

# The Chopin Foundation of the United States Northwest Council



# 2026

## **COMPETITION DATE:**

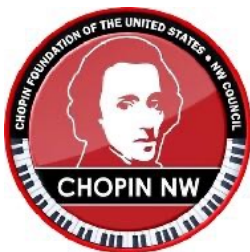
Saturday, February 14, 2026  
9 AM–6 PM

Mercer Island Presbyterian Church  
3605 84th Ave. SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

## **GOLD MEDALISTS' CONCERT:**

Sunday, February 15, 2026  
St. Luke's Church  
3030 Bellevue Way NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004

1:30 PM (for winners ages up to 12)  
3:00 PM (for winners ages 13 and up)



## Northwest Board

- Dr. Hanna Cyba, President
- Dr. Adam Aleksander, Past President, Board Member
- Dr. Nino Merabishvili, Vice-President
- Dr. Yelena Balabanova, Treasurer, Co-Artistic Director
- Cathy Carpenter, Secretary, Board Member
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- Gary Ingle, Music Teachers National Association
- Ron Losby, Steinway & Sons

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- Dr. Adam Aleksander
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### **DIAMOND SUPPORTER, \$10,000 & up**

- Helen & David Belvin
- Dr. & Mrs. Steven Lagerberg

### **PLATINUM SUPPORTER, \$2,000-\$9,999**

- Alison & Skip Bell
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- Dr. Hanna Cyba
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- Dr. Vladimir Balabanov
- Rob and Janet Coe
- Senu and Yuki Nakazato
- Nino Merabishvili

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- Dr. Sasha Starceвич
- Connor & Jaden Zhang
- Conney Vernall
- Ilene Garland
- Christopher Moorhead
- Dr. Mary Chandler
- Judy Baker
- Bozena Checinska
- Piali Choudhury
- Long Cheng
- Namdeuk Kim
- Kun Chen
- Teresa Zhu
- Alan Ying
- Jing Zheng
- Dr. James Wang and Simone Wang



## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Solo Division: Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals**

Gold winners perform at the Medalists Concert

Gold winners must perform to remain eligible for the Helen Belvin Award

- **Belvin Scholarship:**

*Sponsored by Helen Belvin Estate*

All pianists competing in the in-person Solo Division are eligible for the Helen Belvin Award.

Up to 9 winners will be awarded by the adjudicators.

Prize: \$300 each + Grand Prix Gold Medal

- **Lagerberg Scholarship (Video Category - Mazurkas):**

*Sponsored by Sharon and Dr. Steven Lagerberg*

Cash is awarded to ONE performer in EACH Mazurka division.

Ages 7–10: \$200 + Gold Medal. Silver and Bronze Medals may also be given.

Ages 11–13: \$300 + Gold Medal. Silver and Bronze Medals may also be given.

Ages 14–18: \$400 + Gold Medal. Silver and Bronze Medals may also be given.

- **Concerto Prize (Video Category - Concertos):**

*Sponsored by Chopin NW*

Gold Medalist performs with chamber orchestra, date TBD

Silver and Bronze medals may also be awarded



# 2026 RULES & ETIQUETTE

Welcome! We wish all participants a smooth, enjoyable, and rewarding experience. Please carefully review the following rules and etiquette.

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## General Etiquette

- Phones: Turn off or silence before entering the room.
  - Noise: Keep voices down in hallways and remain silent inside performance rooms. Do not enter or leave while someone is performing.
  - Children: Non-competing children under age 5 are not allowed in competition rooms. No children under age 4 may be present at any time.
  - Perfume/Cologne: Please refrain from wearing scented products.
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## Arrival & Check-In

- Check-In: Go to the registration table upon arrival to confirm your name on the participants' list.
  - Arrival Time: Arrive at least 15 minutes early. Example: For a 10:30 AM performance, arrive between 10:00–10:15 AM. Plan for traffic or road closures.
  - Waiting: You may wait outside the performance room, but once your group begins you must remain inside and ready. The adjudicator may disqualify late arrivals.
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## Performance Rules

- Warm-Up: No warming up or practicing on competition pianos.
  - Announcing: Do not introduce yourself or your repertoire—begin when ready.
  - Multiple Pieces: Play each selection without waiting for acknowledgment between pieces.
  - Bench/Pedal: Only parents may adjust benches or pedal attachments.
  - Dress Code: Formal attire required—no sneakers, jeans, tracksuits, sweatpants, sweatshirts, or boots.
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## Music

