



# The 30<sup>th</sup> United States International Music Competition

**ABOUT:** The **United States International Music Competition** is organized by the United States International Music Foundation, affiliated with the Chinese Music Teachers' Association of Northern California, a non-profit organization. This competition provides young musicians with an opportunity to exhibit their talents and reward their hard work, as well as to encourage them to appreciate cross-cultural exchanges.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Contestants of all nationalities. No Age Limit. Past First Place winners may not compete in an age group that they have won previously. However, they may choose to compete in another age-appropriate group.

**CATEGORIES:** Piano Solo, Piano Duet, and Piano Concerto, Violin, Viola, Cello, Vocal (Solo & Ensemble) Classical Chamber, Marimba, Guitar, Harp, Traditional Chinese Instruments (Plucked, Woodwinds, and Bowed Strings)

**AGE GROUPS FOR ALL AWARDS DIVISIONS:** Eligibility for each group will be determined by the contestant's age as of **June 1, 2023**. Each instrument category has different age groups.

Category & Age groups	Piano	Violin	Viola	Cello	Vocal
A	Age 9 or under	Age 9 or under	Age 14 or under	Age 11 or under	Age 9 or under
B	Age 11 or under	Age 11 or under	Age 18 or under	Age 14 or under	Age 12 or under
C	Age 14 or under	Age 13 or under	Age 19 or above	Age 18 or under	Age 14 or under
D	Age 18 or under	Age 18 or under		Age 19 or above	Age 18 or under
E	Age 19 or above	Age 19 or above			Age 19 or above
Category & Age groups	Marimba	Guitar	Piano Duet, Piano Concerto Chamber Music, Vocal Ensemble		
A	Age 9 or under	Age 12 or under	*Age 12 or under		
B	Age 11 or under	Age 18 or under	*Age 18 or under		
C	Age 14 or under	Age 19 or above	*Age 19 or above		
D	Age 18 or under		*Ensemble group is determined by the oldest contestant in the group		
E	Age 19 or above				

Category & Age groups	Harp		Traditional Chinese Instruments	
	Harp	Celtic Harp	Plucked Strings	Bowed Strings & Woodwinds
A	Age 12 or under	Age 15 or under	Age 14 or under	
B	Age 15 or under	Age 16 or above	Age 18 or under	
C	Age 18 or under		Age 19 or above	
D	Age 19 or above			

## COMPETITION DATES AND LOCATION:

- Online Registration Submission **April 1st - May 31st (11:59pm) 2023**
- Competition Location: Valley Christian Conservatory of the Arts, 100 Skyway Dr., San Jose, CA 95111
- Competition Date: July 29th 2023 (Saturday) and July 30th (Sunday) 2023
- Winner will be announced on [www.usimc.org](http://www.usimc.org) on July 31st (Monday)
- Winner Concert/Award Ceremony: August 5th, Location: TBA

## THREE AWARD DIVISIONS:

### NOTE:

- Each piece is required to be performed in its entirety (No repeat)—with cadenza if applicable.
- Contestants CANNOT select sections to cut or simplify the music.
- Memorization is required. (Except Classical Chamber music and Piano Duet)
- Proof of purchase is required for online print out music.
- Contestants may be stopped by the jury when the time is over the limit.
- All contestants who need piano accompaniment will be provided an official pianist from USIMC.

### I. YOUNG ARTIST AWARDS:

- **Winners from each instrumental group will be awarded the following: (Age groups refer to page 1)**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: USD \$300, Trophy, Certificate
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: USD \$150, Trophy, Certificate
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: USD \$100, Trophy, Certificate
  - Honorable Places: Medals, Certificate
  - All winners' instructors will receive the Certificate of Recognition

