

GFWC-NC DISTRICT VI ARTS FESTIVAL - STUDENT MUSIC COMPETITION

Directions and Submission Requirements for the Student Music Competition Saturday, November 14, 2026

This competition is open to students in Grades 9-12 who are residents of Chatham, Harnett, Lee and Wake Counties in GFWC-NC Dogwood District.

Deadlines: There are two important deadlines for the Student Music Competition.

The Intention Deadline is October 30, 2026. The Application Deadline is November 6, 2026.

- A. To indicate intention to enter, email your name, category you wish to enter, High School, grade, email, and phone number to wcrstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com prior to 11:00 pm on Wednesday, **October 30, 2026**.
- B. Application available at [Student Music Contest Form \(womansclubofraleigh.org\)](http://StudentMusicContestForm(womansclubofraleigh.org)). Download, save, complete and re-save with your initials appended to the file name. Email completed form to wcrstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com OR print and mail to arrive no later than 6:00 pm Friday, **November 6, 2026** to The Woman's Club of Raleigh, PO Box 10346, Raleigh, 27605 ATTN: Student Music Competition.

There are four entry categories: Vocal - Piano - Strings - Other Instruments.

- Contestants may perform one or two classical, impressionistic, jazz, or contemporary opera compositions of their choice. No gospel, country-western, "pop" or improvisation will be accepted. When questioning the appropriateness of a composition, contact wcrstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com.
- Strict performance time limits must be observed: a minimum of three (3) minutes and a maximum of five (5) minutes. Performances over five minutes time will be disqualified. A timekeeper will record timings.
- Vocal and piano contestants must perform from memory. Instrumentalists may use music. No tapes or recordings allowed as accompaniment for ANY of the categories. Only vocalists may have an accompanist, no exceptions.
- Bring three (3) copies of the composition(s) to be performed with you for use by the judges. Use the filled-in official Pre-Registration Form (next page) as a cover sheet for each copy of the piece(s) to be performed.
- In each of the four categories, the judges have the option to award first, second, and third place certificates with a cash award. The decision of the judges is final. First place award is \$150, second place is \$125, and third place is \$100.
- Two Dogwood District Merit Award recipients are selected by the judges from the first and second place awardees of all the categories. These awardees are invited to perform at the Dogwood District Arts Festival in February 2026 in Raleigh and will receive an additional \$250 prize.
- Judging is based on the following criteria:

PIANO

TONE (beauty, characteristic timbre control) up to 20 points
TECHNIQUE (articulation, facility fingering, and/or embouchure, rhythm) up to 20 points
INTERPRETATION (expression, phrasing style, tempo) up to 20 points
MUSICAL EFFECT (artistry, fluency) up to 20 points
STAGE PRESENCE AND APPEARANCE up to 20 points

VOCAL

TONE (beauty and control) up to 20 points
INTONATION (accuracy of pitch) up to 20 points
DICTION (clarity of consonants, naturalness, purity of vowels, understandable diction) up to 20 points
TECHNIQUE (accuracy of notes and rhythm, breathing and posture, fluency, vitality) up to 20 points
INTERPRETATION (expression, phrasing, style, tempo, and stage presence, appearance) up to 20 points

INSTRUMENTS

TONE (beauty, characteristic timbre control) up to 20 points
TECHNIQUE (articulation, facility fingering, and/or embouchure, rhythm) up to 20 points
INTERPRETATION (expression, phrasing style, tempo according to composer's intention) up to 20 points
MUSICAL EFFECT (artistry) up to 20 points
STAGE PRESENCE AND APPEARANCE up to 20 points

GFWC-NC Dogwood District Pre-Registration Form

To fill out the form you must first download and save it. Select the appropriate radio buttons and type your responses in the blue boxes. Once completed, select "Save as" from the file menu to save again, adding your initials to the end of the file name. Submit by email or US mail as detailed below to arrive by EOD Friday, November 6, 2026.

Category: Vocal Piano Strings Other _____ (instrument)

Address: The Woman's Club of Raleigh, PO Box 10346, Raleigh, 27605 ATTN: Student Music Competition

E-mail: WCRstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com

Sponsoring Club Name: _____ Dogwood District

Contestant's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Student's School: _____ Grade: _____

Parents of Student: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Title of Composition(s):

Brief description(s) of entry:

Date Submitted: _____

Permission given for student name and picture(s) taken during competition to be used only by The Woman's Club of Raleigh and GFWC NC District VI for publicity purposes of this competition (including WCR Website, Facebook and Instagram).

____ YES ____ NO Parent** _____ Date _____

**Printed name of Parent is the same as consent by authorized signature

**Any questions please contact Student Music Competition Chair Nancy Canterbury
at 919-622-9577 or WCRstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com**