



P.O. Box 1347 | Gilroy, CA 95021  
southvalleysymphony.org

## **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Navaroli Young Musicians Competition 2024-2025**

Application Deadline : Post marked or emailed by November 23, 2024

South Valley Symphony announces the 16th Annual Competition for talented young musicians residing and/or training in southern Santa Clara (south of Bernal Road), San Benito, Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties. The winner of this competition will perform as the featured soloist with South Valley Symphony during the March Concert, to be scheduled at a later date, at the Gavilan College Theater in Gilroy. The Navaroli Competition is open to strings, winds, brass and piano.

The purpose of the competition is to encourage young musicians to develop their talent and skill, to motivate them with a chance to perform before a live audience with symphonic accompaniment, and to reward and honor them for their achievements and dedication.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Complete the Application included in this document. Each application form must be accompanied by a 15 minute CD recording or sound file of the Contestant's performance of their chosen musical piece, submitted for pre-screening purposes. Following pre-screening, all contestants will be notified as to whether they qualify for formal in person audition.

### **RULES & PREPARATION**

#### **Age Requirements:**

You must be no younger than 12 and no older than 19 on January 1, 2025.

#### **Residency Requirement**

All applicants must reside in, *or* study with a music instructor who resides in southern Santa Clara County south of Bernal Road, San Benito, Monterey or Santa Cruz counties. Please include with your application a photo copy of proof of residency within the above boundaries. You may provide a utility bill or photo ID.

An exception to the Residency rule will be for the teachers who live outside these counties, but have played with South Valley Symphony as musicians – these instructors are considered members of the SVS Family, and their students are also thereby eligible to participate in the Competition.

In this case, please include your teacher's name & contact information.

The Navaroli Young Musicians Competition is open to All Strings [including Harp], Wind Instruments, Brass Instruments and Piano. Please note that SVS also considers small ensemble groups [e.g., double concertos] as acceptable in this competition, as long as the music includes orchestral accompaniment.

**Audition and Music:** Pre-Audition Screening will be done using the submitted CD or the emailed file which is **due Saturday November 23, 2024**. The Notice of Selection for Live audition letters will be both Mailed and emailed out on Saturday November 30, 2024. The Live Audition will be scheduled for **Saturday December 7, 2024**. All necessary details for the Live audition will be included in the individual letters, including the time of your audition. Each accepted applicant must perform as follow:

- **Strings, Winds, Brass, and Piano:**

Perform the first movement from a Concerto or a Featured Piece, written for your instrument from within the standard repertoire: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Modern Eras. If you have questions as to whether or not your selected piece is appropriate, please contact us in advance of sending a recorded CD. The selected piece should be **orchestrated** either for full orchestra, chamber orchestra, or for string /woodwind ensemble. For example, stand-alone sonatas are not acceptable because they are not orchestrated.

If an entire concerto has the duration of roughly 15 minutes, then the Contestant should perform that entire concerto, both at audition and at concert performance if selected as a winner. Younger contestants may submit a minimum of 6 minutes

The Audition CD/sound file and the Live Audition should be performed with piano accompaniment. Each applicant is responsible for providing **their own accompanist** for the competition. A piano is available at the Live Audition site to accompany the soloist. For those contestants competing on Piano itself, a second piano will be available so that the accompanist will play a reduced orchestral line along with the solo pianist. Each Contestant shall also provide **two** copies of their music to the judges on the day of the Live Audition. Each Contestant will be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes for their live performance at Audition; hence, the Audition CD for pre-screening should also be a maximum of 15 minutes.

## **JUDGING**

Judging will be carried out by the South Valley Symphony's Music Director, Anthony Quartuccio, and a select group of orchestra members, each being professional, semi-professional, or highly accomplished musicians. The judging will be in an open room, with the judges in plain view. Criteria for judging and commentary notes back to contestants, will focus on accuracy in pitch, meter, and tone quality; suitability of the selected piece for the Contestant and the Symphony; and general musicality and performance of the Contestant. Both the audition Performance and the March Concert Performance must be played with the music memorized. The decision of the judges is final; the winner will be announced at the conclusion of the Auditions.

We reserve the right to select one or more soloists from any of the categories to perform based on competition results.

**Please submit all Application Materials and Audition CD to:**

Gege Bencich  
820 Park Row #925  
Salinas, Ca. 93901 cell: (831)537-5144  
ggbencich@gmail.com

## 2024 - 2025 Important Dates

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Application submission for pre-screening is due postmarked by:

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**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2024**

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Notification of Finalist Status & Audition Acceptance no later than:

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**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2024**

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Formal Audition for Finalists:

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**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 9am – 1pm**

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is **VERY** important that those Contestants who are already members of any of the several Bay Area Youth Orchestras to verify in advance with your Conductors that you will be allowed to perform with other Symphonies without losing your standing with your Youth Orchestra

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Concert Rehearsals and Performance for Winning Soloist(s):

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1. Two Wednesday night rehearsals at 7:30 – 10:00; March 5<sup>th</sup> & March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  2. Dress Rehearsal: Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 7:15 pm
  3. Performance @ 3:00 pm (Orchestra call time) on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025
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## APPLICATION FORM

### 16th Annual Navaroli Young Musicians Competition 2024-2025

**Please read all rules and guidelines before completing this form.**

Your application package must contain the following:

- This completed form
- A 6 -15 minute CD recording of your performance for prescreening purposes.
- Proof of residency

Deadline: Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than **Saturday November 23rd 2024**

You must be No younger than 12 and no Older than 19 on January 1, 2025.

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#### Applicant Information

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Audition Information**

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ Years Studied \_\_\_\_\_

Title / Movement of Performance Piece

\_\_\_\_\_

Composer \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. Perf. Time \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Accompanist

\_\_\_\_\_

**Music Education Information**

Private Instructor's Name :

\_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's Address :

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Performance Organizations

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Orchestra \_\_\_\_\_ School Orchestra \_\_\_\_\_ School Band \_\_\_\_\_

Any Solo Performance Experience (Detail; additional sheets OK)

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**Mail All Application Materials to:**

Gege Bencich  
Navaroli Competition Coordinator  
820 Park Row #925  
Salinas, Ca. 93901  
ph: (831) 537-5144

Questions - Contact: Gege Bencich by email at [ggbencich@gmail.com](mailto:ggbencich@gmail.com)