

Viva la France!

The Knoxville International Piano Festival and Competition

Feb. 28th–Mar. 2nd, 2025

College of Music at the University of Tennessee

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

FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Friday February 28th

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

Saturday March 1st

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

7:30 P.M. Festival Artists and Judges Concert

Sunday March 2nd

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)
- **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, or Very Good.
- **Within Young Musician (ages 7–10), Junior Star (ages 11–14), and Senior Virtuoso (ages 15–18),** 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 a Baroque composer (excluding French composers).

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.

Junior Star – 8 minutes max.

Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

Classical Sonata/Sonatine Category—Contestants perform movement(s) of sonata or sonatine by a composer from the classical era, including but not limited to: Scarlatti, Kula, 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/Contemporary Category—Contestants perform music by one or more composers from the Romantic era through the 21st century (except Chopin and French Composers). Students may program their own composition as long as they provide a score for the judges.

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.
Junior Star – 8 minutes max.
Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

French Composers Category—Contestants perform music by one or more French composers

Young Musician – 6 minutes max.
Junior Star – 8 minutes max.
Senior Virtuoso – 10 minutes max.

- **The Artist Competition consists of two rounds:** a 15-minute Preliminary Round on Saturday March 1st and a 25-minute Final Round on Sunday March 2nd. The judges will select a limited number of Finalists to perform in the Final Round. Repertoire is free-choice and participants may repeat repertoire between rounds.
- Ages will be calculated as of the start of the competition on February 28, 2025. In the exceptional cases of an 18-year-old attending high-school (or equivalent), or a 17-year-old attending college, they may choose whether to enter the Senior Virtuoso or Artist group.
- 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, \$25 for each additional category
 4. **Senior Virtuoso** (ages 15–18) -- \$60 for the first category, \$30 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-hand duet, piano six-hand on one piano, eight-hand 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 performance times for the Ensemble Competition are as follows:
 1. Pre-College Ensemble (ages 17 and below) – 10 Minutes
 2. Artist Ensemble (ages 18 and above, no upper limit) – 15 Minutes
- Ensembles should enter the category using the age of the ensemble's oldest member.
- Application Fees for the Piano Ensemble Competition are as follows:
 1. Pre-College Piano Ensemble (ages 17 and below) – \$60
 3. Artist Piano Ensemble (ages 18 and above, no upper limit) – \$80

OFFICIAL RULES

- Applications: Completed applications and entry fees must be received no later than January 31st, 2025 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 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 20th or 21st century
- Contestants may be stopped by the judges if their performance time exceeds the time limit for their age group. Performance stopped by the judges will not affect the competition result.
- 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.

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

2. Young Musician (ages 7-10) – Prizes awarded for each competition category
1st Prize – \$60 Cash Prize and Certificate
2nd and 3rd 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 - \$250 awarded to the best performance of a work by a French Composer
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. Pre-College Ensemble (ages 17 and under)
1st Prize - \$100 Cash Prize and Certificate
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate
Honorable Mentions - Certificate

2. Artist Ensemble (ages 18 and above)
1st Prize - \$150 Cash Prize and Certificate
2nd and 3rd Prizes - Certificate
Honorable Mentions - Certificate