



**WELCOME!**

**Last Edited 01/16/2024**

***The 21th Washington International Piano Artists Competition  
August 7-August 11, 2024  
Washington, DC, USA***

Washington International Piano Arts Council (WIPAC) welcomes all qualified non-professional pianists around the world to compete for honors, recognition, cash awards, and the chance to showcase their talents to a wider audience. Participants come away exhilarated and inspired by an experience that fosters artistic growth through performance, interaction with other competitors, and discussions and master classes with a jury of professional pianists.

The Competition begins with a WELCOME RECEPTION early Wednesday evening on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Details TBA by email. Some pianists cannot make it that early, but those attending will enjoy playing piano and having a great dinner! Preliminary and Semifinal Rounds will start and end earlier than in the past. We may start at 9 A.M., possibly later for prelims, and we must plan to end the day at 5PM. Practice times are best reserved at registration desk during the day. There are a few additional facilities in other locations in DC that we may be able to use for practice, TBA.

Competitors and their guests will find many sights to see and opportunities to relax between practice sessions in Washington, DC. Enjoy the various attractions at Smithsonian Museums, the Harbor Restaurants, fashionable Georgetown, The White House, and the natural beauty of the United States Capital City in the summer. The Commonwealth of Virginia is just across from the Potomac River, where one can visit Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, first President of the United States of America. A visit to nearby Alexandria offers dinner boat cruises along the beautiful Potomac River, both day and night.

Venue for early rounds this year is confirmed. Prelims and Semis at The George Washington University Music Department: Phillips Hall, 22<sup>nd</sup> and H Streets. NW, DC, Room B120. The FINAL ROUND location is will be announced will be confirmed closer to the dates of the competition. Practice facilities at The George Washington University (GWU) Music Department start Thursday and can be arranged at the WIPAC desk just outside room B120 between 9AM and 5PM.

**Washington International Piano Arts Council (WIPAC)**

**3862 Farrcroft Drive**

**Fairfax, Virginia 22030 USA**

Chateau Gardecki, 703-728-7766 cell

[WWW.WIPAC.ORG](http://WWW.WIPAC.ORG)

[WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM)



## **2024 WIPAC COMPETITION APPLICATION GUIDELINES ©**

Applicants must meet WIPAC qualifications and requirements as follows:

### **Qualifications:**

- i. Applicant must be 31 years of age or above by start date of competition.
- ii. Applicant should not be a professional pianist deriving their income through performances. Pianists should consider themselves "nonprofessional" artists.
- iii. Previous First Prize Winners of the WIPAC competitions are not eligible.

**Requirements:** Submit Application Form in following format:

- 1) An application fee of \$195USD made payable to WIPAC. See item 2 for other methods of payment. A non-refundable fee of \$75 in the event of late cancellation may be applied.

### **THE APPLICATION FEE INCLUDES:**

- a. Two Printed Competition Programs (photos and programs of all competitors)
  - b. All masterclasses as auditor. DATE/TIME(s) of masterclasses TBA.
  - c. Three no-charge "mini receptions" (does not include final round)
    - i. Welcome Reception (applicant and 2 guests). Wednesday evening.
    - ii. Preliminary Round Reception (applicant and 2 guests) Friday before 5PM.
    - iii. Semifinal Round Reception (applicant and 2 guests). Saturday before 5PM.
    - iv. Guests at Finals: special dinner rate for 2 guests. Children 19 and under may attend final round (dinner excluded) at no charge.
    - v. Additional guests above the limit fee at preliminary and semifinal rounds: \$20 donation, children excluded.
- 2) Method of payments is Cash, Check and/or Credit Card via the "PayPal donate link" which can be found on the main page of the WIPAC website [www.wipac.org](http://www.wipac.org). Other international payments are arranged as needed by contacting WIPAC. The WAIVER FROM below must be signed and returned. A scanned pdf with signature sent by email is acceptable. Some international participants could use Western Union and make payment to John Gardecki, (Treasurer, WIPAC), or other arrangements can be made by contacting WIPAC.
  - 3) A recording (CD/VIDEO/YOUTUBE/ONLINE: VIDEO/AUDIO) 10 minutes minimum duration of the candidate's own performances of classical piano music, with some exceptions for first time applicants. This requirement can be waived in the case of a recording being submitted in a prior year having resulted with acceptance to the WIPAC competition, or, in the case of having

qualified at another international piano competition (Paris, Cliburn, Boston, etc.).