- **Preliminary video round: due on 11:59 pm May 31, 2023.**

**The finalist will be announced on July 1, 2023 on our USIMC website: [www.usimc.org](http://www.usimc.org)**

#### **Video Upload Requirement as below:**

- The Video must be recorded in 2023
- Video clips must be recorded from one, single camera angle and must have good lighting and visibility of the performer. Editing is not permitted. (Please see visual examples of video frames at the end of the rules.)
- No piano accompaniment allowed in the preliminary round.(Except Vocal and Piano Concerto)
- Selections of music remain the same for both Preliminary and Final round
- If the contestant has two pieces, please upload two videos separately.
- The uploaded files must be set up to UNLISTED on YouTube.com or YouKu.com.
- No announcement at the beginning of the video
- Dress Code: formal attire

### Repertoire requirement:

#### **Piano Solo/Viola/Cello/Marimba/Piano Duet:**

- Two contrasting pieces from different music periods. One must be from either the Baroque or the Classical period.

**Violin:** One piece from romantic or 20th century, and one of the following below

<b>Group A</b>	Vivaldi Spring 1st movement Haydn Serenade from string quartet 17,op.3 no.5
<b>Group B</b>	G.P. Taleman 12 Fantasias for Solo violin No.9 Mozart Rondo in C major. K373
<b>Group C</b>	Bach Sonata No.1 Adagio Bach Partita No.3 Gavotte en Roudau Haydn concerto in C Major
<b>Group D</b>	Bach Sonata No.1 Fuga Bach Partita No.3 Prelude Beethoven Sonata No.8
<b>Group E</b>	Two contrasting pieces one must be from either the Baroque or the Classical period.

**Vocal: including solo and ensemble categories. Vocal ensemble: Maximum 6 people in each group.**

- Two songs, no restrictions on language (must be the original written language) or style. The content should be appropriate and family friendly.
- Accompaniment is optional in the Preliminary Round.
- Accompaniment is mandatory unless the song is acapella. No restrictions on the type of accompaniment, contestants may bring CD accompaniment. If a piano accompaniment is needed, contestants can choose either an accompanist from USIMC's approved list or self-accompaniment.

**Piano Concerto:**

- One piece (one movement ONLY)

**Chamber Music: Maximum 6 people in each group:**

- One piece (one movement ONLY)

**Traditional Chinese Instruments: Solo only**

- Two contrasting pieces from different musical styles, one must be traditional Chinese music.

Bowed Strings/woodwinds: Erhu, Di, Xiao, Bawu, Suona, Sheng, Gunazi, Hulusi

Plucked Strings: Guzheng, Pipa, Liuqin, Zhongruan, XiaoRuan, Yangqin, Sanxian

**Harp/Celtic Harp:**

Pedal Harp	
<b>Group A</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 4 minutes and one of the following: <i>Solfeggio in C minor, H. 220 ("Solfeggietto")</i> , by Karl Philipp Emanuel Bach <i>Automne</i> , by Marcel Grandjany <i>Youngers at Play (Marche Enfantine)</i> , Op. 24, by Alfred Holý <i>Any (Gavotte, Menuet, Polka, Siciliana, Bolero) from the Suite of Eight Dances</i> , by Carlos Salzedo <i>Any from Graded Recital Series Harp Solo Volume 3, 4, 5</i> by Susann McDonald & Linda Rollo
<b>Group B</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 6 minutes and one of the following: <i>Sweet Blues</i> , by Benard Andrès <i>Variations on a Theme of Mozart or Nocturne</i> , by Mikhail Glinka <i>Petite Valse, Op. 25</i> , by Alphonse Hasselmans <i>Sonata in C Minor</i> , by Giovanni Battista Pescetti/Salzedo
<b>Group C</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 8 minutes and one of the following: <i>Any from Les Ilets (Mambo, Rumba, Baïon, Reggae, Samba)</i> , by Benard Andrès <i>No. 2 (Allegretto Scherzando) from the Deux Arabesques, L. 66</i> , by Claude Debussy <i>Toccata</i> , by J. B. Loeillet, Trans. By Marcel Grandjany <i>Mazurka, Op. 12</i> , by Edmund Schuëcker
<b>Group D</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 10 minutes and one of the following: <i>Etude No. 7 from Eight Great Studies</i> , by Wilhelm Posse <i>Une Châtelaine en sa Tour</i> , by Gabriel Fauré <i>Rhapsodie, Op. 10</i> , by Marcel Grandjany <i>Variations on a Theme by Paganini (without repeats)</i> , by Mikhail Mchedelov
Celtic Harp	
<b>Group A</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 4 minutes and one of the following: <i>Any from Les Petits Pas Harpe Celtique, Automates or Danses D'Automne</i> , by Benard Andrès <i>Pastorale</i> or <i>Any from Trois petites Pièces. Op. 7</i> , by Marcel Grandjany <i>Any from Graded Recital Series Harp Solo Volume 1, 2</i> , by Susann McDonald & Linda Rollo
<b>Group B</b>	One free choice, should not exceed 6 minutes and one of the following: <i>Any from Counterpieces (4 pieces pour harpe celtique)</i> , by Jean-Michel Damase <i>Moorish Garden from The Magic Road</i> , by Nancy Gustavson <i>Any from Five Pieces for Celtic Harp</i> , by Evelyn Huber <i>Any from Six Pieces for Harp</i> , by David Watkins

