



The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.

A Historic Organization since 1919

Alfrelynn Roberts, President

A Century of Excellence. A future Unlimited

2026 New Century Competition- Percussion

1. Competition Procedures

- 1.1.1.1. Complete the online application available at
<https://www.nanm.org/scholarship>.
- 1.2 Choose to perform one of the following instruments: **timpani, snare drum, marimba, or glockenspiel.**
- 1.3 **The only requirement for repertoire is adherence to the categories listed. Commercially published, self-published, and manuscript music are equally permissible.**
 - 1.3.1.1 **Category 1 — One piece by a Black composer from the 20th Century.**
 - 1.3.1.2 **Category 2 – One piece by a Black composer from the 21st Century.**
 - 1.3.1.3 **Category 3- One piece composed by any percussion composer during any period.**
 - 1.3.1.4 **At least one work must be memorized.**
 - 1.3.1.5 **At least one piece must be unaccompanied, 2–5-minute duration.**
- 1.4 Submit government-issued photo identification (e.g., driver's license, passport) and a non-refundable \$50 application fee.
- 1.5 The application, photo identification, and application fee are due by 11:59 pm Central Standard Time on January 5, 2026.
- 1.6 Incomplete applications are not accepted. Any missing element of 1.4 or 1.5 will disqualify an applicant.

2 Contestant Rules

2.3 Eligibility

- 2.3.1.1 The age limit is **18 to 30** years old between August 1, 2025, and July 31, 2026. Applicants must upload their valid State or Federal ID in the secure, encrypted application form.
- 2.3.1.2 A first-place winner at the national level is ineligible to compete during the next competition for the same instrument category.
- 2.3.1.3 Full-time, public or private-school music teachers and college faculty as defined in academia (e.g. lecturers, adjunct, tenure-track, tenured professors) are ineligible to compete.

- 2.1.1.4 Contestants who, before the commencement of the competition or at any time during the competition, are under an exclusive contract with a management or recording agency are ineligible to compete.

2.4 Competition

- 2.4.1.1** Contestants must supply the National Scholarship Chair with three legal copies of each work to be performed.
- 2.4.1.2** This is to ensure there is no copyright infringement.
- 2.4.1.3** If a photocopy is used, there must be written proof from the publisher/distributor/copyright holder granting permission to photocopy, including self-published and manuscript music.
- 2.4.1.4** Copies should be clean (no markings), double-sided, and placed in separate binders or digital folders.
- 2.4.1.5** There will be one set for each adjudicator.
- 2.4.1.6** It is the responsibility of the contestant to ensure that all pages are present.
- 2.4.1.7** Exceptions are made for the use of multiple original copies.
- 2.4.1.8** Legal digital copies and folders are acceptable.
- 2.4.1.9** Competition chairs determine the timeline for submitting these copies/folders. The timeline must be communicated to the contestant(s) at least one week in advance.
- 2.4.1.10** A contestant's actual performance time, including transitions between pieces, must not exceed 30 minutes.
- 2.4.1.11** Attire for the national competition is formal, either a formal gown or suit.

3 Competition Procedures

3.3 Logistics

- 3.3.1.1** Applicants are to submit a digital video file of a live recording of their competition repertoire. It is recommended that the applicant uses the best equipment available and that recordings are of "high quality".
- 3.3.1.2** The video should be a continuous unedited view of the performer's pedagogical skills. All submissions should not exceed 30 minutes of performance repertoire.
- 3.3.1.3** The video must be submitted to the National Scholarship Chair by 11:50 pm (EST) on **March 15, 2026**. No late submissions will be accepted.

3.2 Submission Review

- 3.2.1** All submissions will be reviewed and adjudicated by a National Committee of professional percussionists.
- 3.2.2** The National Percussion Sub-Committee will be representative of the five regions of the National Association. These members will be selected by the Regional Scholarship Chairs.
- 3.2.3** The National Percussion Sub-Committee will recommend applicants to perform at the National Convention.

3.3 Results

3.3.1 The National Competition Chair will notify the applicants of the results by April 15, 2026.

3.3.2 The NANM Board will provide two nights stay for each contestant. Contestants must cover travel expenses.

3.4 Adjudicators

3.3.1.4 Three professional percussionists will be invited to serve as adjudicators during the national competition.

3.3.1.5 The adjudicators will be selected by the National Scholarship Committee.

3.5 Rules for Adjudicators and Competition Chairpersons

3.3.2 Adjudicator Rules and Procedures

3.3.2.1 Using the prepared Adjudicator Scoring Sheet, each contestant will be scored using a 30-Point system. The raw data for each adjudicator will be used to determine contestant placements.

3.3.2.2 Adjudicators are to write comments about each performance on the adjudication form. Comments should be made to help the contestant and not be punitive.

3.3.2.3 Adjudicators must sign their name on their adjudication form.

3.3.2.4 Adjudicators will convene following the performance of the last contestant to review the scores and discuss the results.

3.3.2.5 In the case of a tie vote, the adjudicators must discuss then make the final decision.

3.3.3 Only the approved adjudication form may be used in its unaltered form.

3.6 Awards

3.6.1 The winner is announced following the adjudicator deliberation session.

3.6.2 The first-place winner will receive an award of \$7,000.00.

3.6.3 The second-place winner will receive an award of \$3,500.00