**Northern Kentucky University**  
Philharmonic Orchestra Solo Concerto Competition  
2022–2023 Guidelines

### 2022–2023 Competition

**Wednesday, November 9, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

**Applications Due:** Monday, October 31, 2022, 12:00 noon

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**About the Competition**

The NKU Philharmonic Concerto Competition is open to orchestral instrumentalists currently enrolled in the NKU Philharmonic course OR enrolled in the NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra. There may be up to a total of four winners total, with 0–3 winners in the college division and 0–2 winners in the Youth Orchestra division. This opportunity gives talented musicians the experience to perform solo works with orchestra. Students are selected through competitive audition and must also be available and enrolled in the NKU Philharmonic course OR the NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra during *both* the semester in which the concerto competition and performance of the piece occur. NKU college students of any major are welcome to participate, but *they must be full time and enrolled in applied lessons (during the competition and performance semesters)*. For NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra students, they must be taking private lessons (during the competition and performance semesters).

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**Eligibility – NKU College Division**

1. Students must be registered as a full-time student at Northern Kentucky University at the time of competition and performance with the orchestra.
2. Students from the following disciplines may compete in the competition: strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, and guitar. All string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists must also be registered members of the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra (at both the time of competition and performance). The instrument in which the student competes must be the same instrument in which they play in the Philharmonic. The competition is open to pianists, classical guitarists, and saxophonists not enrolled in Philharmonic.
3. Students must be enrolled in applied lessons.
4. Winners of the previous year’s competition are not eligible to compete in the following year competition.
5. Students are eligible to win the competition twice in their time at NKU and may not compete in the adjacent year after they have won (they must wait a year to compete again).
6. Winners of the competition must be available to perform with the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra on **Wednesday, March 1, 2023,** attend an evening dress rehearsal on **Tuesday, February 28, 2023,** and be available to rehearse several times with the ensemble during the **T/H 1:40–2:55 p.m. rehearsal time.** (Accommodations will be made as best as possible for students who will need to be excused from school.)

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**Eligibility – NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra Pre-College Division**

1. Students must be enrolled in NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra at the time of competition and performance with the orchestra.
2. The instrument in which the student competes on must be the same instrument they play in the Youth Symphony Orchestra.
3. Students must be taking private lessons.
4. Winners of the previous year’s competition are not eligible to compete in the following year competition.
5. If students go on NKU as a college student, they are eligible to compete again according to the collegiate division eligibility.
6. Winners of the competition must be available to perform with the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra on **Wednesday, February 1, 2023,** attend an evening dress rehearsal on **Tuesday, February 28, 2023,** and be available to rehearse several times with the ensemble during the **T/H 1:40–2:55 p.m. rehearsal time.** (Accommodations will be made as best as possible for students who will need to be excused from school.)

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**Repertoire**

1. Students may perform a complete one-movement solo work or one movement from a multi-movement concerto. The selection must be under 15-minutes in length. There is no minimum length requirement.
2. Students may not compete on any repertoire in which they have previously competed.
3. All repertoire must be suitable for performance with the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra in terms of instrumentation, technical difficulty, and feasibility of acquiring score/parts. All repertoire is subject to the approval of the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra Director. Students are encouraged to consult with Dr. Culligan regarding their repertoire choice before entering, as some concerti may not be acceptable or feasible. To consult on the piece selection, please email Dr. Culligan at gillinghaa1@nku.edu.
4. In general, repertoire that is not standard, not easily accessible to obtain, or not available to purchase (i.e. rental only) is not feasible to complete/play with the orchestra.
5. If the competing student is selected as a winner and their piece of music is not available on IMSLP.org, the student is financially responsible for purchasing or renting the orchestra score and parts. It is recommended that students compete on public-domain repertoire (repertoire available on IMSLP.org), if possible, and to avoid cost. To check IMSLP, go to IMSLP.org, select “composer” and search for your work. Make sure a full score and full set of parts is available for your piece. **NOTE:** YSO students whose orchestra score and parts are only available for purchase or rent may request that it be paid for by NKU YSO. To make this request, please email Dr. Attar (attarh1@nku.edu).
6. The student’s applied instructor must approve repertoire.

