

GFWC-NC DOGWOOD DISTRICT 2026 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. It will be held November 14, 2026 at the Woman's Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman's Club Dr., Raleigh 27612.

Deadlines: There are two important deadlines for this Student Music Competition. The Intention (#A) Deadline is Oct. 26, 2026. The Application (#B) Deadline is Nov. 6, 2026.

- A. **INTENTION:** Email your name, the category you wish to enter, your High School, Grade, and phone number to wcrstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN** 6:00 pm on Monday, **October 26, 2026**.
- B. **APPLY:** Complete the attached application form and email completed form to wcrstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com OR complete, 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, NC 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 (5) minutes 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 a piano accompanist, no exceptions.
- Bring four (4) copies of the composition(s) to be performed with you for use by the judges. Use the filled-in official Application 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 Awards are selected by the judges from the first and second place awardees of all the categories. These awardees are invited to perform at the GFWC-NC Dogwood District Arts Festival on February 6, 2027 in Asheboro and will receive an additional \$250 award.
- 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 Student Music Competition Application Form

To fill out this application, first download and save it. Select the appropriate radio buttons and type your responses in the blank lines. Once completed, select "Save as", adding your initials to the end of the file name. Submit by US mail or email as detailed below to arrive before 6:00 PM on Friday, November 6, 2026.

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

Submission Email: WCRstudentmusiccontestinfo@gmail.com

Category: Vocal Piano Strings Other _____ (instrument)

Sponsoring Club Name (Optional): _____ Dogwood District

Student's Name: _____

Address: _____ **County:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Student's School: _____ **Grade:** _____

Referring Teacher Name: _____

Parents of Student: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

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 by The Woman's Club of Raleigh and GFWC-NC Dogwood District for publicity purposes of this competition (including TWCR 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