are disqualified.)
 - Fully completed entry form (fillable on your computer or print/fill out), *as attachment*
 - PDF of sheet music, **with any cuts indicated**, *as attachment* (for cuts, see #5 & #6 in “Audition Rules”)
 - Photo providing proof of possession of original copy, *as attachment*
 - YouTube video link (see #7 below) *in the main body of the email*

- b. \$45 entry fee, *via credit card or PayPal on SBC website* (Look under “SBC Concerto” tab.)

6. Please note entry fee is non-refundable.

7. Video must have been recorded within the last 6 months and use live piano or high-quality recorded piano/keyboard accompaniment. No editing, splicing, or enhancements allowed in any part of the video at any time; use the same source for video & audio (ie: no separate mic). Video must clearly show entire instrument or keyboard/pedaling in a static/non-moving view. Video must be uploaded to YouTube as “Unlisted” or “Public” (NOT “Private”) and must include the entrant’s full name, name of piece/mov’t, & competition category in the uploader comments section.
8. Finalists must be available to rehearse with orchestra on January 25, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 p.m., and on Sunday, January 26, 2025 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
9. Finalists will be notified with a window beginning Dec 23. Finalists must confirm participation within 4 days of being notified. Confirmed finalists will be announced via email by January 3, 2025. To see the judges’ comment sheets, indicate “yes” on the entry form.
10. For the concert, finalists will be contacted via email approximately 2 weeks before the concert with the final round rehearsal schedule.
11. Questions/problems: SBCConcerto@gmail.com

Audition Rules

1. Performers must perform from memory.
2. Performers must select one (1) approved piece, as described previously. Repertoire must not exceed 7 minutes in length including any orchestra alone sections; employ cuts where needed. (see below)
3. Previous SBC Concerto Competition finalists/winners must audition on different repertoire than their previous finalist/winner repertoire.
4. Performers are judged using the following criteria: Tone, Technique, Accuracy, Interpretation, & Stage Presence.
5. Entrants must provide proof of possession of an original copy of the music by attaching a photo of the original and attaching it to the entry email. On January 26, finalists also must bring an original copy of the music. The PDF sheet music attachment **must have cuts indicated**. (Numbering all measures is highly recommended as you’ll receive better judges’ comments, but not required.)
6. Cuts: When indicating cuts, use the original bar #'s & then indicate your cut(s). Do NOT adjust or eliminate bar #'s; just skip over original bar #'s as needed.
7. Contestants will be assigned a rehearsal time on January 25, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, January 26, 2025 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Times are not negotiable.
8. Location for all rehearsals & the concert is St. Paul’s UCC Church, 5739 Dunham Road, Downers Grove, IL. (enter in back & come upstairs to the Sanctuary)
9. Rehearsals are not open to the public.
10. No flash photography at rehearsals or performances.
11. The judges’ decisions are final.