- Presentation: Submit your music (book or in a binder) to the room monitor when called; it will be returned with comments. Pianists will be disqualified if music book or binder is not presented. They may still perform and receive judge notes, but will be ineligible for any prize.
  - Requirements:
    - All measures numbered.
    - Music must be open or bookmarked for the adjudicator.
    - Acceptable formats: original published books, legally downloaded scores with receipt, or public domain editions in a binder.
    - Teacher's name must NOT appear on the music.
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## Recording & Photography

- Personal Use Only: You may record your own child's performance but not others without permission.
  - Adjudicator Proximity: Do not sit within 5 feet of the adjudicator or record within their line of sight. No shutter sounds, flashes, or spotlights.
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## Adjudicator Contact

- No Contact: Do not approach or communicate with the adjudicator before, during, or after the competition. Decisions are final and non-negotiable. Violators may be disqualified or banned from future events.
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## Departure

- You may leave after your performance (if no one else is playing) or after your group concludes. Please free up parking for others.

**Thank you for respecting these rules and helping us create a professional and enjoyable competition environment. Good luck to all performers!**

# Chopin's Mazurkas

Frédéric Chopin enjoyed composing mazurkas throughout his life, writing his first at the age of fifteen and completing his last only days before his death in 1849. Dance miniatures, they comprise the largest collection of all of Chopin's varied works, totaling at least fifty-nine, forty-one of them published during his lifetime. With them, Chopin created the most unequalled repertoire of a country's authentic folk music ever attempted, an unforgettable set of small-scale pianistic masterpieces. An expatriate for half of his life, he kept the flame of Poland alive in himself by writing music that echoed his country's nationalistic soul. Reflecting his own mixed feelings after leaving Poland for Paris, these mazurkas, from joyful to melancholic, exhibit a strikingly wide emotional spectrum.

Chopin's mazurkas were his most privately cherished pieces, very personal and innovative musical utterances, essentially displaying a lyrical memoir of his life. A reserved man, he rarely performed them in public, preferring to play them only at private Parisian soirees for intimate gatherings surrounded by his adoring friends. His mazurkas are expressive jewels of inexhaustible melodic invention. Their varied harmonies, filled with flowing melodies and unusual tonalities, must have evoked in him tender memories of his Polish childhood. Nowadays, the mazurkas are among Chopin's most beloved and frequently performed piano compositions.

Although it is possible to find similarities between his mazurkas and authentic Polish folk tunes, Chopin never explicitly quoted from any of them. Instead, he created a kaleidoscopic synthesis of the many elements of their unusual harmonic, rhythmic and expressive nuances. The composer drew his inspiration for his mazurkas from three Polish folk dances, the mazur, the kujawiak and the oberek, stylistic forms he knew well from his many childhood travels to the Polish countryside. All three of these forms are written in triple time and have a characteristic rhythm and temperament. Although Chopin's mazurkas are written in a dance form, they are undanceable, being works to be appreciated esthetically for their unique style and individuality.

Non-Polish pianists have often avoided playing these mazurkas, their tricky rhythms, stretched chromaticism and irregular accents being difficult to grasp for those unfamiliar with Polish folk music. Similarly, they have rarely been performed at the annual Chopin Northwest Festivals. Now, in order to draw more attention to these unusual pieces, the 2026 Chopin Festival has established a separate prizewinning Mazurka Division. It is hoped that a growing familiarity with these diminutive compositions will encourage a better understanding of this singular musical genre and with it a greater admiration for Chopin's extraordinary musical genius.

*Steven Lagerberg August, 2025, Paris*

*Dr. Steven Lagerberg is retired as a practicing physician from Kaiser Permanente and is the founder of the NW Council of the Chopin Foundation. Steven is the author of: Chopin's Heart: The Quest to Identify the Mysterious Illness of the World's Most Beloved Composer and Essays on Chopin*

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## ABOUT THE PLAYLIST

The order of appearance in the following pages is based on the alphabetical order of the first name of the parent who registered the pianist.

To ensure enough parking for incoming participants, we kindly ask that you leave the venue after your performance or at the end of your assigned time block. Winners will **not** be announced on-site; results will be posted at **10:00 PM** on our Facebook page and official website.

We also ask that all families be considerate and courteous. This event is a celebration of each student's dedication, perseverance, and hard work in preparing their Chopin repertoire.

PLEASE do not bring food, snacks or drinks to the venue. Leave them in your car. No plastic water bottles in the competition rooms - they create unnecessary crunching noise and may distract the pianist.

Do not socialize in the atrium area. The competition room can hear sounds from the atrium.

