

# WILLIAM C. BYRD YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

WILLIAM C. BYRD, director of the Flint Institute of Music and conductor of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, was an exceptionally talented young man with a vision and extraordinary skills for leadership in the various fields of music. Conducting and composing were his primary interests, but he had a unique devotion to the artistic growth and development of young musicians. He worked with boundless enthusiasm and accomplished many of his goals before his sudden death in 1974. St. Cecilia Society and the Flint Institute of Music take great pride in presenting this competition in his memory. ([www.ByrdArtists.com](http://www.ByrdArtists.com))

The competition consists of four categories, rotating annually: Voice – 2010; Piano – 2011; Strings – 2012; Winds & Brass – 2013

The competition will be held **Saturday, March 6, 2010** at

The Flint Institute of Music (J. Dallas Dort Music Center)  
1025 East Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503

**Chair:**

Mrs. Almeda Hunter  
810.239.6068  
[almeda.hunter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almeda.hunter@sbcglobal.net)

## ELIGIBILITY

- A. The competition is international in scope and is open to 30 artists up to 34 years of age at time of audition - March 6, 2010. Contestants may not be represented by a manager or agent.
- B. Each contestant must submit a completed application form with the following required enclosures by January 19, 2010:
  1. All selections to be performed at the audition, which must include all movements, be memorized and BE APPLICABLE TO BEING PERFORMED with ORCHESTRA ACCOMPANIMENT. Please include timing.
  2. Two letters of recommendation.
  3. A resume, including experience, history of study, honors, solo performances, reviews and programs.
  4. One black and white photo of yourself suitable for publication, no smaller than 3" by 5."
  5. Recording, approximately 10 minutes in length on tape or CD, of the selection you will perform in the competition. These are sent on to professional adjudicators who will select the most qualified applicants to participate in the competition; therefore, they must be anonymous to help protect the objectivity of the judging process. Do not include your name or any potentially identifying information on the audio portions of the recording. Accompany your recording with a printed title of your selection. WE WILL REFUSE ANY RECORDING THAT POTENTIALLY IDENTIFIES THE APPLICANT TO THE ADJUDICATORS. Recordings will not be returned.
  6. A check or money order made payable to *St. Cecilia Society* for the registration fee of \$25 and an additional fee of \$90 (\$115 total) if you wish to use the official accompanist. (Applicants not accepted will have their application and accompanist fees returned promptly.) A copy of the score for the accompanist must be sent with the application. The \$90 entitles the contestant to a one-hour rehearsal period before the performance. Securing the use of an official accompanist cannot be guaranteed after February 19, 2010.
- C. Applications MUST BE RECEIVED no later than January 19, 2010 by Mrs. Almeda Hunter, 2302 Pierce St. Flint, MI 48503 or [almeda.hunter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almeda.hunter@sbcglobal.net).

## JUDGES

A jury of three distinguished musicians will serve as judges of the competition. The decision of the judges is final. If a contestant has studied with or otherwise had close professional or personal ties with a judge, the judge will be requested to disqualify himself for that contestant, and the scores from the other two judges will be averaged to provide a third score.

## AUDITIONS

- A. Auditions will be held throughout the day Saturday, March 6, 2010, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Throughout the competition contestants shall be known to the judges only by number. Bring an original score for the judges.
- B. Time slots will be allotted soon after the acceptance letters are mailed. Contestants perform for 10 minutes.
- C. Finalists will be selected at the close of the auditions. The finals will be held the same evening at 7:30 p.m., following dinner, and will be open to the public. Finalists will be introduced at the conclusion to the judges and the audience.
- D. The finals are presented as a formal program. Contestants are required to wear appropriate attire for the evening presentation, and have their entire selection prepared.

## PRIZES

- A. The First Prize-winner will receive \$6,000 and must sign a contract to appear with the Flint Symphony Orchestra, a professional per-service orchestra. \$3,000 will be presented by the St. Cecilia Society immediately after the competition.\* The remaining \$3,000 will be awarded after the Flint Symphony Orchestra performance. Failure to fulfill this engagement will result in forfeiture of the \$3,000. A first-place winner is not eligible to return for future competitions.
- B. A Second Prize of \$2,500 will be awarded. Should the First Prize-winner be unable to perform, the Second Prize-winner will be expected to fulfill this engagement, and will be paid \$3,500 for this performance.
- C. The other three finalists will each receive \$1,000.

\* Please note: All prizewinners must complete appropriate IRS (Internal Revenue Service) forms to receive disbursement of prize monies. For details see [www.Byrdartists.com](http://www.Byrdartists.com).

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to annually provide a competition with performance opportunities, designed to help launch musical careers.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Lunch (11 a.m.–2 p.m.) and dinner (6 p.m.) will be served free of charge to all contestants and their accompanists. Honored guests will also be at the dinner. Finalists will be announced at the dinner.
- B. Housing by volunteers in the community will be available. Requests for housing should be made with the attached application.
- C. For those who wish to book a hotel room, reservations may be made with the Holiday Inn Express of Flint (810.238.7744), located two blocks from the Dort Music Center. Group rates are offered. Transportation to and from Flint Bishop Airport is complementary.
- D. The registration desk will be open at 8 a.m. on March 6, 2010 and practice facilities will be assigned at the registrar's desk.
- E. The Flint Institute of Music will receive urgent messages in the event Mrs. Hunter cannot be contacted at 810.238.1350 or call alternate contact Carol Hinterman at 810.793.0538.

## WILLIAM C. BYRD YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION APPLICATION FORM

(please type or print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # (including area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Selection to be performed (including timings) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need housing?  Yes  No

Have you enclosed?

1. A complete resume	5. Check or money order for \$25 or \$115 (if you wish to use our accompanist)
2. Proof of birth date	6. Score (if you wish to use our accompanist)
3. Letter(s) of recommendation	7. Completed housing form, if needed
4. Application form or letter	

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Co-signature for minors \_\_\_\_\_

## BYRD CONTESTANT HOUSING FORM

(please type or print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Housing at the Byrd Competition is provided for the competitor and an accompanist, if needed, by a host family in the Flint area. Please be specific about individual needs to help in matching with a host family. Examples of special needs are food or pet allergies. All host families are non-smoking. Holiday Inn Express (810.238.7744) is close to FIM, offers transportation to the Institute and a special nightly rate.

Transportation is included in host housing, such as pickup and return to Flint Bishop Airport, Flint Amtrack Station or Greyhound Bus Station. Transportation to and from rehearsals and the competition is also provided.

All meals will be provided by the host family with the exception of meals offered at the competition site. Lunch and a dinner buffet will be provided the day of the competition. An afterglow party concludes the evening after the finals.