



2023 Young Artist Competition



Dear Music Educator:

The Peoria Symphony Guild is pleased to announce our **66th Annual Concerto/Aria Competition for Exceptionally Talented High School and Junior High Musicians**. We are excited to expand our competition to schools and aspiring young artists within a 350-mile radius of Peoria, Illinois. Concerto/Aria categories are piano, voice, brass, woodwind, strings, and percussion. Our mission is to give young artists real-world experiences, encourage them to continue their musicianship, and motivate them to use their talents to seek a possible musical career.

The competition winners will receive monetary awards of \$1000 for 1st Place, \$750 for 2nd Place, and \$500 for 3rd Place, and will be showcased and required to perform at the Peoria Symphony Guild's Spring Luncheon on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 11:00 AM** in Peoria, IL. The 1st Place winner will additionally have the honor to perform professionally with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra at the Peoria Symphony Guild's Annual Student Concert on **Friday, April 19, 2024, at 10:00 AM and 11:45 AM** at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria, IL. All students must be sure these dates are cleared on their calendars, before entering.

This is a great opportunity for your talented students to gain audition experience, and possibly play with a professional orchestra! Please share the attached flyer with your talented students or post it on your band, orchestra, and chorus bulletin boards. You and your student can visit <https://peoriasymphony.org/events/yac/> for a full competition description, including the rules, application forms, and an approved repertoire list. (Any alternate repertoire selections must be approved by Maestro George Stelluto.)

Applicants are required to submit a video recording of their piece for the preliminary audition round (instructions will be emailed once the application has been approved). **The deadline to submit applications with a \$70 non-refundable registration fee is Tuesday, January 16, 2024.** Payment may be mailed to the address below or paid online at: <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/PSOGuild>. **The final in-person audition round will be on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at Illinois Central College in Peoria, Illinois.**

Thank you for providing this information to your students. Applications should be submitted to me using the contact information below. Please contact me with any questions. We look forward to hearing from your talented students!

Best Regards,

Peggy Reid, Chair
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