

CONCERTO COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. The concerto competition is held annually in the fall semester with the winner performing in the spring semester of the same academic year.
2. Eligibility: All students who are sophomores through second-year graduate students are eligible. Contestants must be studying applied music and enrolled fulltime at JCA during the semesters of the audition and performance. Ensemble participation is strongly encouraged and should be left to the discretion of the applied instructor. Winners are not eligible to compete again, except as a soloist in a “multiple” concerto.
3. The BSO Conductor or Wind Ensemble Conductor must approve all compositions for the competition; approval is based on instrumentation, availability, difficulty, and timing. Singers may compete with a substantial solo work with orchestra, or with arias that total 15-20 minutes. It is mandatory that candidates perform with piano accompaniment for the competition with the exception of contemporary compositions where a piano reduction might not be available.
4. All compositions must be performed from memory for both the competition rounds and the performance. Double and triple concertos are encouraged and need not be from memory. For the actual performance, the piece must be performed in its entirety; partial works are not allowed. For the preliminary round of the competition, there is a 15-minute time limit; appropriate cuts should be taken in the accompaniment. Contestants in the preliminary round will perform the entirety of their prepared material and receive feedback from the judges.
5. Contestants must bring three copies of the score (piano reductions are acceptable) to both the preliminary and final rounds for the judges.
6. Preliminary round: The BSO Conductor will invite three School of Music faculty members representing different areas to judge the round. Preference will be given to those who do not have students in the competition.
7. Final round: The School of Music Faculty is invited to nominate a pool of outside judges who they feel will be best suited for the competition. The BSO conductor will engage three judges from the nominated pool. The BSO Conductor and Wind Ensemble Conductor will serve as observers in the final round, not as judges, and will pick additional soloists if the season/schedule will allow.
8. Scoring: All judges will rank the contestants in order (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). The rankings will be added together and the student with the lowest score will be the winner.