## ABOUT THE GOLD MEDALISTS' CONCERT

Gold medalists **MUST fill out this form:** <https://form.jotform.com/260248311440143> if they intend to perform at the Gold Medalists' Concert on Sunday:

### Gold Medalists' Concert

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**

• **1:30 PM** – Ages 12 and under

• **3:00 PM** – Ages 13 and up

**St. Luke's Church**

**3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004**

If you performed **two or more pieces** in the competition, you may be asked to present the shorter piece at the Gold Medalists' Concert so that we can include all selected performers.

Concerto winner will perform with a chamber orchestra in late Spring/Summer 2026.

## PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES

We warmly encourage you to print your Participation Certificate, which can be found on page 19 of this PDF.

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**AGES 5 to 7. Location: SANCTUARY. Adjudicator: Dr. Hyunsoon Whang**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 5-minute timer begins once pedal extenders touch the piano. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 6 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**9:00 am**

<b>Aiden Zhu</b>	Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 9 # 2
<b>Victoria Wang</b>	Polonaise in G Minor, Posth.
<b>Keaton Bayard</b>	Prelude in E Minor, Op. 28 # 4
<b>Rose Huang</b>	Nocturne in F Minor, Op. 55 # 1
<b>Ethan Tang</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
<b>Elaine Gao</b>	Waltz in F Minor, Op. 70 # 2

**9:30 am**

<b>Serena Guo</b>	Waltz in F Minor, Op. 70 # 2
<b>Amy Liu</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Posth.
<b>Grayson Wang</b>	Bourree in G Major Polonaise in B-flat Major, Op. 71 # 2
<b>Nicole Sun</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Posth.
<b>Charlotte Wu</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Posth.
<b>Hannah He</b>	Waltz in F Minor, Op. 70 # 2

**10:00 am: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**



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**AGE 8. Location: SANCTUARY. Adjudicator: Dr. Hyunsoon Whang**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 5-minute timer begins once pedal extenders touch the piano. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 6 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**10:00 am**

<b>Erica Xu</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
<b>Chelsea Lin</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Posth. Prelude in B Minor, Op. 28 # 6
<b>Celine Liu</b>	Polonaise in B-flat Major, Posth.
<b>Elena Nien</b>	Etude in F Minor, from Trois Nouvelles Etudes Mazurka in in G minor, Op. 24 # 1
<b>Juno Wang</b>	Polonaise in A-flat Major, Posth.
<b>Evelyn McCarthy</b>	Waltz in F Minor, Op. 70 # 2
<b>Lacey Wang</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Posth.
<b>Yumu Wang</b>	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2

**10:45 am**

<b>Elsa Xue</b>	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2
<b>Jeffrey Lou</b>	Etude in F Minor, Op. 25 # 2 Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 67 # 4
<b>Hannah Pan</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Posth.
<b>Jinluo Pei</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
<b>Claire Yuen</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Posth.
<b>Simone Chai</b>	Etude in C Minor, Op. 25 # 12 Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
<b>Ava He</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 69 # 1
<b>Kate Yuen</b>	Nocturne in C Minor, Posth.

**11:30 am: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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**AGE 9. Location: SANCTUARY. Adjudicator: Dr. Hyunsoon Whang**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 6-minute timer begins once pedal extenders touch the piano. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 6 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**12:30 pm**

<b>Olivia Kweon</b>	Mazurka op.67 #2 Mazurka op.7 #1
<b>Nathan Wang</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 # 2
<b>Juliana Yan</b>	Waltz in F Minor, Op. 70 # 2
<b>Ellie Zhang</b>	Etude in A-flat Major, Op. 25 # 1 Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
<b>Ella Song</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 69 # 1 Waltz in D-flat Major Op. 64 # 1
<b>Annie Zhang</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Posth.
<b>Orson Lin</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Posth. Mazurka in A-flat Major, Op. 24 # 3
<b>Alia Egan</b>	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 32 # 1

**1:20 pm**

<b>Daniel Wang</b>	Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
<b>Yuxin Sun</b>	Etude in F Minor, Op. 25 # 2 Mazurka in E Minor, Op. 17 # 2
<b>Athena Li</b>	Etude in A-flat Major, from Trois Nouvelles Etudes
<b>Preston Chao</b>	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2
<b>Isabella Nakazato</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 42
<b>Selina Shen</b>	Polonaise in G-sharp Minor, Posth.
<b>Mia Xu</b>	Waltz in E-flat Major, Op. 18
<b>Jason Fang</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Posth.

**2:15 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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**AGE 10. Location: FIRESIDE ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Renato Fabbro**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 6-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 8 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**12:30 pm**

<b>Ellie Fan Zhang</b>	Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 9 # 2 Etude in F Minor, from Trois Nouvelles Etudes
<b>Tinsley Xu</b>	Waltz in E Minor, Posth.
<b>Caroline Zhang</b>	Nocturne in E Major, Op. 62 # 2
<b>Piper Bayard</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 # 2
<b>Kandice Chen</b>	Berceuse in D-flat Major, Op. 57
<b>Isabella Nien</b>	Nocturne in G Minor, Op. 15 # 3
<b>Eugene McCarthy</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
<b>Harper Li</b>	Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
<b>Annabelle Wang</b>	Waltz in F-sharp Minor, Posth. Ecossaise in D Major, Op. 72 # 3

**1:20 pm**

<b>Tony Xu</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 # 2 Ecossaise in D Major, Op. 72 # 3
<b>Alex Wang</b>	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2
<b>Yiming Zheng</b>	Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72 # 1
<b>Amaris Li</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 69 # 1
<b>Rico Yu</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Posth.
<b>Rebecca Li</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2 Ecossaise in D Major, Op. 72 # 3
<b>Yiran Zhang</b>	Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 9 # 2
<b>Rusong An</b>	Polonaise in C-sharp Minor, Op. 26 # 1
<b>Lily Liu</b>	Polonaise in G-sharp Minor, Posth.

**2:15 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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**AGE 11. Location: FIRESIDE ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Renato Fabbro**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 7-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 11 MEDALS of any color. ONLY THREE GOLDS PERMITTED.

**9:00 am**

Anne Razel J. Timajo	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2
Gillian Liu	Polonaise in G-sharp Minor, Posth.
Jesse Greene	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 32 # 1
Shanna Wu	Polonaise in G-sharp Minor, Posth.
Victoria Wang	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Op. 27 # 1
Annalise Huang	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 32 # 1
Liam Sun	Nocturne in A-flat Major, Op. 32 # 2
Annabelle Zhang	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 32 # 1
Eden Kim	Polonaise in F Minor Op. 71 # 3

**9:55 am**

Sally Gao	Waltz in E Minor, Posth.
Steven Li	Etude in C-sharp Minor, Op. 25 # 7
Wenxuan Huang	Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72 # 1
August Zhou	Nocturne in A-flat Major, Op. 32 # 2
Kaidi Jin	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
Roy Kim	Fantasie-Impromptu in C-sharp Minor, Op. 66
Caleb Casper	Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5
Kaichen Jin	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 69 # 1

**10:45 am**

Daniel Zhao	Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72 # 1
Abigail Gao	Etude in E-flat Minor, Op. 10 # 6
Raymond Zhou	Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27 # 2
Chloe Nari Wang	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31
Brian Liang	Polonaise in B-flat Minor, Posth.
Crystal Jiao	Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
Miyako Berman	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 32 # 1 Mazurka in B-flat Minor, Op. 24 # 4
Abby Chao	Nocturne in F Minor, Op. 55 # 1

**11:30 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

## AGE 12. Location: SANCTUARY. Adjudicator: Dr. Hyunsoon Whang

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 12 MEDALS of any color. ONLY THREE GOLDS PERMITTED.

### 2:15 pm

Daniel Luan	Scherzo in C-sharp Minor, Op. 39
Lawrence Kim	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 34 # 1
Sofia Shao	Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72 # 1
Grace Sun	Nocturne in B-flat Minor, Op. 9 # 1
Emily Lu	Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 55 # 2
Siwon Park	Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29
Ethan Xu	Ballade in A-flat Major, Op. 47
Amelia Wang	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2

### 3:15 pm

Alexander Wang	Polonaise in C-sharp Minor, Op. 26 # 1
Yilan Jin	Nocturne in C Minor, Op. 48 # 1
Serena Qin	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
Olivia Lee	Nocturne in F-sharp Major, Op. 15 # 2
Aisha Beydoun	Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 # 2
Jason Gao	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 9 # 3
Olivia Nakazato	Ballade in G Minor, Op. 23
Yu Yan Perrie Lam	Waltz in D-flat Major Op. 64 # 1 Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2 Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 64 # 3

### 4:15 pm

Muhan Lou	Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5 Polonaise in E-flat Minor, Op. 26 # 2
Edwin Gao	Polonaise in C-sharp Minor, Op. 26 # 1
Alvin Lee	Sonata in B-flat Minor, Op. 35, I. Grave
Steve (Ziqing) Zhao	Fantasie-Impromptu in C-sharp Minor, Op. 66
Nicole Wang	Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29 Mazurka in A-flat Major, Op. 17 # 3
Ru-Shan An	Etude in C-sharp Minor, Op. 25 # 7 Prelude in A-flat Major, Posth.
Roy Wei	Polonaise in D Minor, Op. 71 # 1
Lucas Chen	Ballade in F Major, Op. 38

5:15 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM

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## **AGE 13. Location: CHOIR ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Yu-Jane Yang**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 8-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 7 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**1:00 pm**

**Jessica Wang**

Berceuse in D-flat Major, Op. 57

**Owen Greene**

Polonaise in C Minor, Op. 40 #1

**Qianchang Dai**

Polonaise in G-sharp Minor, Posth.

