



2026 Rochester Music Guild Scholarship Competition

STRINGS, BRASS/WOODWINDS

—REQUIREMENTS FOR PERFORMANCE—

Memorization: *Required for Strings. Optional for Brass/Woodwinds.*

Scores: One piece of **original music** (no photocopies, except for accompanists) for each selection **must** be provided for the adjudicators. Measures **must** be numbered.

RMG requires students, teachers, and other participants to affirm compliance with the US Copyright Policies, and to use only authorized reproductions of copyrighted works. Reproduction of a copyrighted work constitutes copyright infringement **unless a)** a license to reproduce such work has been obtained, **b)** the use is considered fair use, **c)** the work is in the public domain, **OR d)** a valid exception to copyright infringement exists.

Proof of authorization must be shown at the **Registration table in one of these forms:**

- 1) A release directly from the publisher
- 2) Ownership through an online proof of purchase receipt
- 3) A detailed verification of public domain. Two helpful links:
https://imslp.org/wiki/IMSLP:Copyright_Made_Simple and
<https://www.mpa.org/quick-guide-to-copyright/>

Accompanists: Competitors must provide their own accompanists. Please arrange for a solid commitment from your accompanist prior to submitting your application. Your accompanist must be available for both the competition and recital. We base our scheduling in large part on accommodating accompanists who are playing for multiple competitors on the competition days. Full accompanist contact information is a requirement for an accepted application.

Performance Requirements:

Competitors must perform two selections drawn from two different music period classifications listed below. These selections should also differ in style, tempo, and technique.

- 1) *Renaissance Dowland, Palestrina, Byrd, Monteverde, etc*
- 2) *Baroque. Handel, Bach, Scarlatti, etc.*
- 3) *Classical. Haydn, Clementi, Mozart, Beethoven, etc.*
- 4) *Romantic. Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Rachmaninov, etc.*
- 5) *Composers born after 1880. Bartók, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Ginastera, Debussy, etc.*

Transcriptions are allowed.

You must always perform each piece starting at the beginning or at the start of the movement as indicated by the competitor on the application. Repeats are optional. Cuts are not allowed except in the piano accompaniment.

Performance time: Ten minutes

A volunteer is present to time each performance.

Options for dividing the performance time between your two selections:

A) *You may decide the exact division of time.*

You may request the timer to stop you at a predetermined time during your first selection so you can begin your second piece - thus you decide the exact division of time. Keep in mind that you must demonstrate mastery of two different styles. This option allows you to include, for example, an important climax or a specific technical passage in one piece while still allowing time to present a solid portion of the second selection.

B) *You may ask the timer to stop you at the halfway point—five minutes—so that you may begin your second piece.*

Performance Procedure and Atmosphere

Students should check in at the Registration Desk and will be directed to a warm-up room and performance room. Competitors should go to the performance room at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled performance time. Due to lack of availability at the church, pianos are not available in the warm-up rooms.

The competitor may briefly tune and test his/her instrument in the performance room, but they may not play any portion of their competition pieces.

The competition auditions are open to the general public.

Scholarship Winner Selection

The adjudicators will write critiques and select scholarship winners. Winners will be notified by email. Winners' names are posted on the Rochester Music Guild website. Shortly after the competition, competitors will receive the adjudicators' written critiques.

All winners are expected to perform in the Winners' Recital Sunday, April 19, 2026, at Christ United Methodist Church, 400 5th Avenue SW, Rochester. This is a special celebration for scholarship winners, their families, teachers, friends, and the public. Winners may be invited to perform at the Rochester Music Guild annual meeting.

The online application will be available during the open application dates at:

<https://rochestermusicguild.org/scholarship-competition/>