- 4) A list of repertoires to be performed in each round of the competition, using Cambria 12 font, and single line spacing with no indentations, if possible, including composer's full name, the complete name of the composition, movements, opus numbers and total round timing. Round timing should be summarized by round, "beneath" the entire printed program. Timings can be given some leeway in total minute requirements, but pianists must consider the issue of "fairness" to other competitors. The competitor is responsible for accurate information. **Music performed in an earlier round cannot be repeated in a later round. Programs may be changed at any time prior to performance, but late changes will not appear in the official program.** Complete program change information must be provided to the master of ceremonies in writing prior to performance if it does not coincide with the official program content. (MSFT WORD FILE FORMATS ARE PREFERRED; SEE THE "COMPETITIONS PAGE" OF THE WIPAC.ORG WEBSITE AND VIEW LAST YEAR'S PROGRAM FOR SAMPLE PROGRAMS. NOTE: Timings are NOT USED in final programs.)
- 5) A duly signed and dated waiver form is required, as mentioned in item 2 above. This may also be done upon arrival at our registration desk.
- 6) WIPAC COMPETITION PROGRAM TIME LIMITS (YOUR CHOICE OF MUSIC)
  - a. Preliminary Round 15 minutes-12(+) candidates will be chosen for the Semifinal Round
  - b. Semifinal Round 20 minutes-6 candidates will be chosen for the Final Round
  - c. Final Round 25 minutes. Extra 5 minutes is allowed each round, but beyond that may disqualify the pianist.
  - d. Candidates create their own programs. Prior year's competition repertoires are OK.
  - e. It is not required to memorize music. Find your page turners amongst other pianists.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024,**

**(Flexible with notifications.)**

**Late changes may not make it into the final program.**

*All applications should be as postmarked or emailed by that date. **Early notification of your intentions to apply help facilitate our planning, and we will send email reminders if application details are not complete.** Email is acceptable for most of the application requirements. With regard to fees, special arrangements can be made for international participants for whom transfer of funds is a problem.*

*PAYMENTS may be via PayPal link on the WIPAC website for credit card payments. A PayPal Account is not required, but can be used optionally. International applicants are advised to apply well in advance to allow time for special processing, as may be required. An official acceptance letter is sometimes required for visitor VISAS and is available on request.*

## **ACCEPTANCE**

Applicants are normally notified of their status by e-mail. The waiver portion of the application form can be signed with your mailed or scanned application. This form will be verified for signature at the time of your registration. WIPAC reserves the right to refuse applications or to make any changes it deems necessary to the competition rules, guidelines procedures, location and scheduling. All applicants will be duly notified. WIPAC is not responsible for any unforeseen changes or cancellations associated with the competition event..

## **TRAVEL AND LODGING**

Applicants are responsible for their own travel and lodging arrangements while in the United States and in Washington, DC. Accommodation can be made between DuPont Circle and Foggy Bottom areas of DC. RED METRO stops at Du Pont Circle. If you reserve an accommodation that can link to RED or YELLOW METRO, that is good as well. Some may wish to stay at Rosslyn, VA, which is across the Key Bridge, and use YELLOW LINE METRO. Taxes are lower in VA for food and accommodations.

## **MISCELLANEOUS FEES**

Master Classes performer may be charged a \$50 fee to perform. (WIPAC compensates the instructor.)

## **PANEL OF JUDGES**

WIPAC Competition Committee has selected a distinguished panel of judges who are professional pianists and music professionals. Chair of the jury is frequently from the diplomatic community, a WIPAC Board Member or Music Department head. The Chair is a non-voting member of the jury, except in the instance of a tie-breaking decision. Master classes are offered by selected jurors.

## **AWARDS AND PRIZES (subject to change without notice)**

**Special Awards** are granted at the discretion of the Jury, as deemed appropriate.

**The Press Jury Award** and **Audience Award** apply only to the final round.

**Preliminary Round** - Candidates receive a Certificate of Recognition for their participation in the Washington International Piano Artists Competition, sponsored by Washington International Piano Arts Council (**WIPAC**).

**Semi-Final Round** – Selected candidates will receive a Certificate of Achievement and miscellaneous gifts.

**Final Round** – Selected candidates will receive a Certificate of Recognition and miscellaneous gifts and cash prizes as follows (subject to changes):

First Prize:	\$	3,000.00 USD	and a solo concert in DC
Second Prize:	\$	2,000.00 USD	
Third Prize:	\$	1,000.00 USD	

**COMPETITION SPECIAL AWARDS (\$250):** Three Finalists receive \$250, each.

### **Outstanding Performance Awards (\$250):**

1. Imaginative Programming
2. Romantic Period
3. Baroque Period
4. Classical Period
5. Contemporary Period
6. Press Jury Award
7. Audience Award

**COMPOSER SPECIAL AWARDS - \$250 (these are donor dependent and may vary.)**

(Additions or deletions are always possible and are partially dependent on public support.)

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Bach composition   | 2. Beethoven composition            |
| 3. Chopin composition | 4. Paderewski composition           |
| 5. Liszt composition  | 6. Rachmaninoff composition (\$500) |

**A \$300 SPECIAL AWARD**

**Donated by Priscilla Huffman, for performance of a Spencer Huffman Composition**

**SEE: [www.wipac.org/Huffman.html](http://www.wipac.org/Huffman.html) A new printed edition of the Sonata is available now. Contact WIPAC for further information.**

**AN HONORARY AWARD** may be granted to any candidate; not restricted to finalists or semifinalists; offered at the sole discretion of WIPAC Board Chair and may or may not involve a cash award.

**CONCERT AWARDS:**

As part of the **GRAND PRIZE**, the First Prize Winner is invited to perform in the **WIPAC Winners Grand Prix Concert** at one of the international embassies in Washington, DC, traditionally presented in April of the following year. WIPAC is involved in other concert activities and may call upon winners of its competition to perform in various future events.

**REGARDING MASTER CLASS PERFORMANCE:**

**Pianists who do not advance to next round are permitted to “perform” in master classes.** A semi-finalist who does not advance to the final round would, therefore, be able to perform in the second day of a master class, which is normally held on the morning of the same day as the final round. Early signups are encouraged, and will receive priority consideration, if candidate is still eligible. There are no restrictions on auditing master classes. All pianists, including finalists, and guests, are invited.



**APPLICATION FORM**

***The 21st Washington International Piano Artists Competition***

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT BIOGRAPHICAL DATA, ANECDOTE, and PROGRAM FILE:**

Submit information preferably in **WORD** formatted file (using **CAMBRIA 12** font), a short biography.

**ADD A SHORT PERSONAL ANECDOTE to your BIO:** (See last year's program for examples. Find a link to last year's competition program on the **COMPETITIONS PAGE** of the WIPAC website.).

This is not a "commentary" but a short expression, a one liner, such as "Break a Leg!". (but not a finger!). It can also be a serious statement from the heart.

**FILENAME SUGGESTION:** Last name First name 20XX WC BIO ANEC PROG, where **XX** is the year of the competition. Program as below can be submitted in the same file. Please try to conform to formatting suggestions.

The following suggestions help us to edit the program quickly and accurately.  
**SAMPLE FORMAT (CAMBRIA 12 FONT PREFERRED WITH SINGLE LINE PARAGRAPH SPACING {NOT DOUBLE LINE}) FOR PROGRAM SUBMISSION.**  
(You can cut and paste and start to fill in using the following):

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**NAME (first name first),                      CURRENT OCCUPATION                      CITY, STATE, COUNTRY**

**PRELIMINARY ROUND**

COMPOSER, FULL NAME	Work, Opus X 1: Allegro non troppo (etc.) (3-space indent)
SAME NAME	WORK 2 etc. One line spacing
NEXT COMPOSER, FULL NAME	WORK, etc.