**Competition**

1. The competition takes place **Wednesday, November 19, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Greaves Concert Hall.** Applications are due by **Monday, October 31, 2022, by 12:00 p.m. noon.** Late applications will not be accepted. Incomplete applications will also not be accepted. (**YSO members should submit applications to the YSO Director at the beginning of their Tuesday, October 25, 2022 rehearsal and he will submit them to Dr. Culligan.**)  
2. One (1) copy of the full score and four (4) copies of the solo part must be submitted in hard copy with the application. (Note: many full scores may be obtained from imslp.org; you may also check the library.)
3. The performance order of the competition will be determined by random drawing.
4. Alternate and/or make-up times for the competition or performance are not possible.
5. Students must perform their work from memory.
6. Students must perform with an accompanist. Students are responsible for making their own accompanist arrangements.
7. Individual time slots, determined by random drawing, will be emailed and/or posted to competitors no later than one week prior to the competition. Special time accommodations cannot be provided. Students should make sure both they and their accompanists have availability for the entire duration of the competition before entering the competition, as special time accommodations are not possible.

8. **The competition is open to the public!**
9. Students will be informed of their specific competition time via email on or before **Friday, November 4, 2022.**

**Selection of Winners**

A panel of professional musicians from the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky regions will judge the event. The panel may select one or multiple winners. The panel also reserves the right to select no winner. The NKU Philharmonic Director will also listen to auditions and will help determine the number of winners (based on work length, difficulty for orchestra, balance of repertoire, and similar constraints), but will not serve as a formal judge. Due to time restraints and the nature of the competition, comments and feedback will not be provided from the judges to the competitors. Winner selection decisions are final.
Northern Kentucky University
Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition
2022–2023 Application Form

NAME __________________________________________ PHONE # ____________________________

CIRCLE ONE: NKU COLLEGE COMPETITOR or NKU PRE-COLLEGE COMPETITOR (YSO Member)

EMAIL ADDRESS ______________________________ INSTRUMENT __________________________

CLASS/GRADE and MAJOR, if applicable (i.e. Junior Performance Major) __________________________

APPLIED TEACHER NAME __________________________ ACCOMPANIST NAME __________________________

REPERTOIRE SELECTION (Include title, movement, and composer)
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

TOTAL PERFORMANCE TIME ____________ MINUTES (15 minutes or less is eligible)

INFORMATION REGARDING FULL SCORE AND PARTS:

• My piece (full score and parts) is available on imslp.org ___ yes ___ no (check one)

• If not on IMSLP, where can a score and parts of your piece be purchased? (Please provide publisher, web address, and price) Winners are financially responsible for obtaining full score and parts for their piece if it is not on IMSLP. Please check beforehand and know if you are able to commit to the finances of this. (See YSO exception above)
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

I have read and I understand the requirements for the NKU Philharmonic Concerto Competition. I have included the following required items with my application:

_____ Secured a pianist to perform with me at the competition

_____ Included ONE (1) hard copy of the FULL SCORE of my concerto movement/solo work

_____ Included FOUR (4) hard copies of the SOLO PART of my concerto movement/solo work

_____ Agree that the orchestral score and parts are either available on IMSLP.org or I am willing to pay to purchase this for the NKU orchestra library or rent them. (See YSO exception above)

_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Student Signature __________________________ Date __________

I approved my student to compete in this year’s NKU Philharmonic Concerto Competition.

_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Applied Teacher’s Signature __________________________ Date __________

Completed concerto competition applications must be returned in hard copy with all required materials to Dr. Culligan (Fine Arts Center 364) by Monday, October 31, 2022, by 12:00 p.m. noon. YSO members should submit applications to YSO Director by the beginning of rehearsal on Tuesday, October 25, 2022. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted.