

National Association of Negro Musicians

String Scholarship Rules

for the 2023 Competition

Contestant Rules

Age Requirements

The age limit, for all categories, shall be from the ages of 18 through 30 years old from the time of application to National competition date.

Eligibility Rules

1. A first place winner at the National Level is not eligible to compete the following year.
2. ***Full-time public school music teachers or college faculty as defined in academia (tenure-track and tenured professors) are not eligible to compete. However, graduate students holding teaching assistantships can participate if they are not receiving 50% of their employment from such appointments (they are still considered students working on a degree at their respective institutions).***
3. ***Contestants who have contracts as full-time solo performers in orchestras, chamber ensembles, and other types of professional string or instrumental ensembles organizations are ineligible.***
4. Professional performers under management are likewise ineligible as contestants.
5. Contestants must have paid the required fee **before** competing at any level. The present fee is \$50.00. No contestant should be allowed to compete without having paid the fee, completing the application and providing the government recognized ID.
6. Branch assessments must be postmarked to the National Office by **December 31, 2022**, to qualify to hold a competition. This is the responsibility of the Branch president and/or treasurer/financial secretary.
7. ***Competitors must apply by January 27, 2023, using the approved form found on the NANM website.***
6. Contestants **must** be available for all future contests in the cycle towards the National competition. If the first-place winner at the local or regional level becomes unavailable to compete, they must forfeit their prize and the second-place winner becomes the representing contestant.

7. Contestants are responsible for bringing their instrument to the local, regional, and national competitions.
8. A contestant's performance must not **exceed 30 minutes**.
9. Contestants must be in "concert dress" at each performance level.

Contest Rules:

1. The National application deadline is set for **January 27, 2023**. No branch should have a deadline for accepting applications **before** the national deadline. All branch competitions should take place before March 31, 2023.
2. Contestants must supply the contest chair (at all levels) with the 3 required copies of each work for the category. Copies should be clean (no markings), double sided, and placed in a three-ring binder. **All** measures should be numbered. ***It is the responsibility of the contestant to ensure that all pages are present and numbered.***
3. The Scholarship Chairs (at all levels) are responsible for providing the judges the copies of music for each contestant. The Chair **must** check the music to make sure all pages are present prior to the competition. If pages are missing, the Chair should immediately contact the contestant. It is the responsibility of the **contestant** to provide the missing pages prior to the competition.
4. The National Scholarship Chair should meet with the judges prior to the competition and explain the procedures. The Chair is responsible for distributing the score sheets to the judges and collecting them. The Chair, with **at least one** other person present, should tally the scores and confer with the judges after the competition. The Chair's role is to facilitate the discussion, not to cast a vote.
5. At the local and regional branch, a student may provide their own accompanist. At the National level, an accompanist **will be provided** by the National Office for all contestants.
6. At the National Convention, the National Scholarship Chair makes the announcement of the winners. Copies of the judges' sheets are to be made available to the candidates or mailed to the contestant within **five** days of the competition. A copy of each judge's sheets per contestant should be maintained by the National Scholarship Chair at all levels.
7. Contestants should not list their name on the judging sheets at the beginning of the competition. The National Chair will assign a number. Contestant names shall appear on the sheets after the contest.

8. All contestants must be present **at the beginning** of the competition. Late contestants are ineligible to compete unless approval is obtained from the National Scholarship Chair.
9. Programs for the competition should state that the audience is requested to hold applause until the entire Competition is completed.
10. The taking of photographs (flash or digital) should not occur during the competition. All photography should occur after the competition is completed. Audio or visual recordings should be assigned to one individual and copies be made available to audience members at fair market price. Audience members should not be making their own recording during the competition.

Rules for Judges

1. Each contestant is judged on the **entire** performance. The top score is 30 points per contestant. Criteria for judging will appear on the adjudication sheet.
2. Judges may not deduct points for missing pages of music from the **total score**.
3. Judges are to write comments about the performance on the judging sheets for the contestant. Comments should be designed to help the contestant and not be punitive.
4. Judges must sign their adjudication sheets and turn them into the Scholarship Chair.
5. Judges should convene before the announcement is made to discuss the scoring and results.

Rules for selection of Judges.

1. Judges, at all levels, may be members of NANM; however, judges should not be the teacher or a faculty member in the department or school of any contestant. Any conflict of interest should be made known by a judge when selected. There should be three judges per competition. A fourth judge should always be available in case of conflict or absence of a judge for the competition.
2. Judges who may have worked with contestants in a one-two day workshops or masterclass **are eligible** to judge.
3. Judges should have the appropriate level of expertise in the area of the competition.
4. At the National level, the National Scholarship Chair, in consultation with the host region, will select judges.

The prizes listed below have been approved by the NANM Board.

2023

1st \$5,500

2nd \$4,500

3rd \$3,500

HM \$500 (2 @ \$500 each) = \$1,000