



PACIFIC MUSICAL SOCIETY & FOUNDATION 2024 ANNUAL COMPETITION



APPLICATION & VIDEO SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

JANUARY 22, 2024

WINNERS NOTIFICATION:

MARCH 4, 2024

WWW.PACIFICMUSICAL.COM

ESTABLISHED 1910

2024 ANNUAL COMPETITION

Application & video submission deadline: Sunday, January 22, 2024



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UPDATES FOR 2024

This year we are making two significant changes to expand competition access and benefits to potential applicants:

- The competition is now **open to entrants residing anywhere within the United States**.
- In the weeks following notification of competition winners, we will be offering all applicants (regardless of winner/non-winner status) the opportunity to participate in a **virtual Q&A symposium**, moderated by PMSF Board members, during which the judge(s) of their entry category will answer general questions pertaining to their musical development, studies, and careers. Dates, format, and other logistics will be determined and disseminated in the coming months.

Otherwise, the competition format follows last year's, with a single round of judging based on electronic submissions (video submissions for the performance categories), contestants receiving individualized feedback from the judging panel, and winning submissions featured in an online showcase. Winners will be announced on or around March 4, 2024.

We would also like to reiterate our recently-initiated capital campaign to help sustain the Pacific Musical competition for the next century. Competition categories and divisions are available for sponsorship, with naming rights available for significant donation. Learn more about the named divisions at <https://pacificmusical.com/divisions> and reach out to us at info@pacificmusical.com if you're interested in contributing to the campaign.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must currently reside in the United States, including all states and territories. Past First Place winners in may not compete in the same age group and category; they may compete in another age group when they are age appropriate. Past First Place winners in the Composition category in 2022 or earlier may not compete in the Original Composition subcategory; they may compete in a different Composition subcategory.

Note that at this time we are unable to accommodate harpsichordists or organists.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS



- The application fee is \$100.
- We require that string and vocal performances be accompanied (unless the piece is composed for unaccompanied instrument/voice). Recorded accompaniments are permitted, but applicants should recognize the drawbacks for the expressive potential of their performances.
- All works must be memorized and performed from memory, including sonatas.
- For all video submissions:
 - Videos must be recorded live with no editing, reverb, or other audio filters or enhancements applied.
 - Videos must have been recorded on or after July 22, 2023 (i.e. within 6 months of the application deadline).
 - For pianists, videos must be framed so that performer's hands and feet (pedaling) are visible.
 - For string players, videos must be framed so both hands can be seen; the instrument's f-holes (not the scroll) should point toward the camera.
 - For vocalists, videos must be framed so that the performer is visible from at least the waist up.
 - The microphone used for recording should be no more than 8 feet from the performer.
 - The recording space should be as acoustically "dead" as possible.
 - If the judges deem the recording quality too poor to evaluate properly, or see signs of editing or audio manipulation, the contestant will be disqualified with no recourse.

REQUIREMENTS BY CATEGORY

Piano Category:

Piano-1	Ages 8 to 10
Piano-2	Ages 11 to 13
Piano-3	Ages 14 to 17

Requirements:

One solo work each from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary (composed post-1915) periods (four videos). For multi-movement works, the first movement is required; any number of additional movements may be performed within the same video.

Instrumental Category:

Instr-1	Ages 8 to 10
Instr-2	Ages 11 to 13
Instr-3	Ages 14 to 17

Requirements:

One solo work each from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary (composed post-1915) periods (four videos). For multi-movement works, the first movement is required; any number of additional movements may be performed within the same video.

Vocal Category:

Vocal-1	Ages 16 to 18, all genders
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Requirements:

Four works, which may be arias, art songs, or a combination (four videos).



Composition Category:

Comp-1 Ages 8 to 25

Requirements:

One submission from one of the following subcategories:

1) **Original Composition:** an original work for any instrument or combination of instruments, submitted in a commonly recognized music notation program such as Finale, Sibelius, or Dorico and saved as a PDF, and accompanied by a computer-generated playback or live audio recording.

2) **Composer/Performer:** One original composition to be performed by the composer on any orchestral instrument. Work must be submitted in a commonly recognized music notation program such as Finale, Sibelius, or Dorico and saved as a PDF. Original composition must be performed by and showcase the composer. Score must be accompanied by a live video recording of its performance showcasing the composer.

