

2027 Young Artists
Concerto / Aria Competition
Orchestral Instruments and Voice, Grades 7—12

Awards

Winner(s) will perform with the Dakota Valley Symphony at the Ames Center on **Sunday, April 18, 2027 at 2 pm**. Up to three participants may be awarded a performance with the orchestra. Winners must be available for both dress rehearsals, scheduled for **Thursday April 15, and Friday, April 16, 2027** from 7:00-9:30 pm. The decisions of the judges are final.

Auditions

Date: **Wednesday, January 6, 2027**
Time: **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
Place: **Schmitt Music Center Recital Hall**
7800 Harmony Dr.
Bloomington, MN 55439

Deadlines and Requirements

Deadline to complete and return the attached form is Monday, December 21. Please provide an email address as audition times will be sent via email by December 30, 2026. **You will be asked to confirm your time before your spot is held. Each contestant must provide his/her own accompanist**. Please provide original music for the judges. No photocopies will be accepted.

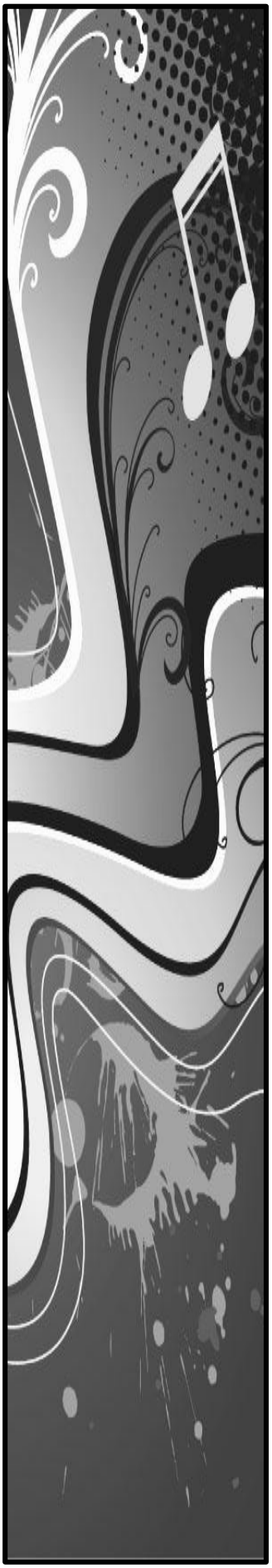
Repertoire

Each participant must **memorize** and perform one movement of a concerto or one aria from the approved repertoire list. If the piece you wish to perform is not on the list you **MUST** contact music director, Stephen Ramsey at sjramz@gmail.com for approval. All arias must have orchestrations that are readily available. No works for voice and piano accompaniment only will be eligible. If the movement is less than 6 minutes in duration, one additional movement may be permitted. Maximum length, with accompaniment, must be less than 11 minutes.

Fees and Application

The Competition entry fee is **$35** and is non-refundable if cancelled by the applicant. Please make checks payable to the *Dakota Valley Symphony* or *DVS*.
Applications must be postmarked by December 21, 2026. Address is in the application below.

Questions: Please contact Stephen Ramsey at sjramz@gmail.com



2027 Concerto / Aria Competition
APPROVED REPERTOIRE LIST

BASSOON
- C. Stamitz Concerto in **F** Major
- Vivaldi Any concerto or transcription
- M. von Weber Concerto Op. 75

CELLO
- Boccherini Cello Concerto in Bb
- J. Haydn Concerto in **C** or **D** Major
- Saint-Saens **a** minor Cello Concerto
- Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations
- Vivaldi Any cello concerto

CLARINET
- Mozart Concerto in **A** Major
- C. Stamitz Concerto No. 3
- G. Tartini Concertino
- C. M. von Weber Concertino

DOUBLE BASS
Dittersdorf Concerto

FLUTE
- Boccherini Concerto in **D** Major
- Haydn Concerto in **D** Major
- Mozart Concerto in **G** or **D** Major
- Quantz Concerto in **G** Major
- Stamitz Concerto in **D** or **G** Major
- Telemann Suite in **a** minor
- Vivaldi Concerti Op. 10, No. 1-6
- Vivaldi Concerto in **a** minor or **C** Major
- (piccolo)
- Chaminade: Concertino