**Lucas Popescu**

Barcarolle in F-sharp Major, Op. 60

**Joyce Wang**

Nocturne in B Major, Op. 62 # 1

**2:00 pm**

**Isaac Kim**

Polonaise in B-flat Minor, Posth.

**Jacob Zhihan Wang**

Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2  
Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5

**Yiling Sun**

Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29

**Arthur Zhang**

Ballade in F Major, Op. 38

**Kashish Baghel**

Nocturne in F-sharp Minor, Op. 48 # 2

**3:00 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**



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## **AGE 14. Location: AB ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Catherine Lysinger**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 8-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 10 MEDALS of any color. ONLY THREE GOLDS PERMITTED.

### **9:00 AM**

<b>Alexander Xie</b>	Mazurka in C-sharp Minor, Op. 6 # 2 Etude in A-flat Major, Op. 25 # 1
<b>Lenka Dzunic</b>	Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 42 Prelude in F-sharp Major, Op. 28 # 13
<b>Junhao Fang</b>	Nocturne in E Major, Op. 62 # 2
<b>Chenrui Gao</b>	Waltz in B Minor, Op. 69 # 2 Waltz in E Minor, Posth.
<b>Joyce Ye</b>	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31

### **10:00 am**

<b>Sydney Cui</b>	Ballade in A-flat Major, Op. 47
<b>Christopher Mou</b>	Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 55 # 2
<b>Zhuoxi Liu</b>	Ballade in F Minor, Op. 52
<b>Aaron Jin</b>	Scherzo in C-sharp Minor, Op. 39
<b>Luke Yuan</b>	Polonaise in E-flat major, Op. 22
<b>Minchang Guo</b>	Etude in A-flat Major, Op. 25 # 1

### **11:00 am**

<b>Kyle Chen</b>	Ballade in F Major, Op. 38
<b>Jimmy Huang</b>	Scherzo in E Major, Op. 54
<b>Jamie Yao</b>	Ballade in A-flat Major, Op. 47
<b>Evan Sumanaseni</b>	Prelude in F-sharp Major, Op. 28 # 13 Etude in C Minor, Op. 25 # 12
<b>Bulut Kok</b>	Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Op. 27 # 1
<b>Nick Jiang</b>	Waltz in C-sharp Minor, Op. 64 # 2
<b>Brandon Li</b>	Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 # 2

**12:00 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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## **AGE 15. Location: AB ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Catherine Lysinger**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 10-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

**TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 9 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED**

### **1:00 pm**

<b>Connor Wang</b>	Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5 Scherzo in C-sharp Minor, Op. 39
<b>Claire Huang</b>	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31
<b>Kevin Fan</b>	Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27 # 2
<b>Hannah Li</b>	Impromptu in F-sharp Major, Op. 36

### **2:00 pm**

<b>Patrick Yoon</b>	Ballade in G Minor, Op. 23
<b>Jonathan Yang</b>	Scherzo in B Minor, Op. 20
<b>Cindy Dou</b>	Berceuse in D-flat Major, Op. 57 Prelude in A-flat Major, Posth.
<b>Andrew Kim</b>	Etude in C Minor, Op. 10 # 12 Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27 # 2
<b>Jeana Jang</b>	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31
<b>Tristan Chang</b>	Nocturne in C Minor, Op. 48 # 1 Etude in C Minor, Op. 25 # 12

### **3:00 pm**

<b>Kevin Xiao</b>	Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5 Etude in E-flat Minor, Op. 10 # 6
<b>Ilya Shchetnikov</b>	Etude in C Major, Op. 10 # 1 Etude in E Major, Op. 10 # 3 Etude in E Minor, Op. 25 # 5
<b>Emily Liu</b>	Nocturne in D flat major Op. 27 # 2 Etude in G-flat Major, Op. 10 # 5
<b>Joshua Kwan</b>	Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53 Etude in A Minor, Op. 10 # 2
<b>Ashley Zhu</b>	Scherzo in B Minor, Op. 20
<b>Leonardo Zhou</b>	Nocturne in B Major, Op. 62 # 1 Etude in B Minor, Op. 25 # 10

**4:00 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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**AGE 16. Location: FIRESIDE ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Renato Fabbro**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 10-minute timer begins once the pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform.

Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 6 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

**2:15 pm****Skyla Chon**

Nocturne in F-sharp Minor, Op. 48 # 2

**Caileen Wan**

Ballade in G Minor, Op. 23

**Isabel Yang**

Polonaise-Fantasie in A-flat Major, Op. 61

**Angela Su**

Scherzo in B Minor, Op. 20

**3:10 pm****Albert Zhang**

Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 55 # 2

**Alexander Vollmer**

Ballade in F Minor, Op. 52

**4:00 pm****Princeton Kang**

Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53

**Tracy Jiang**Etude in A-flat Major, Op. 25 # 1  
Nocturne in B-flat Minor, Op. 9 # 1**Lucy Fesalbon**

Ballade in F Major, Op. 38

**Hannah Kwon**

Prelude in C-sharp minor, Op.45

**5:00 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**

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**AGES 17 and 18. Location: CHOIR ROOM. Adjudicator: Dr. Yu-Jane Yang**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. Music must be performed memorized. 11-minute timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm.

TOTAL MEDAL ALLOWANCE: 5 MEDALS of any color. ONLY TWO GOLDS PERMITTED.

3:00 pm	
Henry Johnson	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31
Allison Lin	Etude in C Minor, Op. 10 # 12 Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27 # 2
Brandon Oskar	Polonaise in F-sharp Minor, Op. 44
Jayden He	Ballade in A-flat Major, Op. 47
4:00 pm	
Jessica Chen	Variations in B-flat Major, Op. 12
Angelina Mitrianu	Etude in A-flat Major, Op. 25 # 1 Nocturne in C Minor, Op. 48 # 1
Haowen Zhang	Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31
Yuanrui Zhao	Sonata in B-flat Minor, Op. 35, I. Grave
5:00 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM	

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**Adult Amateur, non-piano major. Location: AB ROOM.**

Measure rows must be numbered. Present music to room manager. 12-minute timer begins once timer begins once pianist sits down. You may leave after you perform. Results will be posted on Chopin NW Facebook page by 6 pm. ONE MEDAL OF ANY COLOR and HM permitted

**4:00 pm**

**Dean Deng**

Ballade in F Minor, Op. 52

**Godwin Hong**

Sonata in B-flat Minor, Op. 35, I. Grave

**4:30 pm: END OF AGE GROUP. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK BY 6 PM**



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For successfully performing at the  
2026 Chopin Foundation of the United States, NW Council  
Piano Competition

**February 14th, 2026**

Dr. Hanna Cyba, Chopin NW President

Dr. Hyunsoon Whang, Adjudicator

Dr. Renato Fabbro, Adjudicator

Dr. Yu-Jane Yang, Adjudicator

Dr. Catherine Lysinger, Adjudicator



# OUR 2026 ADJUDICATORS:

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## Dr. Hyunsoon Whang



Born in Seoul, Korea, Hyunsoon Whang began her piano studies at the age of four and started playing public concerts at age twelve. Since then she has delighted audiences in hundreds of concerts across the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia. Critics have praised her as "the kind of player who appears to immerse her entire being in the music," and as one who has "always delivered with grace and beauty."

As a recitalist and a collaborator, she has performed at Se-Jong Cultural Center in Seoul, Suntory Recital Hall in Tokyo and Paul Hall in Lincoln Center. She has participated in the Aspen Music Festival, Ravinia Festival Master Classes, Canada's Victoria Music Festival and the Taos School of Music. She has appeared as a soloist with Leonard Slatkin, Joel Revzen, Miriam Burns and Nicholas Harsanyi. She was personally invited by Alexis Weissenberg to perform and record his surrealistic musical *Nostalgie* which was met with critical acclaim in Germany and France.

Her recent engagements have included solo recitals, appearances with orchestra, chamber music concerts and master classes in California, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah and Reykjavik, Iceland. Her live videos from Drury University have been airing on

PBS television stations throughout the Midwest. Whang serves on the Touring Artists Roster of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the Mid-America Arts Alliance's Artist Roster. In 2010 Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry presented her with the Governor's Arts in Education Award.

As an educator, she has nurtured and inspired generations of students of all ages. Her piano students have garnered top prizes at regional and national competitions and received scholarships and fellowships from prestigious institutions. She presents interactive recitals for public school children each year where she relates classical music to other subjects such as history, literature, science and environment. She has served as the faculty advisor for Cameron University's Asian Club and the President of Cameron University's Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Chapter. She has been inducted into the Faculty Hall of Fame by the Cameron University Alumni Association.

