



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

18th Annual Navaroli Young Musicians Competition 2026-2027

Application Deadline: Postmarked or emailed by October 31, 2026

South Valley Symphony (SVS) announces the 18th Annual Competition for talented young musicians residing or training in Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey, or Santa Cruz Counties. The winner of this competition will perform as the featured soloist with South Valley Symphony during the March Concert on March 13, 2027. 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 recording 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 a formal in person audition.

RULES & PREPARATION

Age Requirements:

You must be no younger than 12 and no older than 19 on January 1, 2027.

Residency Requirement

All applicants must reside in **or** study with a music instructor who resides in Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey, or Santa Cruz counties. Please include with your application a photocopy 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 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 audio recording which is **due Saturday October 31, 2026**. The Notice of Selection for Live Audition letters will be both mailed and emailed out by **Monday, November 9, 2026**. The live audition will be scheduled for **Saturday November 14, 2026**. 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 recording. The selected piece should be *orchestrated* either for full orchestra, chamber orchestra, or for string or 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. A shorter duration may be considered for younger contestants.

The audition recording 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. 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 recording 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 (with feedback 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 recording to:

svsnavaroliyouthcompetition@gmail.com

2026 - 2027 Important Dates

Application submission for pre-screening is due postmarked by:

Saturday, October 31, 2026

Notification of Finalist Status & Audition Acceptance no later than:

Monday, November 9, 2026

Formal Audition for Finalists:

Saturday, November 14, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

PLEASE NOTE: It is **VERY** important that if you are already a member of any of the several Bay Area youth orchestras that you verify in advance with your conductors that you will be allowed to perform with other symphonies without losing your standing with your youth orchestra.

Concert Rehearsals and Performance for Winning Soloist(s):

1. Two Wednesday night rehearsals at 7:30 – 10:00; March 3 & March 10, 2027
 2. Dress Rehearsal: Friday March 12, 2027 @ 7:15 pm
 3. Performance @ 3:00 pm on March 13, 2027. Call time for warm up is usually at 1:30 pm.
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APPLICATION FORM
18th Annual Navaroli Young Musicians Competition 2026-2027

Please read all rules and guidelines before completing this form.

Your application package must contain the following:

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

Deadline: Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than **Saturday October 31, 2026**

You must be no younger than 12 and no older than 19 on January 1, 2027.

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 _____

Years of:
Youth Orchestra _____ School Orchestra _____ School Band _____

Any Solo Performance Experience (Detail; additional sheets OK) _____

Mail All Application Materials and Questions to:
svsnavaroliyouthcompetition@gmail.com

SOUTH VALLEY SYMPHONY, INC. P.O. Box 1347 | Gilroy, CA 95021
www.southvalleysymphony.org