

Announcing Central Iowa Symphony's 2018 Young Artists Auditions

General Information

Applicants will audition for a solo performance opportunity with Central Iowa Symphony. Selected performers will be featured on the 2018 CIS Young Artists Concert, to be held at 3:00 pm on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at Ames City Auditorium. Vocalists not older than 22 and pre-college instrumentalists meeting all eligibility requirements stated below may audition.

Auditions will be held on **Sunday, January 14, 2018** at Music Hall at Iowa State University beginning at 1:00 pm. A panel of adjudicators, including the CIS Music Director, will select performers who will contribute to an exceptional concert program featuring a balance of instruments, ages, historical periods, and musical styles. The panel reserves the right to select no performers.

Eligibility Requirements

Instrumentalists (wind, brass, percussion, strings, and piano): must be an Iowa resident; not older than age 18; enrolled and attending an Iowa elementary, middle, high or home school, as of the audition date. College instrumentalists are not eligible to audition. Previous winners are not eligible to audition and may not audition on a different instrument.

Vocalists: College undergraduate or graduate students not older than age 22 as of the audition date; enrolled in and attending an Iowa college or university as of the audition date. **Pre-college vocalists** must meet instrumental eligibility requirements as stated above. Previous winners are not eligible to audition and may not audition on a different instrument.

It is expected that selected performers will make necessary schedule adjustments to accommodate rehearsals as scheduled by the CIS Music Director. At minimum, this includes at least one Monday rehearsal in February (7:15- 9:30 pm), the dress rehearsal (Saturday, March 3, 9-11:30 am), and the concert. Exact rehearsal times TBA.

Repertoire Requirements:

Applicants will audition with the work they expect to perform at the CIS concert. All works must be in the standard repertoire for solo instrument or voice with orchestra, 5-12 minutes in length, and be performed from memory. Concertos are limited to one complete movement and must be performed with cadenzas as applicable. Vocalists may perform two contrasting works with a combined maximum performance time of 12 minutes. All auditions must be accompanied and applicants must provide their own accompanists. All repertoire is subject to approval by the CIS Music Director. For further discussion of repertoire, please see the attached FAQs, or email the audition coordinator with specific questions.

Application Deadline, Fees and Contact Information

Application forms are available at www.cisymphony.org. The application period is November 1 through December 15. Applications postmarked before or after those dates will not be accepted. Please be sure to submit the correct application form for your audition. All applications must be submitted by regular mail to the address on the application form. Please check your application packet carefully before mailing. Late, incomplete, illegible and emailed applications will not be accepted.

Application fee: \$25 (non-refundable). Please make checks payable to Central Iowa Symphony, or use the PayPal link on CIS Young Artists page.

All necessary correspondence with applicants prior to audition day will occur via email, so please be sure to include a valid email address and add the audition coordinator's email to your safe list.

Questions about repertoire, rules or eligibility? Need more information?

Email audition coordinator Donita McCoy ddmccoy@msn.com

Central Iowa Symphony Young Artists Auditions Frequently Answered Questions

Q. I have a conflict on audition day. Can I request a specific audition time?

A. Attach a note to your application and we'll do our best to accommodate you. Q. My student is home-schooled but not dual-enrolled. Is that OK?

A. Yes.

Q. Are college instrumentalists eligible to audition?

A. No.

Q. I play alto sax/trombone/clarinet. Can I audition?

A. Yes! As long as you meet the eligibility requirements for instrumentalists and haven't graduated high school, we would love to hear you perform!

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Q. I don't take private lessons. Can I audition?

A. Yes. Ask your ensemble director to sign the recommendation form on your application. Q. My piece is standard for my instrument, but isn't in the Luck's catalog.

A. Standard repertoire consists of most major concerti, concert pieces and arias accompanied by orchestra. The vast majority of standard repertoire is public domain (i.e., no longer under copyright protection) and can be found easily in an orchestra sales/rental catalog (such as Luck's), or the rental/sales catalog of the publisher of your part.

All repertoire is subject to advance approval by the CIS Music Director. If you have questions about your repertoire choice, please ask your teacher or the audition coordinator before sending your application and well before the application deadline.

Q. I just found out about this competition/my teacher hasn't signed the application, and the deadline is tomorrow. Can I email it to you, or get an extension?

A. Sorry, but no. Incomplete applications cannot be accepted. Applications may be hand-delivered by appointment to the audition coordinator at the mailing address on the application form.

To avoid this inconvenience, please complete and mail your packet well in advance of the deadline.

