

Moores School Symphony Orchestra
Annual Concerto Competition - 2021
Revised 9/7/21

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Competition Chairs: Darlene Clark and Rita Aron

The 2021 competition will accept applicants from enrolled MSM students in the following divisions:

Strings
Voice

Announcement of winners - October 16, 2021, immediately following the final round of performances.
Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Preliminary Round	Division Prize Strings (2)	\$750 each	\$1500
	Division Prize Voice (2)	\$750 each	\$1500
Honorable Mentions	Strings (1) & Voice (1)	\$250 each	\$500
Final Round	Audience Choice Award (1)		\$500
	Grand Prize Strings (1)		\$1500
	Grand Prize Voice (1)		\$1500
Total prizes			\$7000

Grand Prize winners will also be invited to perform with the Moores School Symphony Orchestra in concerts scheduled within the 2021-2022 season.

Applications:

Applications will be open Friday, Sept. 10 at 9:00 AM to Friday, October 1, at 5:00 PM

Apply and pay the application fee here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/concerto-competition-fee-orchestra-tickets-167785830937>

The application must be submitted and the non-refundable application fee paid by the application deadline. Following the submission of the application, an email will be sent to the competitor's primary teacher for approval. Deadline for approvals is Wednesday, October 6 at 5:00 PM. Students who do not gain their teacher's approval will not compete.

Preliminary Round:

October 16, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM in MSM 175 (Strings) and Dudley Hall (Vocal). Instrument case storage and warmup will be in MSM 185. Each Division will be judged by an external panel of three (3) distinguished individuals from the appropriate areas (strings and voice). Each set of adjudicators will be tasked with selecting two (2) Division Winners who will advance to the final round (four finalists in all). An Honorable Mention prize may also be awarded at the judges' discretion but will not advance to the final round.

Performance times will be randomly assigned. Times will be announced by October 8 at 6:00 PM.

Final Round:

The final round of competition performances will be professionally recorded by the Moores School of Music and livestreamed from Dudley Recital Hall on Saturday, October 16. The final round will be judged by the six (6) Division Judges (three in strings & three in voice) plus one (1) additional adjudicator not affiliated with the MSM, for a total of seven (7) judges. Two (2) Grand Prize Winners (one in each division) will be chosen from the four finalists. An Audience Choice Award will also be given.

Performance times will be randomly assigned. Times will be announced prior to the 7:00 PM performance.

Competition Rules and Procedures

All applicants must be currently enrolled at the Moores School of Music to be eligible to compete.

Repertoire: All competitors must perform a *complete* work written for solo string instrument or voice (see vocal rep. requirements below) with orchestra.

Vocal repertoire requirements:

- Multiple solos/works/arias are acceptable. Total performance time must be 12 minutes (*minimum*) to 15 minutes (*maximum*).
- Vocal orchestral works/song cycles are also acceptable but may not exceed 20 minutes (*maximum*).

All competitors must be able to perform the entire work from memory, with piano accompaniment. Competitors are responsible for engaging and rehearsing with their accompanist.

Competitors must provide four (4) hard copy scores of their work (preferably the piano reduction) by October 15 at 5:00 PM to the MSSO for use by the judges. Photocopies are permissible if bound in a 3-ring binder or other binding. PDF files are likely available online from IMSLP.

In the Preliminary Round, judges may request any part of the competitor's submitted work and may choose to start and stop the performance at will. Judges will select two winners from each division and may select an honorable mention from each division.

In the Final Round, Finalists will perform their concerto in its entirety. Suitable cuts for tutti sections may be made by pianists, but they should not occur in ways that would disrupt the flow of music. Judges will select one grand prize winner from each division.

Contact Orchestra Management at uhmssso@uh.edu with any questions.

Timeline:

- Sep. 10 – Oct. 1: Applications accepted
- Oct. 6: Deadline for applied instructors to approve their student's application
- Oct. 8: Times of preliminary round performance distributed
- Oct. 15: Hard copies of scores due
- Oct. 16: Preliminary and Final rounds of competition