HARP
- Handel Concertos (Transcriptions)
- C. Debussy Danses Sacree et Profane

HORN
- Haydn Concerto
- Mozart Any of the 4 concerti

OBOE
- T. Albinoni Concertos Op. 3, 9 , or 12
- Handel Concerto in **g** minor (Voxman)
- Haydn Concerto in **C** Major
- B. Marcello Concerto in **c** minor
- Mozart Concerto in **C** Major
- Telemann Concerto in **A** Major,
- **a** minor, or **f** minor

TROMBONE:
Have your teacher contact Stephen Ramsey (sjramz@gmail.com) to discuss repertoire

PIANO
- J. S. Bach Any keyboard concerto
- Beethoven Any piano concerto
- Grieg Piano Concerto in **A** minor Op. 16
- F. J. Haydn Concerto in **D** Major
- Mendelssohn Concerto in **G** minor, Op. 25
- W. A. Mozart Any piano concerto
- Saint-Saens Concerto No. 2 in g minor
- Schumann Piano Concerto (First movement)

TRUMPET
- Haydn Trumpet Concerto
- J. N. Hummel Trumpet Concerto

TUBA
Have your teacher contact Stephen Ramsey (sjramz@gmail.com) to discuss repertoire

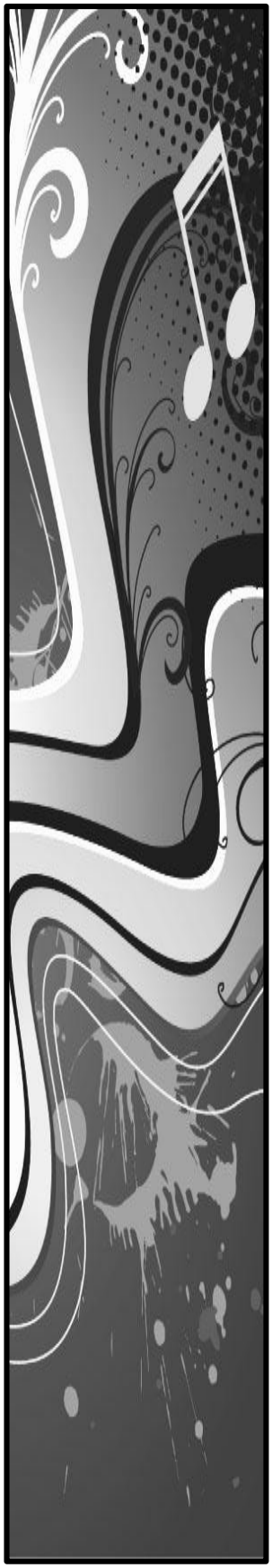
VIOLA
- J. C. Bach Viola Concerto in c minor
- G. F. Handel Viola Concerto in b minor
- K. Stamitz **B***b* Major Concerto
- G. Telemann **G** Major Concerto
- Vivaldi **d** minor Concerto
- Bruch: Romance, Op. 85

VIOLIN
- J. S. Bach Any violin concerto
- M. Bruch Concerto #1 in **g** minor
- Haydn Concerto in **G** Major
- Kabalevsky Violin Concerto
- Lalo *Symphonie Espagnole*
- Mozart Concerto Nos. 1, 2, 4, or 5
- Mendelssohn Concerto in **e** minor
- Vivaldi Concerto in **a** or **g** minor

ARIAS:
Any Baroque, Classical, or Early Romantic Opera Aria in Italian, German, French or English. Arias **must** be performed in their original language (diction counts!) and be no longer than 11 minutes. All arias must have orchestrations that are readily available. No works for voice and piano accompaniment only will be eligible. If you have questions about these requirements, please have your teacher contact Stephen Ramsey (sjramz@gmail.com

***If the piece you are preparing is not on this list, please contact us to get it approved.**

2027 Concerto / Aria Competition Application



Personal Information - ***Please print carefully***

Full Name: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

_____
City *State* *ZIP Code*

Home Phone: (___) _____ Alternate Phone: (___) _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birth Date: _____ Instrument or Voice: _____

Music Teacher or
Music School Name: _____

Number of years with
this teacher or school: _____ Music Teacher's Phone: (___) _____

