Ottumwa Symphony Young Artists' Competition Rules

Eligibility

- For strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, voice, harp and guitar.
- Must be in high school (grades 9-12) and have not reached 19 years of age on the application deadline date.
- Contestants must live in Iowa.
- Previous winners who have performed with the orchestra are not eligible to compete on the same instrument in successive years.
- Contestants may audition in one medium (piano, voice, instrument)

Audition Requirements

- All contestants are expected to perform either a movement of a concerto or a composition for solo instrument/voice and orchestra. The piece selected must have a published orchestra accompaniment available.
- Those auditioning are encouraged to perform from memory.
- The use of piano accompaniment is required for all contestants. Each applicant is expected to provide his/her own accompanist. Please abbreviate lengthy tutti passages in the accompaniment.
- Compositions must be no longer than 15 minutes.
- One original score of each selection to be performed must be provided to the judges on the day of the competition. No photocopies are allowed.

NOTES: 1. Because of the difficulty and cost of obtaining some orchestra parts, acceptability of your selection is at the discretion of the Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra. 2. Entrants must be available on Friday, February 19 for rehearsal, and Saturday, February 20 for dress rehearsal and concert. Other rehearsals may be arranged. Please contact Henry Weberpal at: henry.weberpal@ottumwaschools.com with additional questions.

The Competition

- Will be held Sunday, January 10th, 2027 at 2:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, 228 W. 4th Street, Ottumwa, Iowa. Competitors may arrive at 1:00 PM.
- Each contestant will receive his/her performance time by Sunday, January 3rd, 2027.
- A panel of judges will select the winner.
- First Prize is $300 and a performance with the Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra on their February 20 concert*
- Second Prize is $200 and 3rd Place is awarded $100.

Note: Decisions of the Ottumwa Symphony Young Artist Competition committee are final and as a stipulation of participation, applicants agree to abide by those decisions.

**Performance with the Orchestra will be at the discretion of the Conductor and the panel of judges.*

APPLICATION SUBMISSION & DEADLINE: Send application to: Henry Weberpal, 1106 North Jay Street, Ottumwa, IA 52501, or by email to henry.weberpal@ottumwaschools.com. Deadline: December 20, 2026

YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION
2026-2027

Name _____ Instrument/Voice_____

Address_____ City & Zip. _____

High School you attend _____Date of Birth _____

Parent's Names _____Telephone _____

Selection _____ Composer _____

Published by _____

Accompanist's Name and email _____

Your email address _____

Instructor's Name & email: _____

Parental Permission:
As legal parent or guardian of the above applicant, I give the Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra permission for the applicant to participate in the Ottumwa Symphony Young Artist Competition and grant the Ottumwa Symphony permission to publish the applicant's name. By entering this competition, I accept the rules and decisions of the Ottumwa Symphony Young Artist committee as final.

Parent or Legal Guardian _____Date_____

Please send your application by mail to:

Henry Weberpal
1106 North Jay Street
Ottumwa, IA, 52501

Or by email to: henry.weberpal@ottumwaschools.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Sunday, December 20, 2026