3) **Arranger/Performer:** One work of any length that is an interpretation, arrangement, or transcription of an existing work, written for any orchestral instrument or combination of orchestral instruments. This excludes “cover band” material, defined as a direct parody of another artist’s work. Work must be submitted in a commonly recognized music notation program such as Finale, Sibelius, or Dorico and saved as a PDF. Score must be accompanied by a live video recording of its performance showcasing the composer.

- For entries based on works in the public domain, only arrangements and transcriptions that have not been published or sold are eligible.
- For entries based on copyrighted songs and pieces, the use of the “ArrangeMe” service (<https://www.arrangeme.com>) is encouraged. This web-based service, a division of Hal Leonard, includes 1.8 million copyrighted songs and pieces that are pre-approved for arrangement or transcription. ArrangeMe takes care of permissions and royalties and handles sales. You must first self-publish your arrangement or transcription through ArrangeMe before submitting it to the competition.
- For entries based on copyrighted songs and pieces not available through the ArrangeMe service, permission to arrange and distribute copyrighted works will be the responsibility of the entrant.

Permissions must be obtained before submission to the competition. Arrangements and transcriptions that have already been published or sold are ineligible.

Note: all Composition subcategories will be judged together, with none automatically given preference. Applicants should choose the subcategory that best showcases their abilities.

APPLICATION & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Pacific Musical Society & Foundation utilizes a fully electronic application process. By **11:59 PM on Monday, January 22, 2024** complete all below items, following the instructions on www.pacificmusical.com:

1. Complete and submit the online application form.
2. Participation in the competition requires an application fee of \$100.00. Submit your non-refundable fee of \$100.00 when applying at www.pacificmusical.com.
3. Submit videos and scores via the link on www.pacificmusical.com. For performances, each work or movement must be a complete and memorized performance with no editing, and recorded in the last 6 months before the application deadline. For questions, contact competition@pacificmusical.com
4. For more information about repertoire and entry, see the Frequently Asked Questions section of our website at www.pacificmusical.com/competition.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Competition winners will be announced on or around **Monday, March 4, 2024**. Checks and certificates will be awarded as follows and sent electronically or by mail.

PIANO

Piano Division 1 (Piano-1), ages 8 to 10	First Place	\$500
	Second Place	\$300
	Third Place	\$100
The Shirley M. Beckett Piano Division (Piano-2), ages 11 to 13	First Place	\$700
	Second Place	\$500
	Third Place	\$300
Piano Division 3 (Piano-3), ages 14 to 17	First Place	\$1200
	Second Place	\$800
	Third Place	\$600

INSTRUMENTAL

Instrumental Division 1 (Instr-1), ages 8 to 10	First Place	\$500
	Second Place	\$300
	Third Place	\$100
Instrumental Division 2 (Instr-2), ages 11 to 13	First Place	\$700
	Second Place	\$500
	Third Place	\$300
Instrumental Division 3 (Instr-3), ages 14 to 17	First Place	\$1200
	Second Place	\$800
	Third Place	\$600

VOCAL

Vocal Division (Vocal-1), ages 16 to 18, all genders	First Place	\$1200
	Second Place	\$800
	Third Place	\$600

COMPOSITION

Composition Division (Comp-1), ages 8 to 25	First Place	\$1200
	Second Place	\$800
	Third Place	\$600

JUDGES' HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS

Up to one Honorable Mention Award in each category can be bestowed at the discretion of the judges in consultation with the PMSF Board.

Please Note: Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. **The decisions of the judges are final.**

2024 COMPETITION

Winners Consent



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Winners must provide a short biography and an appropriate performer photo in high resolution (JPG or TIF, 300 dpi minimum, 400 dpi preferred) within one week of notification. Instructions for electronic submission of the biography and photo will be included in the notification to finalists.

Winners consent to the use of their video submissions in the online Winners Showcase to be published on www.pacificmusical.com. They additionally consent to the use of their name, photo, biography, and video submission for use in the Society’s activities, web sites, social media and fan pages, and other media.

Winners further agree to perform, without compensation, in at least one Pacific Musical Society & Foundation event, when requested to do so with reasonable notice.

Print Applicant Name

Date

Applicant Signature

Print Parent or Guardian Name

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Important:

All Competition winners must sign this form and email a scan or photograph to info@pacificmusical.com within one week of notification. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.