2021 YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION RULES
Saturday, February 27, 2021
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
First Federated Church, 3601 N. Sheridan Rd.,
Peoria, 61604

ELIGIBILITY
• Applicants must live and attend school within a 100-mile radius of Peoria, Illinois; applicants must also
be pursuing a regular schedule of music lessons with a private teacher.
• Contestant must be a student in grades 7 – 12 as of the date of the Young Artist Competition (YAC)
• Previous 1st place winners may compete again but cannot compete using the same instrument that
they placed with during their winning year(s).

APPLICATION PROCESS
• The application, along with a non-refundable $40 fee, must be submitted by Monday, January 4,
2021 (make checks payable to: Peoria Symphony Guild).
• The musical selection must be a standard orchestral piece, with instrument or vocal solos. Find the
approved repertoire list online at peoriasymphony.org/yac. Other repertoire is subject to approval.
• Voice applicants must be at least 14 years of age or exhibit a mature tone.
• Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the YAC.
• The musical selection must be a minimum of 6 minutes, and a maximum of 9 minutes.
• Contestants will be required to perform from memory.

COMPETITION
• The preliminary rounds of the YAC takes place the morning of Saturday, February 27, 2021 with final
rounds in the afternoon. Applicants will receive instructions by mail regarding their assigned practice
and competition times.
• Piano students will be admitted early the day of the competition to practice on the stage piano. A
practice time must be scheduled in advance with the YAC coordinator, and the student must not
exceed the allotted time.
• Contestants must provide three copies of the musical selection to the judges at the audition, one of
which must be the original. A piano score is preferred.
• Accompanists must be provided by the contestants.
• No videotaping, photography, or cell phone usage will be allowed within the hall until the winners of
the YAC have been announced.
• Only Peoria Symphony Guild members, judges, and accompanists will be permitted (in the hall)
during the Preliminary Round.
• The Peoria Symphony Guild will reserve the right, based on the decision of the judges, not to select a
winner.
• Written comments of the judges will be provided to each contestant by mail following the YAC.
• All applicants are expected to attend the Final Round of the YAC held in the afternoon.
• Families and the public will be invited to attend the final competition.
• A light lunch will be offered to participating students, their families, accompanists, and teachers
between the Preliminary Round and the Final Round of the YAC.

COMPETITION WINNERS
• 1st place – $500, 2nd place – $250, and 3rd place – $100. These awards are made possible by the
Donna Wilkinson Schwindenhammer Trust and the Peoria Symphony Guild.
• The winner will perform one selection with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra at the PSO Student
Concert on Friday, April 30, 2021 at 10:00 AM and 11:45 AM in the Peoria Civic Center Theater.
• The winner performs at the Peoria Symphony Guild Spring Luncheon, 11:30 AM, May 4th, 2021, at the
Country Club of Peoria.

Rules, Application, and approved Repertoire are available online at peoriasymphony.org/yac.