Q. I don't have an accompanist yet. Can I leave it blank?

A. Yes, but ... many applicants work with the same accompanist. We can't finalize the schedule without the names of all accompanists. Please provide the name of your accompanist promptly to avoid delays in receiving the final schedule.

Historically, students who have been chosen as CIS Young Artists have been working with an accompanist well in advance of submitting their application.

Q. Do you have a list of accompanists?

A. We do not keep a list, but can occasionally provide leads depending on how the schedule is shaping up.

Q. My accompanist is sick/didn't call me back/backed out yesterday and the audition is next week!

A. A. You must perform with an accompanist, but in deciding whether to find someone else, your teacher's judgment (and your own comfort) is your starting point. However, as a courtesy to other performers, audition staff and judges, as much advance notice of cancellation as possible is appreciated.

Q. What is a summary and why do you need it even if I'm sending a résumé?

Your teacher's judgment (and your own comfort) is your starting point. However, as a courtesy to other performers, audition staff and judges, as much advance notice of cancellation as appreciated.

A. A summary is a short bit of prose about your musical experience. The summary is used as the bio for the concert program and is subject to editing for publication. Please see the applications for suggestions on what to include. Because of space constraints, please keep it to 7-10 sentences or 250 words.

Q. My résumé is four pages long. What should I do?

A. Many experienced performers keep a CV from which they cut and paste to suit the requirements of the application. Please consult your teacher for common practice in your performance area, but keep in mind that one page is fairly standard for professional auditions. Please pare it down to the most relevant experience you've had.

Instrumentalists who are All-Staters should please also include their seating placements. Q. I printed my music from a website. Is that OK?

A. Yes, as long as it is not under copyright. Public domain parts are allowed, but please include the URL of the website on your application. Photocopies and printer copies of copyrighted parts are neither legal nor permitted.

Q. When do I find out my audition time?

A. The schedule will be emailed to you no later than January 9.

Q. My question isn't on this list.

A. The answer department is just an email away: ddmccoy@msn.com

Q. I've never heard of CIS or the Young Artists Auditions.

A. Central Iowa Symphony is a community orchestra based in Ames. Since 1987, CIS has brought together music lovers from across central Iowa to nurture, inspire and educate through live performance.

The Young Artists Concert is one of our most popular concerts. Every year, young Iowa musicians audition for an opportunity to share their love of music with an enthusiastic, supportive orchestra and audience. Could you be a 2017 Young Artist? We'd love to hear you perform!

Central Iowa Symphony 2018 Young Artists Instrumental Application Form

Please print all information legibly, or use a word processor.

Method of Payment: PayPal (name of payor): _____ OR Check # _____

Part I: Applicant Information

Name _____ Age _____

Instrument _____

Email _____ Best phone _____

Home mailing address _____

Parent(s) _____

Name/city of school _____ Grade _____

Accompanist _____

Accompanist's Email _____

Part II: Audition Repertoire

Title of work, opus number _____

Movement number and tempo designation _____

Composer _____ Publisher _____

Cadenza(s) by _____ Editor _____

Performance time (max. 12 minutes; round up to nearest minute)

Part III: Documentation and Release

A. Teacher Recommendation

I consider _____ to be well qualified to enter this audition.

Name of student

_____ Original signature of teacher

_____ Phone

_____ Teacher's name

_____ **Email**

Business address:

B. Photographic and Recording Release.

All applicants must sign below. For minors, a parent's signature is also required.

I/we, the undersigned, grant Central Iowa Symphony (CIS) permission and authority to capture, post, print, and otherwise use photographs, digital images and recordings of this applicant for publicity, educational and informational purposes as needed to fulfill the mission of CIS.

Applicant: _____

Date: _____

Parent: _____

Date: _____ **Only required if student is a minor**

C. Supporting documents

Please staple or clip the following required documents to your application.

All applicants: A biographic summary of your musical experience, including but not necessarily limited to years of private study, past and present teachers, ensembles, and major honors and awards you've received. This will be your bio for the concert program. There is a 7-10 sentence (or 250 word) limit on length. The summary is subject to editing for publication.

High school students: a one-page r sum  (optional for elementary and middle school students) **Submission Instructions**

Before you put your application in the envelope, check to make sure you have included the following:

- ◆ **your completed application form**
- ◆ **your biographical summary**
- ◆ **your r sum **
- ◆ **the application fee**
- ◆ **Applications must be postmarked between November 1 and December 15, 2017. Late, incomplete, illegible and emailed applications will not be accepted. Mail your completed packet to:**

Donita McCoy
CIS Young Artists Auditions

2415 Hamilton Drive

Ames, Iowa 50014