**SEMIFINAL ROUND**

COMPOSER, FULL NAME	Work, Opus Y, etc. as above
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**FINAL ROUND**

COMPOSER, FULL NAME	WORK, OPUS, Movements, etc.
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**PLACE YOUR TOTAL TIME FOR EACH ROUND HERE at BOTTOM in FOLLOWING FORMAT:**

**1<sup>st</sup> ROUND: 15                      2<sup>nd</sup> ROUND: 20                      3<sup>rd</sup> ROUND: 25**

**(Above timings here are maximum times you may allot to each of the 3 rounds. Short overtimes are not penalized, but shorter times than allotted maximums can affect a jurors' ability to make a fair and accurate judgement). Timing is important in view of "fairness" to other pianists.**

**Send the above as 1 MSFT WORD file (or a pdf which we can convert) in an email attachment to:**

[WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM)



**WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL PIANO ARTISTS COMPETITION**

**EVENT ORDER FORM FILE – (Revised 01/10/2024)**

**Full Name of Competitor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost of Competition: (Pricing Subject to Change)**

*Application fee of \$195 and any other fees are listed below. Receptions after the Preliminary and Semifinal Rounds are offered are complimentary to competitors and their 2 guests. Additional “reception” guests may donate \$20 each. Children ages to 19 may attend events and receptions free of charge with exception to the Celebratory Dinner. Competitors can invite up to 4 guests to include spouses and parents free of charge at Final Rounds for concert only.*

*It is important for Competitors to be physically present at the Awards Ceremony prior to the Celebratory Dinner, as many awards are being offered to competitors from various rounds of the competition.*

*Donors prefer to give you their donations personally with a photo.*

Application Fee (includes 2 Audited Master Class)	\$ 195.00
Celebratory Dinner (1 competitor only)	\$ 135.00
A special rate for up to 2-addn'l guests for competitors only:	\$ 150 .00 for each guest;
Total Fee -----	\$ _____

\$330 is the total of APP FEE and CELEBRATORY DINNER for Competitors only.

Above fees for Dinner and Guests include all activities of the FINAL ROUND.

**COMPETITOR** \_\_\_\_ will attend **WELCOME EVENING RECEPTION ON WEDNESDAY** # of guests: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPETITOR** \_\_\_\_ will attend up to 2 **Master Class(es)**: 2 classes are included in app fee (Saturday & Sunday mornings)

Master Class Performance Fee:: \_\_\_\_ \$50 USD as performer

Additional Fee Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**INFO ON APPLICABLE CHARGES TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC (above the special competitor rate limits):**

Preliminary & Semifinal Rounds +Reception .....	\$ 20.00 (payable at entrance)
Final Rounds and Cocktails only .....	\$ 50.00 (payable at entrance)
Finals Round & Celebratory Dinner .....	\$ TBA (use online RSVP FORM)
<b>(RSVP FORMS WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLINE AT <a href="http://WWW.WIPAC.ORG">WWW.WIPAC.ORG</a> prior to competition)</b>	
Extra Competition Programs.....	\$ 10.00

**General Admission to Various Rounds** – Competitions and their family up to 4 are free to all rounds of competition. Children at the Celebratory Dinner may be subject to additional charges (Contact WIPAC for advice).

**Thanks for your cooperation in notifying us of your guests. We need to know the count as soon as possible to plan effectively!**

**Mode of Payment** - CHECKS payable to: WIPAC and mail to 3862 Farrcroft Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 USA

Or go to [www.wipac.org](http://www.wipac.org) to our PayPal Donation link. PayPal works well with all domestic credit cards.

FYI: WIPAC TAX ID # 61-1426920.





## **WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL PIANO ARTISTS COMPETITION**

### **WAIVER FORM**

(This waiver must be signed by all candidates)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), candidate for the Washington International Piano Artists Competition sponsored by Washington International Piano Arts Council (WIPAC), submit that I will not hold WIPAC, its Board, committee or any other member or organization associated with the competition, liable for and do indemnify and render WIPAC harmless for any use of my name, image, or music performance, in any publication, advertisements or media announcements of any kind and any accidents that may occur during and while participating in the 21st Washington International Piano Artists Competition, 2024.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed this day \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

### ***Please send application to:***

WIPAC, 3862 Farrcroft Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 USA  
703-732-7210 John Gardecki  
703-728-7766 Chateau Gardecki

(YOU MAY ALSO SCAN AND SEND EMAIL WITH ATTACHMENT TO [WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WIPACUSA@GMAIL.COM) OR SIGN WAIVER AT REGISTRATION DESK ON ARRIVAL)