

## ***Back to the Future***

### **The Knoxville International Piano Festival and Competition**

March 8-10th, 2024

College of Music at the University of Tennessee

Natalie L. Haslam Music Center (1741 Volunteer Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37996)

#### **FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

Friday March 8th

5:30 P.M. Opening Concert and Welcome Gala

Saturday March 9th

8:00 A.M. – 6:30 P.M. Competition Performances and Masterclasses

7:30 P.M. Solo Recital - Festival Artist and Judge Arthur Greene

Sunday March 10th

9:00 A.M. Competition Performances Continue

3:00 P.M. Closing Concert and Awards Ceremony

#### **SOLO PIANO COMPETITION AGE GROUPS AND CATEGORIES**

- There are five age groups for the Solo Piano Competition:
  1. Rising Talent (ages 6 and under)
  2. Young Musician (ages 7–10)
  3. Junior Star (ages 11–14)
  4. Senior Virtuoso (ages 15–18)
  5. Artist (ages 18–30)
- Ages will be calculated as of the start of the competition on March 8, 2024. In the exceptional cases of an 18-year-old attending high school (or equivalent), or a 17-year-old attending college, they may choose either to enter the Senior Virtuoso or Artist group.

#### **REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS**

- **Rising Talent:** Repertoire is free-choice. Maximum performance time is 5 minutes. This category is non-competitive and participants will receive a certificate of participation and a rating of Superior, Excellent, Very Good, or Good.
- **Young Musician, Junior Star, and Senior Virtuoso:** contestants choose to enter one or more of the following categories, each of which is a separate competition with prizewinners. Maximum performance times for each category are listed below.

##### **Baroque Category**

Contestants perform one or more pieces by Baroque composers.

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

### **Classical Sonata/Sonatina Category**

Contestants perform movement(s) of a sonata or sonatina by composers from the classical era, including but not limited to: Scarlatti, Kuhlau, Clementi, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, and Beethoven.

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

### **Chopin Category**

Contestants perform one or more pieces by Chopin.

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

### **Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> Century Category**

Contestants perform one or more pieces composers from the Romantic era through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, except Chopin.

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

### **“Back to the Future” Category**

Contestants choose one or more of the following options:

1. One or more pieces composed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
2. One or more original compositions by the contestant
3. An improvisation based on “Tennessee Waltz” by Pee Wee King

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

- **Artist Competition:**

- Two rounds**

- 15-minute Preliminary Round on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>

- 25-minute Final Round on Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>.

The judges will select a limited number of Finalists to perform in the Final Round.

**Repertoire is free choice but must include the “Back to the Future” Requirement.**

Participants may repeat repertoire between rounds.

- **“Back to the Future” Requirement:** Artist contestants must perform at least one of the following in either their preliminary or final round program:
    1. A work composed in the last 100 years: contestants are highly encouraged to perform 21<sup>st</sup> c. music/arrangements and unique perspectives on traditional repertoire
    2. An original composition by the contestant
    3. Improvisation based on “Tennessee Waltz” by Pee Wee King

## APPLICATION FEES

Application fees for the Solo Piano Competitions are as follows:

1. **Rising Talent** (6 and under) -- \$40
2. **Young Musician** (ages 7–10) -- \$40 for the first category, \$20 for each additional category
3. **Junior Star** (ages 11–14) -- \$50 for the first category, \$20 for each additional category
4. **Senior Virtuoso** (ages 15–18) -- \$60 for the first category, \$20 for each additional category
5. **Artist** (ages 18–30) -- \$110

## PIANO ENSEMBLE COMPETITION

- Contestants may enter the Piano Ensemble Competition as any piano ensemble of two or more pianists performing on one or two pianos, such as two-piano duo, four-hands duet, piano six-hands on one piano, eight-hands on one or two pianos.
- The repertoire is free choice. Solo concerto with orchestra reduction on a second piano is not allowed.
- Age groups and maximum performance times for the Ensemble Competition are as follows:
  1. Young Musicians (ages 11 and under) – 6 Minutes
  2. Junior Stars (ages 12–15) – 8 Minutes
  3. Artists (ages 16 and above, no upper limit) – 10 Minutes
- Ensembles should enter the category using the age of the ensemble's oldest member.
- Ensembles fill out only one application as a group.
- Application Fees for the Piano Ensemble Competition are as follows:
  1. Young Musicians (ages 11 and under) – \$40 per group
  2. Junior Stars (ages 12–15) – \$50 per group
  3. Artists (ages 16 and above, no upper limit) – \$60 per group

## OFFICIAL RULES

- Applications: DEADLINE EXTENDED -- Completed applications and entry fees must be received no later than **February 23rd at 11:59 P.M. EST**. All applications must be submitted through the online portal.
- Applicants have the choice to participate in the Solo Piano Competition, the Ensemble Piano Competition, or both. The Solo and Ensemble competitions require separate applications.
- The application fees are non-refundable and include free entry for participants and their families to all concerts, lectures, and masterclasses of the Festival and Competition.
- All decisions of the judges are final.
- Every participant must bring a printed copy of each piece (except for improvisation) in their program for the judges to consult during the performance. Original copies are encouraged; photocopies are allowed.
- All repertoire must be performed from memory, except for the following exceptions:
  - Rising Talent contestants (aged 6 and under)
  - Piano Ensemble contestants
  - Compositions composed in the late 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Contestants may be stopped by the judges if their performance time exceeds the time limit for their age group. Performances stopped by the judges will not affect the competition result.
- Prepared piano technique, including but not limited to plugging and touching the strings, is permitted only for “Back to the Future” Category and Artist competition, and will need to be performed on a designated piano. Any pieces requiring extended techniques, prepared piano, or require the performer to reach inside the piano are subject to approval and will require consultation with the College of Music piano technician.
- Participants agree to the use of their photographic image in social media and website content related to the competition unless otherwise expressed.
- All participants will receive written comments from the judges.
- The competition reserves the right to not award a first prize if no one is deemed worthy by the judges.

## **SOLO PIANO COMPETITION PRIZES AND AWARDS**

1. Rising Talent (ages 6 and under) — NON-COMPETITIVE  
Students receive a certificate and a rating of one of the following: Superior, Excellent, Very Good, or Good
  
2. Young Musician (ages 7-10) – Prizes awarded for each competition category  
1<sup>st</sup> Prize – \$60 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes – Certificates  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate
  
3. Junior Star (ages 11-14) – Prizes awarded for each competition category  
1st Prize - \$80 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate
  
4. Senior Virtuoso (ages 15-18) – Prizes awarded for each competition category  
1st Prize - \$100 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate  
Honorable Mentions – Certificate  
Scholarships valued at \$10,000 to attend the University of Tennessee Knoxville School of Music in Piano Performance
  
5. Artist (ages 18-30)  
1st Prize - \$1,200 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd Prize - \$600 Cash Prize and Certificate  
3rd Prize - \$300 Cash Prize and Certificate  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate  
Special Prize - \$200 awarded to the best performance of the “Back to the Future” Requirement  
Special Prize - \$200 awarded to the best performance of a work by Chopin  
Scholarships valued at \$10,000 to attend the University of Tennessee Knoxville School of Music in Piano Performance

## **PIANO ENSEMBLE PRIZES AND AWARDS**

1. Young Musicians (ages 11 and under)  
1st Prize - \$60 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate
  
2. Junior Stars (ages 12-15)  
1st Prize - \$70 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate
  
3. Artists (ages 16 and above, no upper limit)  
1st Prize - \$80 Cash Prize and Certificate  
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate  
Honorable Mentions - Certificate