



41st International Young Artist Piano Competition
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
Benjamin T. Rome School of Music
June 26-28, 2026

Please Post



International Young Artist Piano Competition
P.O. Box 2284 Silver Spring, MD 20915

International Advisory Board

Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw

Stewart Gordon

Jahja Ling

Cheng-Zong Yin

www.musicalartsinternational.org/iyapc,

IYAPC 2025 winners concert in YouTube, MAI, IYAPC YouTube

For pianists ages 6 to 35

Welcome to the Catholic University of America! I want to congratulate you on your choice to participate in this event and on your effort that has brought you here. It has reflected your commitment to the hard work that it takes to be a fine pianist. May the competition inspire you toward continued success in a life of music.

- Dean Dr. Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw, Catholic University of America

Congratulations to the International Young Artist Piano Competition on its 40th anniversary. The process underscores an international awareness through the requirement of performing music by contemporary Chinese composers. A carefully selected panel of distinguished adjudicators offers written evaluations that are encouraging and helpful. With fervent wishes for the competition's continued success.

- Dr. Stewart Gordon, University of Southern California

I especially enjoyed the students' approach to the required pieces because it allowed them to show their full artistic abilities. I hope you will continue this in the future, and it really does give them a unique challenge. It is sometimes tricky to interpret unfamiliar pieces, but I enjoyed hearing their imaginations come alive here!!!!

- Dr. Curtis Pavey, University of Missouri

It was a lot of fun listening to those students, who are so well prepared. Especially College group has so many new and innovative compositions. Bravo to the carefully chosen and colorful programming!

- Douglas Guiles

Congratulations on the 40th edition of IYAPC. The organizer and the committee are all heroes. And thank you again for inviting me to judge. Best Wishes!

- Dr. Ivo Kaltchev, Catholic University of America

The IYAPC 2025 set a high standard. Congratulations to all of the fine young pianists that participated; it was a pleasure to hear you perform. To the committee, thank you for nurturing young talent and championing beautiful new compositions by Chinese composers, all with the generous hosting of the Catholic University of America and their support team. Bravo tutti!

- Dr. Lori Piitz, James Madison University

Congratulations on the 40th anniversary year! It was a pleasure to be part of this wonderful and unique event. I really enjoyed hearing from all of the talented students. Best wishes to all the pianists, teachers, and families and many thanks to the organizers and volunteers.

- Dr. Lise Keiter, Mary Baldwin University

I am so impressed with how the competition runs every year. I am glad to make an impromptu speech to the college group. They are really an impressive group.

- Dr. John Paul Healey, George Mason University

<p align="center"> June 26-27, 2026 Competition June 28, 2026 Award Ceremony and Winners' Concert Catholic University of America, Ward Recital Hall, 348 University Drive. NE, Washington DC. Benjamin T. Rome School of Music: Live, In-person Audition </p> <p align="center"> Web Site: http://musicalartsinternational.org/iyapc </p> <p align="center"> For Pianists Ages 6-35 </p>	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Please Post </div>
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The International Young Artist Piano Competition, founded in 1985 by Li-Ly Chang, was originally for young artists of all nationalities between the ages of 6 and 18. In the year 2000 and the IYAPC 15th anniversary, a young professional group was added for ages of 19 to 28. Now we have expanded to age 35. The purpose is to promote the music of Chinese composers and further cultural exchange between peoples of the East and West. This is the only competition of its kind for this age group. Our sincere thanks to facilities from Catholic University of America, Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music, Peabody Institute, University of Southern California, and financial support from the community, teachers and parents for making this dream a reality. In celebration of the upcoming 40th anniversary, we will celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion with more new music and awards. Hope you can join us and share this opportunity with your colleagues, friends, and students. Together we will make this the best year ever.

Eligibility:

The competition is open to pianists of any nationalities between the ages of 6 and 35. Competitors will be divided into groups by age as of July 1st, 2026. College Competitors aged 18-35 will be in the young professional group, please see the detailed eligibility rules for this age group on page 3. Last year's first prize winners may not compete this year but may compete next year, despite the groups they will be in.

A. Groups 1-4, ages 6-18 (pre-college)

Online Video Regional Round (two works, two separate links, for all groups, must be memorized):

- 1) One Western piece of your choice from any period. No repertoire change allowed after submitting registration.
- 2) One required Chinese piece. The order form with shipping information must accompany all orders.
 - Group 1: Age 8 and under.
Swinging Around by Li-Ly Chang
 - Group 2: Age 9-10.
One Drum, One Stick by Li-Ly Chang
 - Group 3: Age 11-13.
The Parade by Zhu Xin Jiang
 - Group 4: Age 14-18.
Two Yunnan Folk Songs by Chuang Xin Shen **(No repeats in all three places)**

All entrants must own original copies of their music; no photocopies or downloads allowed.