**Guitar:** one free choice (5 minutes or less), and one from the list below

<b>Group A</b>	Op. 35 No. 4 by Fernando Sor
<b>Group B</b>	1.) Op. 35 No. 10 by Fernando Sor 2.) Op. 35 No. 12 by Fernando Sor
<b>Group C</b>	1.) Op. 35 No. 16 by Fernando Sor 2.) Op. 35 No. 19 by Fernando Sor

## **II. CHINESE MUSIC AWARD:**

- The purpose of the Chinese Music Award is to promote Chinese composers' compositions.
- The Chinese Music Award is only for **western instrument and vocal solo only**
- One piece or one movement ONLY. Each piece is required to be performed in its entirety
- Contestants can **choose to** compete in this individual award only. The application fee is charged separately for this award.
- **AWARDS:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: USD \$150, Trophy, Certificate
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Medals, Certificate
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Medals, Certificate
  - All winners' instructors will receive the Certificate of Recognition.
- **J & V Foundation & CMTANC Commission Project Award**
  - If the contestant selects the composition from the *J & V Foundation & CMTANC Commission Project* and wins First Place, the J & V Foundation will reward USD \$150 scholarship in addition to the Chinese Music Award.
  - These compositions by Ming Hsiu Yen/ Ruo Hwang/Chiung Ying Chang/Sarana Chou/Hao-Yuan Chiu/and Ke Chia Chen (2021 J&V music commission project)
  - To request the music, please visit our website [USIMC.ORG/J&V](http://USIMC.ORG/J&V) Commission

## **III. SPECIAL THEME AWARD - J.S. Bach or W. A. Mozart:**

- The purpose of the Special Theme Award is to promote specific western composers.
- The Special Theme Award is only for **western instrument and vocal solo only**
- One piece ONLY. For all instruments, the choice includes but is not limited to Prelude & Fugue (except piano that needs to play both), short section(s) of a Suite or one movement of a Sonata. Each piece is required to perform in its entirety.
  - \*Violin cannot select a concerto for this category
- Contestants can **choose to** compete in this individual award only. The application fee is charged separately for this award.
- **AWARDS:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: USD \$150, Trophy, Certificate
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Medals, Certificate
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Medals, Certificate
  - All winners' instructors will receive the Certificate of Recognition.

