Bach Society Orchestra
2017-2018 Concerto Competition

Purpose:

The Bach Society Orchestra’s annual Concerto Competition is devoted to promoting and recognizing soloistic excellence among Harvard’s undergraduate student body.

Eligibility:

The Bach Society Orchestra’s 2017-18 Concerto Competition is open to all and only Harvard undergraduate instrumentalists and vocalists, excepting previous winners.

Requirements:

Applicants must enter with a concerto or other solo piece subject to the following restrictions:

1. The piece may be none of the following:
   A. Copland’s Clarinet Concerto
   B. Shostakovich’s Cello Concerto No. 1
   C. Liszt’s Piano Concerto No. 1
   D. Shostakovich’s Piano Concerto No. 1
   E. Mozart’s Sinfonia Concertante for Violin, Viola, and Orchestra
   F. Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto in E Minor
   G. Beethoven’s Emperor Concerto
   H. Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2

2. The piece’s instrumentation should suit the Bach Society Orchestra (generally 2-2-2-2/2-2-2-0 tmp, hp,str, though other combinations may be considered). Should any questions arise regarding the appropriateness of a piece for the Concerto Competition, please contact Reuben Stern (reuben_stern@college.harvard.edu), the Bach Society’s Music Director, before applying.

3. Applicants must enter the competition with the piece they plan on performing should they win.

Auditions:

The auditions will take place on Monday, Oct. 16th between 3 PM and 7 PM in Paine Hall. Applicants will be asked to play approximately 20 - 30 minutes of music. While applicants will not necessarily be asked
to perform an entire piece, they should be prepared to do so. Piano accompaniment for the first round is highly recommended for this.

Rules:

1. Prospective applicants must submit an application by 8:00 PM on Friday, October 6, 2016 via the online form. Incomplete applications may disqualify an applicant from competing; late applications will not be accepted.
2. Entrants must provide three copies of the entire piano-reduced score for the judges on the night of each round. Failure to bring these scores may disqualify an entrant from competing.
3. The judges reserve the right to stop an entrant during his/her performance for any reason in both the preliminary and final round.
4. The judges’ decisions are uncontestable and final.

Auditions:

The First Prize Winner will perform his/her selected piece with the Bach Society Orchestra in Paine Hall on Sunday, November 12, 2017. Additional honorary prizes may be awarded as the judges see fit.

Questions:

General questions about the competition should be addressed to the Competitions Coordinator, Beverly Ge (bge1@college.harvard.edu). Questions regarding the appropriateness of a piece for the Concerto Competition should be addressed to the Bach Society’s Music Director, Reuben Stern (reuben_stern@college.harvard.edu).

Click below to apply!

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