

AUBURN SYMPHONY

2012 YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION GUIDELINES

*A Message from Maestro Michael Goodwin
Auburn Symphony Conductor*

I am looking forward very much to hearing your performances in the Auburn Symphony Young Artist Competition. Please choose and prepare music which best shows your technical achievement and musical sensitivity. Please do not choose music beyond your technical level. Pieces should be played at a correct tempo. Extra credit will be given for memorization. Your accompanist should be well prepared – sometimes poor accompanying has prevented a musician from performing at his or her best. Good luck and best wishes.

DESCRIPTION: This competition is open to serious young musicians. The first place winners from all three divisions will receive a monetary award. The competition is open to all students residing in Placer, El Dorado, or Nevada Counties. In addition, the competition is open to all students or relatives of Auburn Symphony musicians. Musicians must be younger than 21 as of the date of the competition, **Saturday, February 25, 2012.**

CATEGORIES: Students may compete in either the Piano or the Instrumental (Wind/String) category.

AGE GROUP DIVISIONS and PERFORMANCE LENGTH: The competition for each category is divided into three age groups. Performances are not to exceed the time limit as outlined:

Division 1	Ages eight through eleven	5 minutes
Division 2	Ages twelve through sixteen	7 minutes
Division 3	Ages seventeen through twenty	10 minutes

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee of \$20.00, accompanies the application and is payable by check to the Auburn Symphony.

Level I - APPLICATION AND CASSETTE/CD SUBMISSION TIMELINE: Your application form and a good quality cassette tape or CD of your audition must be received by the Auburn Symphony no later than **Friday, January 20, 2012.** Please do not submit a DVD. The tape or CD may be mailed to P. O. Box 74, Auburn, CA 95604, or brought to the Auburn Symphony office, 985 Lincoln Way, Suite 102, Auburn, before 2:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday.

The following conditions apply:

1. Student's name, address, telephone number, birthdate, and age must be included on the application.
2. Students must perform the music submitted on the audition cassette tape or CD when performing at the live audition for the Conductor's Panel and the recital.
3. Preference will be given to students performing music from the classical repertoire.
4. If selected for the live audition, students must provide four (4) copies of their musical score for the judges.
5. If selected for the live audition, students must provide a brief biography.
6. Instrumentalists must arrange for and provide their own accompanist.
7. Electronic instruments will not be accepted.
8. Students must be on time for the live audition. If they are not on time, they will lose their place in the competition.
9. Extra credit will be given for memorization.

SELECTION OF FINALISTS: Competition finalists will be chosen from those musicians submitting a tape or CD. Finalists will perform before a panel of judges. These individuals selected for the live audition will be notified by February 10, 2012.

Here are some of the things we listen for:

1. Accuracy of the right notes at an acceptable tempo.
2. Even, but not inflexible rhythm.
3. Beautiful tone.
4. Attention to dynamics.
5. Musical sensitivity and a sense of the composer's style.
6. For pianists, clean pedaling.

Level II - AUDITION AND RECITAL TIMELINE: The live auditions will be held on **Saturday, February 25, 2012**, location TBA. Audition place winners are required to perform at the YAC recital, **Saturday, March 24, 2012**, or forfeit their prize.