Whang studied at the North Carolina School of the Arts, St. Louis Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School, and earned a doctorate from Indiana University. She studied piano with Gyorgy Sebok, Michele Block, Joseph Kalichstein, Clifton Matthews, Jung-joo Oh and Soo-jung Shin, and she has studied the harpsichord with Maryse Carlin and chamber music with Michael Tree and Felix Galimir. She has been on the faculty at Cameron University since 1993 and was named the McMahon Endowed Chair in Music in 2006.

# OUR 2026 ADJUDICATORS:

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Dr. Renato Fabbro



Pianist Renato Fabbro received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Rice University as a Bass Family Fellowship recipient. His principal teachers were Larry Graham, Angela Cheng and John Perry. Dr. Fabbro has performed at the Aspen, Sarasota, Boulder Bach, Astoria and Colorado Mozart Festivals. He has performed chamber music recitals with acclaimed violinist Frank Huang and Northwestern University clarinet professor Steven Cohen. As part of the Martingale Ensemble, he recorded music of Claude Debussy and Gustav Mahler with members of the Oregon Symphony for the MSR Classics label. He has been invited to judge many competitions, including the MTNA National Finals, Calgary Performing Arts Festival, Russian Chamber Music Foundation of Seattle, Canada West Festival, NSA International, Silver State, Performing Arts BC Provincial Festival, Musicians West, Chopin Northwest, Vancouver Kiwanis, Northern Nevada Steinway Festival, Seattle International Piano Festival, Washington Outstanding Artist, Spokane, Musicfest Northwest, Seattle Steinway, Portland Young Pianists, MTNA Northwest and Southwest Division, and Texas Music Teachers Association State Performance Competitions. He was a piano professor at the University of Portland and also served on the faculty at Marylhurst University and at the University of Texas at San Antonio Summer Music Institute. He was invited to give master classes for the Boise Tuesday Musicales, Musicfest Northwest, Bellingham Music Teachers Association, North Idaho Music Teachers Association and the Nevada School of the Arts as part of their master class series.

Dr. Fabbro won the Adeline Rosenberg Memorial First Prize in the Fort Collins Symphony National Young Artist Competition as well as first prizes in the Grand Junction Symphony National Young Artist Competition, Colorado University Honors Competition and others. He has also won prizes and awards in the Lee Piano Competition, MTNA Young Artist Piano Competition and Jefferson Symphony International Young Artists Competition. He has been a featured soloist with the Oregon Symphony, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, Fort Collins Symphony, Grand Junction Symphony, Coeur d'Alene Symphony and Colorado University Orchestra.

He has had five MTNA national finalists, including First Prize and Third Prize winners in the Senior Piano Duo and Junior Piano Competition national finals. Other student awards include the Most Exceptional Performer prize at the Charleston International Piano Competition, two Grand Prize awards at the Nevada School of the Arts International Piano Competition, Grand Prix Gold Medal at the Pacific International Piano Competition, first prizes in the Mondavi Center National Young Artist Competition, National Federation of Music Clubs Stillman Kelley Award, Bellagrande International Music Competition, Idaho MTNA Piano Competition and multiple first prizes in the Coeur d'Alene Symphony National Young Artist Competition, Vancouver Symphony National Young Artists Competition, Steinway & Sons Piano Competition, Portland Young Pianists Competition, Washington Outstanding Artist Competition, Oregon MTNA Piano Competition (23 state winners across Junior, Senior and Young Artist divisions), Spokane Piano Competition, Central Oregon Symphony Young Artists Competition, Monday Musical Club Scholarship Competition, Wiscarson Competition, Beaverton Symphony Young Artists Competition, Eugene Symphony Young Artist Competition, Portland Youth Philharmonic Concerto Competition, American Fine Arts Festival International Concerto Competition, Oregon Sinfonietta Concerto Competition and top prizes in the New Orleans Piano Institute International Competition and New York Debut Young Musicians Competition, among others. His students have also appeared on NPR's From The Top and have been accepted into prestigious piano performance degree programs, including Oberlin Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, Peabody Conservatory, Cleveland Institute of Music and Rice University Shepherd School of Music.

Dr. Fabbro is the Concerto Competition director for the Bellevue Symphony and a member of the advisory panel for the Pacific Piano Competitions.

# OUR 2026 ADJUDICATORS:

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Dr. Yu-Jane Yang



Dr. Yu-Jane Yang is a Brady Presidential Distinguished Professor, Endowed Scholar/Artist of the College of Arts & Humanities, and the director of Keyboard Studies at Weber State University. Yang is the national recipient of the most prestigious Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Teacher of the Year award in 2020. Furthermore, her many professional accolades include, the Steinway Top Teacher Award in 2022, the Steinway Teacher Hall of Fame in 2021, the Outstanding Service Award given by the National Conference in Keyboard Pedagogy in 2019, MTNA Foundation Fellow in 2011 and the Utah Music Teachers Association (UMTA) Legacy Award in 2010.