Live, In-person Final Round:

Groups 1, 2: same two pieces as the regional round.

Groups 3, 4: Three pieces—the same required Chinese piece and the same Western piece from the regional round in addition to the other Western choice piece you put on the registration form. **One Western piece must be either Baroque or Classical, the other Romantic or Contemporary.** Competitors who choose to play a sonatina or sonata will be allowed to play a single movement. A prelude and fugue from the same set may be played separately or together. A theme and variations must be played in entirety. Competitors must have original copies of their music. **No photocopies or downloads allowed.** No transcriptions are allowed except concert transcription level and quality by composers like Brahms, Busoni, Liszt, Rachmaninoff. The competitors' playing time will be at the discretion of the judges. All works must be memorized.

Dates and Regions (Groups 1-4):

Online Video Regional Round:

April 19, 2026 University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.
April 19, 2026 NY, NJ, CT and other regions besides MD, DC, PA, VA, DEL.
April 26, 2026 MD, DC, PA, VA, DEL

Live, Final Round: June 26-27, 2026, free and open to the public, Catholic University of America, Ward Recital Hall, 348 University Drive NE, Washington DC.

Live, In person Award Ceremony and Prizes: June 28, 2026, all are invited. Cash prizes are given to winners. All competitors receive a certificate of merit, critique sheet, and photo sessions. All cash award winners must attend the Award Ceremony. The first prize and required piece winners must perform at the concert to receive the awards, or they will forfeit their prizes. IYAPC reserves the right to give prizes.

Groups 1, 2	1st Prize \$250	2nd Prize \$150	3rd Prize \$125
Groups 3, 4	1st Prize \$400	2nd Prize \$300	3rd Prize \$200

Best performance of required piece prize: \$100 each group

Performance opportunity: Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, Washington International Piano Festival, State of the Arts Cultural Series at the U.S. State Department, National Institute of Health. Lancaster International Piano Competition.

B. Group 5, College and Young Professional

Eligibility: Age 18 to 35 (as July 1st, 2026) of all nationalities. Please email two recommendation letters, a biography with a list of your awards and major performances, and a copy of your birth certificate. This is the registration packet that will be submitted with the registration form.

Repertoire:

Western pieces: Construct your program by choosing three categories out of the following four. It should show the breadth of your technical and artistic ability (make a copy of the program for your references).

1. A piece (or prelude and fugue, or a movement of a suite) by J.S. Bach
2. A piece (or variations or a movement from a sonata) by Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven
3. A piece (or a movement from a Sonata or set of pieces) by a Romantic composer
4. A piece (or a movement from a Sonata or set of pieces) written by a Western composer 1860 or later.

Required Chinese piece: Impromptu No. 3 by Li-Ly Chang

Online Video Preliminary round: (Video postmarked April 19, 2026.) All young professional competitors are required to play two Western pieces out of the three you have chosen (if a sonata, one movement only), and the required Chinese piece, memory is not required. Please email a YouTube link. You will receive written notice whether or not you have advanced to the final round.

Live, In-person Final Round: June 26, 2026. All Western pieces must be performed from memory. Bring original books; no photocopies or downloads. Repertoire change after submitting the Registration Form is \$30. The playing time and portion of music to be heard are at judges' discretion, but parts of all four pieces will be heard. The required Chinese piece does not have to be memorized.

Award Ceremony and Prizes: All cash prize winners must be present on June 28, 2026 award ceremony to receive the awards. The first prize and required piece winners must perform at the concert; otherwise the prize is forfeited.

1st Prize: \$1000 2nd Prize: \$700 3rd Prize: \$500

Best performance of required piece: \$100

Performance opportunity: Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, Washington International Piano Festival, State of the Arts Cultural Series at the U.S. State Department, National Institute of Health. Lancaster International Piano Competition

C. Judges:

The Judges of the competition will consist of musicians of international stature. The judging will be governed according to written procedures. The decisions of the judges are final.

D. Brochures and more information:

Information about area hotels will be included in the finalists' package. Financial responsibility for travel expenses, board and lodging are assumed by the contestants. For brochures, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to IYAPC, P.O. Box 2284, Silver Spring, MD 20915.

