# Concerto Competition Procedures & Rules

*Adopted by vote of Performance Department faculty, February 28, 2012*
*Changes approved by Performance Department faculty, April 29, 2014*
*Updated by Performance Area Faculty 4/26/16*
*Some small clerical updates to clarify intent 5/18/17*

The Concerto Competition, a collaborative activity of the Performance Department, provides students the opportunity to compete for the honor of soloing with one of the school's top large instrumental student ensembles, such as the Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, and College Symphony.

## 1. Competition date

The Concerto Competition takes place near the end of the spring semester each year. The date will be announced in the fall.

## 2. Student eligibility

a. The student must be in good academic standing (cumulative G.P.A. above 2.0) to be allowed to participate in the Concerto Competition.

b. The Concerto Competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students.

## 3. Approval of the piece of music

a. The piece to be performed on the Concerto Competition must be approved by the director of the ensemble that will be involved if the student is a winner of the competition.

　　1. The Concerto Approval Form is available in the music office. The student should obtain it immediately after selecting the piece to be performed. Obtaining the ensemble director's approval as early as possible is essential in order to avoid the possibility of weeks or months of wasted effort. The director's signature must be obtained by the deadline shown on the form March 1$^{st}$.

　　2. The ensemble director will sign the Approval Form only after seeing a full score of the work to be performed. It is the student's responsibility to obtain that score and present it to the director.

　　3. Works approved for the Concerto Competition are generally between 7 and 15 minutes in length.

b. Once the Approval Form is signed by the ensemble director, the student must submit it to the chairperson of the applied area (woodwind, string, etc.).

## 4. Approval of the student to participate in the Concerto Competition

a. Students must be approved by their area's faculty to be allowed to participate in the Concerto Competition. Area faculty will approve only those who demonstrate the highest levels of musicianship, technical skill, and performance security.

b. The candidate must perform the entire selection with accompaniment at an Area Recital shortly before the Concerto Competition.

c. It is recommended that all music be memorized for the Area Recital, Competition, and eventual performance (if the student is a competition winner). However, it is recognized that certain types of pieces

may be performed with music.  Area faculty approval for a student to perform in the Competition with printed music must be indicated on the Concerto Approval Form.

d. The area chairperson must sign the Concerto Approval Forms for those approved and immediately submit them to the Performance Department chairperson.

## 5. The Concerto Competition Committee

a. Winners of the Concerto Competition shall be selected by a committee consisting of

1. A chairperson (School of Music Director, Associate Director, Assistant Director or Chair of Performance)

2. Directors of the College Symphony and Wind Ensemble, or their designees
3. One faculty representative from each applied area (*woodwind, brass, percussion/guitar, strings, keyboard, and voice*).  If no member of an applied area is available to serve on the Competition Committee, non-applied faculty may serve as substitutes.

## 6. The Concerto Competition

a. The Concerto Competition will take place in King Concert Hall and is open to the public.

b. The Competition chairperson will prepare a printed program for performers and audience.

c. The Competition chairperson will prepare scoring sheets for the members of the Concerto Competition Committee.

d. Each ensemble director will be provided with a score (full score or piano reductions) for all works performed in the competition.

e. Committee members must avoid the appearance of impropriety by sitting at some distance from, and not communicating with, other members of the committee.

f. Each judge will rank the contestants, however many there are, with a different number, where "1" is the strongest, and the "biggest number" (number of total candidates) is the weakest.  Make sure there is agreement on the lower number being for the higher ranking candidates and the higher numbers being the lower ranking candidates.

Judges do not give a score for his/her own student, and so their highest number will be one less.

The scores for each competitor will be added up and divided by the number of judges that cast a vote.

g. The Concerto Competition Committee will meet in the Green Room to select winners.  The rankings and scores of all committee members are weighted equally.  With assistance by a committee member, the committee chairperson will compute the average score for each candidate (adding the scores and dividing by their number).

h. The three students with the lowest average scores shall be named as winners.  In the event of a statistical tie between average scores, the committee will discuss and resolve the issue.  No more than three winners shall be chosen, but if the committee decides that fewer performances were of sufficiently high quality, it may choose fewer than three.  Decisions about winners shall be made by the Committee members present in the Green Room.

i. All Committee rankings, scoring, and deliberations are to be held in strict confidentiality by the members of the committee.

j. As soon as winners are selected, the committee chairperson shall announce them to the audience.

## 7. *Concerto performances*

a. Winners will perform the music performed on the competition.  Judges and ensemble directors will not cut movements or portions.

b. All winners will perform with the school's top instrumental ensembles conducted by faculty directors. As soon as possible, ensemble directors will program the works on the next season's concerts and arrange for rehearsals with the soloists.