



**WASHINGTON  
PERFORMING ARTS**

We make it happen

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual Joseph & Goldie Feder Memorial  
String Competition**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**For more information please contact:**

Feder@washingtonperformingarts.org or 202-533-1894

### What are the benefits of competing in the competition?

Young musicians develop confidence and focus as they prepare their pieces, and some will experience learning and interpreting an original composition for the virtual final round. Participants will have a valuable experience preparing a video audition, which is a common audition method for schools and program. All participants will receive valuable feedback from the judges, and some will also receive a cash prize or scholarship.

### Is there a fee to participate?

No, it is free for students to enter the competition.

## Preliminary Round

### How do I access the application on Submittable.com?

- Go to <https://washingtonperformingarts.submittable.com/login>
- Either sign in if you already have an existing account, or click “sign up” to create an account.
- Once you are signed in, look for the form titled, “50<sup>th</sup> Annual Joseph and Goldie Feder Memorial String Competition”, and click on it.
- When you complete your application you will receive a confirmation email.
- You are able to save an open application and complete at a later date (before the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline).

### Why is there a preliminary round?

The preliminary round is when the judges get a sense of the student’s abilities, background, and musicianship. If a category has a small number of participants, the winner may be chosen during the preliminary round. For larger categories, the judges will invite select applicants to participate in a virtual Final Round

### Can I submit a video playing with an accompanist?

No, for the 2021 competition participants must submit videos of them playing without accompaniment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not possible or safe for some participants to play with an accompanist. In the interest of equity, all participants must play without accompaniment.

### Why are you using Submittable?

Washington Performing Arts is using the Submittable application portal to help streamline the application process for both the participant and the adjudicator. The portal offers many features that will help make the competition process more efficient and user friendly.

### Can I submit more than one application with one account?

Yes, if you are a parent or guardian registering multiple students you can submit up to **four applications** under one username. Students may also submit more than one application if they wish to compete on more than one instrument.

### I am having trouble with the Submittable website. Who should I contact?

Contact [support@submittable.com](mailto:support@submittable.com) or visit their help center at <https://www.submittable.com/help/submitter>. Their business hours are 9am-5pm (**Mountain Time**), or 11am-7pm (EST) on Mondays-Sundays. Assistance may not be available outside of regular business hours.

### **If I miss the deadline, can I still apply?**

No, applications will **NOT** be accepted after the deadline.

Washington Performing Arts reserves the right to extend the deadline. Should this occur, Washington Performing Arts will communicate the new deadline on its website.

### **Should I submit one or two videos?**

Please submit two videos. One for the primary piece and one for the secondary piece.

### **Can I submit an audio recording for the Preliminary Round?**

No, all recordings submitted must be in video form. A simple recording taken with a video recording device (i.e. cell phone) is satisfactory as long as the judges can clearly see and hear the player.

### **What if I'm not sure which level my repertoire falls under?**

First, consult your teacher to make sure you are playing appropriate repertoire. Second, check the ASTA suggested repertoire database to see a comprehensive list of repertoire and assigned levels. If your piece isn't listed in the database, please contact Washington Performing Arts at [Feder@washingtonperformingarts.org](mailto:Feder@washingtonperformingarts.org).

### **What is ASTA?**

ASTA is the American String Teachers Association. This organization helps string teachers develop and refine their career. Additionally, they provide journals every year with repertoire examples and levels of difficulty. Washington Performing Arts is a certified member of the American String Teachers Association

### **What do I wear?**

There is no specific dress code, but is recommended to dress appropriately for performance videos (no jeans or t-shirts).

### **Do I need to memorize my pieces?**

For the Preliminary Round, memorization is not required but highly recommended. For the Virtual Final Round memorization is required.

## **Virtual Final Round**

### **Why is the Final Round virtual this year?**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Washington Performing Arts is planning for the entire Feder Competition to occur virtually this year to ensure safety for all participants.

### **How will I know if I am invited to play in the Virtual Final Round?**

Washington Performing Arts will email all participants on March 17th, 2021 to let them know whether or not they are invited to participate in the Virtual Final Round.

### **What is the Virtual Final Round?**

All participants invited to participate in the Virtual Final Round will receive a composition, created specifically for the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Feder Competition, on March 17, 2021. Participants will need to learn this piece and submit a video of them playing the piece via Submittable by April 30, 2021. Participants must play without an accompanist.

## Awards Ceremony and Concert

### Will there be an Awards Ceremony and Concert?

Washington Performing Arts hopes to host a concert once it is safe to do so. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is uncertain at this time when exactly this will be able to take place. Once it is possible to host a concert, Washington Performing Arts will communicate details via email. Select winners will be offered the opportunity to perform during the concert, and all participants will be invited to attend.

In lieu of an awards ceremony, Washington Performing Arts plans to recognize the winners of this year's competition through a video coordinated by WPA staff. Should it become safe to gather in person by the end of the competition, it is possible Washing Performing Arts will decide to host an in-person ceremony instead.

### Have more questions?

You may contact Washington Performing Arts staff Monday through Friday between 9:00am and 5:00pm via email at [feder@washingtonperformingarts.org](mailto:feder@washingtonperformingarts.org) or phone at 202-533-1894 for more information. Main contact: Elisabeth Staal, Education and Community Program Coordinator.