For more information, please contact IYAPC: musicalartsinternational@yahoo.com

2026 I.Y.A.P.C COMPETITION REGISTRATION FORM

Applicant _____	Chinese Name, if applicable _____	Audition Place _____
Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Country _____
Date of Birth _____	Age as of 7/1/26 _____	Group _____ Email (parents, guardian) _____
Phone _____		
Teacher's Name _____	Phone _____	Teacher's Email _____
Teacher's Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Country _____

HOW TO REGISTER

Group 1 to 4: Registration form should be completed by the teacher for all their student applicants. All communication will be done with the teachers. Each applicant must have a separate registration form. Teachers should place all forms into one envelope and include one teachers' check covering all applicant fees. Teachers, please send a separate email to musicalartsinternational@yahoo.com stating the postmark date of the application packet, in case the mail is delayed.

Group 5: One registration form, and the registration packet (see section B, Eligibility), and one check from the applicant should be mailed to IYAPC. Please sign only in Applicant. For Group 5, also attach your program and exact timing of the program.

Mail all application packets to I.Y.A.P.C., P.O. Box 2284, Silver Spring, MD 20915

Incomplete registration or packets: IYAPC will notify teachers or applicants by email if the application is incomplete. The corrected application must be mailed and postmarked within one week of email notification or the entry will not be accepted.

Finalists: All finalists are required to be present for the final round. A fee of \$55 and Response Form must be mailed back postmarked no later than eight days after the regional round date or the entrant will forfeit status as a finalist. This will be specified in the finalist notification.

Cash award winners must be present for the award ceremony to receive the cash award.

REGISTRATION DUE DATES (postmarked)

March 15, 2026: Registration form, signatures, and fee (see below)

April 11, 2026: Late registration form and fee (see below), plus \$ 40 late fee for each student

Group 1-4, Regional audition video due date: 10:00 pm EST. Please see p. 3, top line, section A under Dates and Regions.

Group 5, College, Preliminary Round Video due date: April 19th, 2025, 10:00 pm EST

REGISTRATION FEES (nonrefundable): I wish to enter the following (Please check ✓)

_____ I.Y.A.P.C. Solo Event Group 1 or 2	\$70.00
_____ I.Y.A.P.C. Solo Event Group 3 or 4	\$80.00
_____ I.Y.A.P.C. Solo Event Group 5	\$90.00

REPERTOIRE SELECTION: For Groups 1 and 2, specify one Western Choice Piece. For Groups 3 and 4, specify two Western Choice Pieces. For Group 5, attach your program and exact timing separately.

Title _____	Movement _____	Composer _____	Exact Time _____
Title _____	Movement _____	Composer _____	Exact Time _____

COMPETITION RULES: I agree to abide by all procedures and rules governing the competition as outlined in this brochure. All IYAPC participants, teachers, and parents must comply with all of the rules. Any violation of the rules may result in disqualification. I understand that incomplete applications (including failure to pay all fees, to fill in the form properly, to send in video audition registration if applicable, to own your own required pieces) will result in disqualification if a new application is not received within one week after notification. No repertoire changes are allowed after submission of this registration form. Bring your birth certificate for our reference if needed. Registration and music book fees are nonrefundable. By signing this form, I agree photos, videos or audio footage of my child or myself may be used for purposes that serve the mission IYAPC. Judges' decisions are final and may not be questioned or contested.

Signature of Applicant _____	date _____
Signature of Parent _____	date _____
Signature of Teacher _____	date _____

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2026 REQUIRED PIECES ORDER FORM

Book A – Groups 1, 2, 3 – includes: Swinging Around; One Drum One Stick; The Parade _ _ _ _ _ \$11 x ____ = \$ ____

Book B – Groups 4, 5 – includes: Two Yunnan Folk Songs; Impromptu No. 3 _ _ _ _ _ \$11 x ____ = \$ ____

Shipping & handling (within the U.S.) \$ 7 = \$ ____

Shipping & handling (outside the U.S., regular ten days shipping) \$14 = \$ ____

Total = \$ ____

Please write and send a check to **I.Y.A.P.C., P.O. Box 2284, Silver Spring, MD 20915. Orders will only be accepted on this form.** Please complete the mailing label below with the shipping address that is the usual name & address used for your residence so that the package is deliverable (do not use your child's name on the shipping label) **Note: we do not ship to PO Box address. IYAPC can not be responsible for lost or undeliverable music or other packages, when the record shows it has been mailed. All music purchasing fees are non refundable.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____

For shipping accuracy, please re-copy the address onto this U.S. mailing label

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____