Email Address: _____

Musical Selection Information

Title/Movement: _____

Composer: _____

Accompanist Name: _____

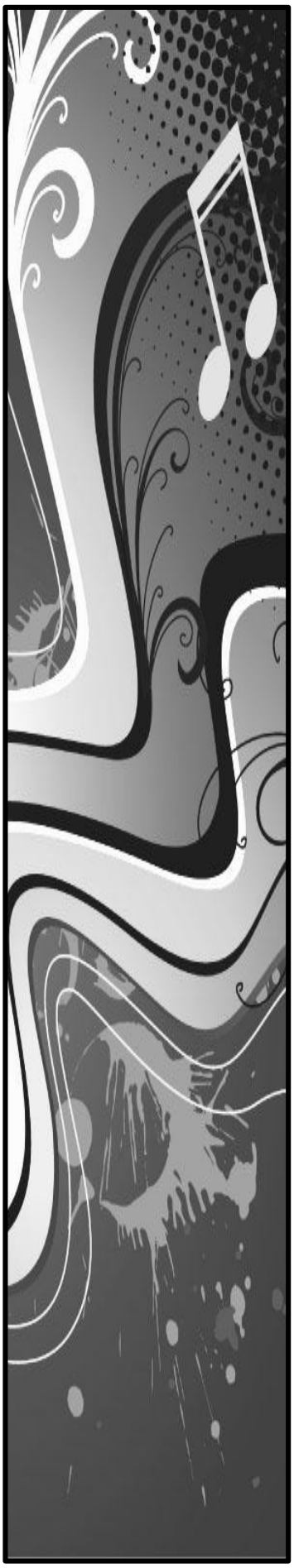
I hereby attest that I am an amateur musician and meet the requirements of this competition, and I agree to accept the decisions of the judges as final.

Signature Date

Send this completed application, along with a $35 non-refundable entry fee payable to Dakota Valley Symphony, postmarked by December 21, 2026 to:

Dakota Valley Symphony
Concerto/Aria Competition
P.O. Box 1241
Burnsville, MN 55337

Email verification will be sent to you upon receipt of application. Thank you and Best of Luck!



Dakota Valley Symphony

A non-profit, volunteer community arts organization, the Dakota Valley Symphony and Chorus have served Minnesota's Dakota County since 1986.

The organization was created to provide an opportunity for skilled volunteer musicians to join together to perform and promote diverse symphonic and choral art music experiences of all periods and styles for residents of the south suburban Twin Cities area.

Concerts have been performed in parks, churches, schools, community centers and other public buildings throughout Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, Hastings, Lakeville, Prior Lake and Saint Paul. The Symphony has performed for Minneapolis' Mill City Music Festival, and Heritage Festival, Stillwater's Lumberjack Days and for the Dakota County Historical Society.

The group also provides a forum for aspiring local composers to premiere their work, and conducts a Young Artist Competition to provide young musicians the opportunity to audition for and perform with the symphony.

The symphony is comprised of a 60-member symphony orchestra, a 40-member mixed chorus, and a 90-member Summer Pops orchestra and chorus, all under the direction of founder and music director Stephen J. Ramsey.

This is Ramsey's 41st season as founding music director and conductor of the Dakota Valley Symphony and Chorus. Additionally, Ramsey is in his 33rd season as music director/conductor of the Austin Symphony Orchestra of Austin, Minnesota.

A well-known conductor in the Twin Cities area, Ramsey has led performances at many area colleges, concert halls and churches. His orchestras have accompanied a remarkable list of local, national, and international soloists including: Richard Roberts, Concertmaster of the Montreal Symphony, 2001 Cleveland International Piano Competition winner, Roberto Plano, Principal Keyboardist of the MN Orchestra Vladimir Levitski, pianists, Marc-Andre Hamelin, Dr. Jon Kimura Parker, Susan Genaw, , Darin Tysdahl, Violinists; Dr. Ariana Kim, Dr. David Hays, James Riccardo, and New York's own Blair Lawhead; Principal Trumpet of the MN Orchestra, Manny Laureano, Principal Cello of the Minnesota Orchestra, Tony Ross, Principal Clarinet of the MN Orchestra, Burt Hara, Second Clarinet of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Marlene Pauley, Cellist with the SPCO, Daryl Skobba, Minnesota Orchestra Cellist Pitnarry Shin, Principal Second Violinist with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra: Kyu-Young Kim, Tenor Rick Penning, Soprano Deb Carbaugh, German Dramatic Soprano Sarah Johannson, International Operatic Bass-Baritone Simon Estes, and a whole host of singers as soloists and choristers.

Ramsey earned his master of music degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Missouri — Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He has studied with Glenn Block, Leonard Slatkin, Max Rudolph, James Sample, Samuel Jones, Harold Farberman, Edouard Forner, and Maurice Jones.

For more information about the Symphony and chorus, please visit:
www.dakotavalleysymphony.org