### **Performance time limited for each group**

Age Group	Piano	Violin	Viola	Cello	Marimba	Vocal Solo	Guitar
A	8 minutes	8 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	6 minutes	6 minutes	10 minutes
B	10 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	12 minutes	8 minutes	6 minutes	12 minutes
C	12 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes	10 minutes	6 minutes	12 minutes
D	15 minutes	15 minutes		15 minutes	15 minutes	6 minutes	
E	15 minutes	15 minutes				6 minutes	
Age Group	Harp	Traditional Chinese Instruments	Piano Duet/Piano Concerto/Chamber Ensemble/Vocal Ensemble			Special Theme Bach/Mozart Chinese Award	
A	10 minutes	12 minutes	12 minutes			6 minutes	
B	12 minutes	12 minutes	12 minutes			6 minutes	
C	12 minutes	12 minutes	12 minutes			6 minutes	
D	15 minutes					6 minutes	
E						6 minutes	

### **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

- The registration opens on **April 1, 2023** on [www.usimc.org](http://www.usimc.org). The deadline is **11:59pm. May 31, 2023**.
- Late Registration during **June 1 to June 5** will need to pay extra processing fee for **\$45**
- ONLINE registration Only.
- Submit Proof of age (photocopy of driver's license, passport or birth certificate) online required.
- Application Fee (USD) :

**Instruments Solo:** (Young Artist Award, Special Theme Award or Chinese Music Award)

- \$90.00 per contestant, per category (students of Active CMTANC members)
- \$120.00 per contestant, per category (students of Non-CMTANC members)

**Piano Duet & Ensemble :** (Young Artist Award)

- \$60 per contestant (coached by Active CMTANC members)
- \$70 per contestant (coached by Non-CMTANC members)

- All fees are non-refundable
- \$45 will be charged if the application has missing documents or any errors (submit before June 5)
- All contestants pay an application fee ONLINE ONLY via the registration system.
- If a contestant is entering more than one category, the total fee for all categories entered may be included in one transaction.
- All video links must be provided in the Registration Form. Once the Application is submitted and the deadline is met, the music selections/titles cannot be changed.
- Please visit **www.usimc.org** for more information. For questions, contact us by email: [info@usimc.org](mailto:info@usimc.org) or +1(408) 681-9928

### **GENERAL RULES:**

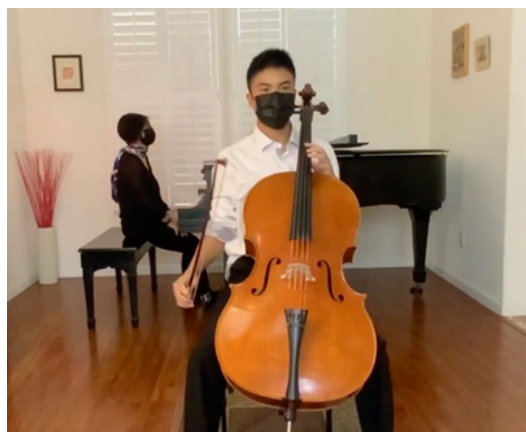
1. Past First Place winners cannot register again for the same group of that instrumental category.
2. Contestants may register for multiple instrumental or vocal categories.
3. No changes in repertoire are allowed after the Registration deadline.
4. Winners will be chosen from the finalists in each group. However, if none of the finalists meet the standard, the judges reserve the right to declare no winners.
5. All judges' decisions are final. Contestants - Parents/guardians cannot appeal the final decision of the judges. If any contact with the judges is discovered, the contestants or winners will be disqualified.
6. No comments sheet regarding the contestant's performance will be provided by the judges.
7. Winners will need to receive their awards at the award ceremony. If winners can't come to the ceremony, they may need to choose mailing services. A handling & shipping fee will be charged: \$60 domestic in the US and \$80 international.
8. Each contestant hereby gives USIMC and CMTANC permission to use the recording, duplicate, distribute, and/or modify.
9. Subject to the limitations by applicable laws and regulations, each contestant waives any and all claims or actions against USIMC-CMTANC, CMTANC and its judges, staff, officers, directors, and volunteers that have arisen and/or may arise from the Competitor's participation in the audition and competition.

## **Visual Demo of How to Frame Your Video:**

\*Pianists need to show their keyboard and the pedals.



\*Strings players need to show the fingerboard and bow



\*Wind players need to show their waist up view

\*Vocalists need to show a waist up view





\*Marimba Players need show the full Marimba keyboard



\*Chinese instruments players need to show the whole instrument



\*Harp players need to show the whole instrument