In great demand as a presenter, performer and master class teacher, Yang is the pianist of the Wasatch Piano Trio, the Weber State University Faculty Piano Trio and the Formosan Violin-Piano Duo and she has given numerous piano workshops, master classes and concert performances in Austria, Poland, Norway, Spain, Italy, Germany, Singapore, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Canada and the United States. Most recently, Yang was the featured MTNA National Conference masterclass teacher for the Intermediate Piano Master Class at the 2022 MTNA Virtual National Conference. Yang also appears frequently as an adjudicator for piano competitions nationally and internationally, including judging the MTNA Competition National Finals and the Gina Bachauer

International Piano Competition preliminary auditions.

Yang's piano students have been top prizewinners in both collegiate and pre-college divisions in numerous state, national and international piano competitions, including the national first place winner of the 2010 MTNA Steinway Young Artist Piano Competition and the 2020 Gilmore Young Artist Award national winner. Yang's students at Weber State University have also received piano scholarships for graduate studies from world-renowned music schools such as the Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, the University of Michigan, the University of Oklahoma and the Cleveland Institute of Music upon graduation. Yang's pedagogy students at Weber State have also won state and national recognitions for their outstanding teaching, including seven state winners of the UMTA Collegiate Student Teacher of the Year, one national winner of the MTNA Studio Teaching Fellowship and four-time national winners of the MTNA Collegiate Chapter of the Year.

# OUR 2026 ADJUDICATORS:

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## Dr. Catherine Lysinger



Catharine Lysinger is professor of practice at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts, where she teaches applied piano and is head of the piano pedagogy area. She is a prizewinner in national and international piano competitions, including First Prize in the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) National Young Artist Competition and First Prize in the Wideman International Piano Competition. Lysinger is a frequent guest of festivals nationally and internationally. Recent invitations to perform, give master classes and present lectures have come from the Brancaloneoni Festival (Italy), the Vienna International Piano Academy (Austria), the May Festival at the Tianjin Conservatory and East China Normal University in Shanghai (China), and the National Conservatory in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), co-hosted by Estudio Diná and Stephen F. Austin University.

Lysinger has performed with orchestras including the Filarmónica de Jalisco (Guadalajara, Mexico), the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Civic Symphony and the Clear Lake Orchestra, and frequently collaborates as soloist with the Meadows Symphony Orchestra and the Meadows Wind Ensemble. Performances include the Prokofiev Concerto No. 1, Stravinsky Concerto for Piano and Winds, Mozart Concerto for Two Pianos, Mozart Concerto in D minor, Messiaen's Oiseaux Exotiques and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. Lysinger is

also an active soloist and collaborator in chamber music concerts with SMU colleagues. With duo-piano partner Dr. Alex McDonald she has performed the Bartók Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion with percussionists of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and numerous other works for two pianos.

Lysinger was nominated for the SMU Provost's Teaching Recognition Award, which honors faculty who demonstrate a commitment to excellence and a consummate dedication to teaching. She was also named Pre-Collegiate Teacher of the Year by her colleagues in the Texas Music Teachers Association. Many of her university and pre-college students have been awarded first prize in numerous competitions, including the MTNA-Texas Junior, Senior and Young Artist Piano Competitions, the Plano Symphony Young Artist Competition and the Lewisville Lake Competition. Graduates of her studio have been accepted to major universities and conservatories nationwide including The Juilliard School, New England Conservatory and Indiana University, to name a few. Lysinger is a frequent adjudicator, recently serving on the screening jury for the Cliburn International Junior Piano Competition and sitting on the jury for the Cliburn International Amateur Piano Competition. As a lecturer, she has frequently presented on various topics related to teaching to national and state MTAs. Lysinger is the founding director of the SMU Institute for Young Pianists (SMU IYP), a summer festival that attracts the best and brightest young pianists in the region and from across the U.S. and abroad.

She earned a D.M.A. in piano performance at the University of Houston with Professor Nancy Weems and undertook additional studies with Horacio Gutiérrez, Gabriel Chodos (Aspen Music Festival) and Evelyne Brancart (Aspen Music Festival).





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**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

**Location: Mercer Island Presbyterian Church  
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Competition Results will be posted on our website by Sunday, 3 pm, May 3, 2026. Only 240 pianists will be admitted.

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