

INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MICHAEL BEN & ILLENE KOMISAROW
**MAURER YOUNG
MUSICIANS COMPETITION**

Follow in the footsteps of winners of the Michael Ben and Illene Komisarow Maurer *Young Musicians Competition* who are now musicians in orchestras across the nation, including the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra! This competition encourages accomplished young Indiana musicians (through grade 12) to set and achieve goals of technical and artistic excellence by providing an opportunity to perform in a competitive setting.

PRIZES AWARDED:

★ **Crescendo Category:**

- First prize (\$500)
- Second prize (\$250) in recognition of the many volunteers who generously give their time to this competition.
- Third prize (\$125) in honor of M. Porter and Frances M. Murphy through the Murphy Family Charitable Trust.
- Finalist Awards of Excellence (\$50) are awarded at the discretion of the judges.

★ **Virtuoso Category:**

- First prize (\$2,500) winner will perform their winning concerto with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra at the annual *Side by Side Concert* on Wednesday, March 17, 2027 at Hilbert Circle Theatre.
- Second prize (\$1,500) is awarded in recognition of the many volunteers who generously and enthusiastically give their time to prepare for this competition.
- Third prize (\$750) is awarded in honor of M. Porter and Frances M. Murphy through the Murphy Family Charitable Trust.
- Finalist Awards of Excellence (\$125) are awarded at the discretion of the judges.

CONTEST RULES:

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Student must be a full-time resident of Indiana and currently enrolled in an Indiana registered public, private, parochial, or home school.
 - a. **Crescendo Category:** Students must be no older than 13 years old as of January 8, 2027.
 - b. **Virtuoso Category:** Students must be no older than 18 years old as of January 8, 2027.
 - c. Musicians may apply with one instrument only. Due to tax issues for prizewinners, students must have a Social Security number or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) to participate.
 - d. Previous first prize winners of the Virtuoso Category may not reapply.
2. **REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:** For a submission to be reviewed, the complete registration packet, including preliminary recording, must be **submitted in full by January 8, 2027**.

A complete registration packet includes:

 - a. Online registration form
 - i. Accompanied video recording of solo performance, uploaded to YouTube as unlisted.
 - ii. Copy of registrant's music
 - iii. Letter of recommendation from the registrant's private teacher
 - b. Non-Refundable Entry Fee of **\$50** (Online payment or checks payable to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra)

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3. **TIMELINE:** The following timeline will be observed for the 2026-27 Competition.
 - ★ Deadline for Preliminary Submissions: January 8, 2027
 - ★ Notification of Finalists: January 15, 2027
 - ★ LIVE Finals at Hilbert Circle Theatre: January 31, 2027 – *winners announced immediately after deliberation*
 - ★ Winner's Performance: March 17, 2027
4. **REPERTOIRE:** Contestants must perform from memory one movement of a work written for solo instrument and orchestra. The maximum performance time must be 10 minutes. Please use the Suggested Repertoire List as your guidance. All selections must be approved by the librarian of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. If the contestant has performed in the *Young Musicians Competition* in a previous year, a different work must be presented. The Suggested Repertoire List can be found online.
5. **ACCOMPANIMENT:** During both rounds of the Competition (preliminary and final round), all concertos, including piano concertos, must include a piano orchestral reduction accompaniment. Contestants are to provide their own accompanist. Payment arrangements are the contestant's responsibility and will be handled directly between the contestant and the accompanist.
6. **RECORDING:** Video submissions for the preliminary round of the competition must a high quality, unedited video recording of their performance that clearly displays the contestant and their accompanist in frame. Recording must not be older than 4 months of submission date.
7. **NOTIFICATION OF ADVANCEMENTS:** Acceptance to the Final Round in the *Young Musicians Competition* is based on a thorough review of the submitted entries by a panel of four preliminary judges. The contestants selected for the Final Round will perform live for a panel of three finals judges (separate from the preliminary judges). The decision of the judges in all matters related to the *Michael Ben & Illene Komisarow Maurer Young Musicians Competition* is final. **Failure to comply with any Competition rules will disqualify the contestant.**

For questions or additional information, please contact Education@IndianapolisSymphony.org