MEDALIST CONCERT BAND

Bloomington Center for the Arts | 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road | Bloomington, MN 55431 | www.medalistband.com

EARL C. BENSON CONCERTO COMPETITION
Application Form

Please submit this completed form via email to Professor Jerry Luckhardt as a PDF attachment (luckh001@umn.edu). In that email, also tell Professor Luckhardt how you are submitting the video recording of your performance, whether on a personal YouTube site or via Google Drive or OneDrive. (Please make sure that your sharing settings allow anyone with the link to view the video.)

There is no application fee.

All required application materials are due Friday, January 29, 2027.

Name (last, first, middle) _____

Birthdate (day/month/year) _____ / _____ / _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Instrument _____ High School _____

Name of band director _____

Name of private teacher (if applicable) _____

Grade during 2026–2027 school year* _____ Years played instrument _____

Title/Composer of selection on your audition recording (see list of Concerti Repertoire)

Please attach your musical résumé, which lists your musical experiences. Include the names and leaders of groups with whom you regularly rehearse or perform along with private lessons taken, musical workshops or camps attended, music scholarships or awards received, other musical training, solo performances and repertoire, recitals, and so on.

For more information, please go to the Medalist Concert Band's website (www.medalistband. com) or email the band's music director, Professor Jerry Luckhardt (luckh001@umn.edu).

I hereby attest that I meet the requirements of this competition, as outlined in the Eligibility and Schedule Information provided by the Medalist Concert Band, and that I agree to accept the judges' decisions as final. I also agree to allow audio and visual recordings of me participating in the competition to be used for promotional purposes.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

Parent's/Guardian's signature _____ Date _____

* To be eligible, the applicant must be in grade 10, 11, or 12 during the 2026–2027 school year.

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EARL C. BENSON CONCERTO COMPETITION
Eligibility and Schedule Information

About the Competition

The Medalist Concert Band is pleased to continue its sponsorship of an annual performance competition for high school band students. Named for a long-time music educator and the original conductor of the Medalist Concert Band, the Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition is now in its seventeenth year.

The purposes of the competition are to identify talented wind and percussion musicians and to encourage high school students to pursue further musical study. In doing so, the competition supports one of the key tenets of the Medalist Concert Band's mission statement: to provide young musicians with a model of music as a lifelong hobby.

Application Requirements and Process

The Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition is open to students who are enrolled in schools in the Twin Cities metropolitan and surrounding area, as well as selected outstate areas. Students must be in grades 10–12 during the 2026–2027 school year; they cannot already have graduated from high school. The required application materials include a completed application form and a video recording of the student's performance. There is no application fee. **The application deadline is Friday, January 29, 2027.** (See the application form for directions for submitting the materials.)

The other application requirements are as follows:

- The competition is open to players of woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments (no piano).
- Each applicant must submit a video recording of his or her performance of a selection from the list of approved repertoire provided by the Medalist Concert Band or an alternative selection that has been preapproved by the band's music director, Professor Jerry Luckhardt. (See the list of Concerti Repertoire for details about this approval process.) Based on the applicants' recorded performances, a group of finalists will be selected and invited to audition live.
- Each finalist must provide his or her own live piano accompanist. A finalist may not audition without an accompanist or with a recorded accompanist.
- Each finalist must provide a score of his or her selection for the panel at the time of the audition.
- Each finalist must be ready to audition at his or her assigned time and be prepared for an audition of approximately 15 minutes. Each finalist should be prepared to answer questions from the panel and to perform any requested passage from his or her entire audition piece.
- All applicants and finalists will be judged according to the highest musical standards by a panel of recognized music educators, including Professor Jerry Luckhardt, Medalist's music director. All applicants and finalists must accept the decisions of the judges as final.

The winner of the Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition will receive a $1,000 cash award and be the featured soloist with the Medalist Concert Band at its 2026–2027 finale concert on Sunday, May 23, 2027, at 4:00 p.m., at the Schneider Theater in the Bloomington Center for the Arts (1800 West Old Shakopee Road).

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In addition, the winner of the competition must be able to meet these conditions:

- For the May 23 performance, the winner will play a piece selected by the Medalist Band's music director in advance of the performance (approximately two months).
- The winner will attend three rehearsals with the Medalist Band before the performance, as well as a dress rehearsal the day of the concert (see Key Dates below).

Key Dates

- Friday, January 29, 2027 | Student application form and video recording due (see submission directions on application form)
- Friday, February 5, 2027 | Finalists selected and audition times announced
- Saturday, March 20, 2027 | Finalists' auditions held (at Center for the Arts in Bloomington)
- Monday, March 22, 2027 | Winner notified
- Three Mondays: May 3, May 10 and May 17, 2027, at 7:30 p.m. | Winner rehearses with Medalist Concert Band at Jefferson High School in Bloomington
- Sunday, May 23, 2027, at 4:00 p.m. | Winner performs with Medalist Concert Band (at Center for the Arts in Bloomington). Dress-rehearsal/Sound check at 3:00 p.m.

For more information, please go to the Medalist Band's website (www.medalist.band.com) or email the band's music director, Professor Jerry Luckhardt (luckh001@umn.edu).

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EARL C. BENSON CONCERTO COMPETITION
Concerti Repertoire

The following list of repertoire has been preapproved for the Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition. Students are highly encouraged to select a piece from this list.

A student who wishes to perform an alternative piece must get approval from Jerry Luckhardt, the music director of the Medalist Band, before his or her application will be accepted. To request that approval, the student should email Professor Luckhardt (luckh001@umn.edu) by January 15, 2027, with these details: the title, composer's name, and length of the chosen piece.

Flute

Concerto for Piccolo in C Major	Antonio Vivaldi
Concerto No. 2 in D Major	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Concertino Op. 107	Cecile Chaminade
Night Soliloquy	Kent Kennan

Oboe

Concerto K314	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Concerto in C Minor	Benedetto Marcello
Concerto for Oboe	Domenico Cimarosa
Variations on a Theme by Glinka	Rimsky-Korsakov

Bassoon

Concerto in Bb for Bassoon (mvt.1)	Wolfgang Amadeus
Mozart Concerto for Bassoon	Carl Maria von Weber
Concerto in C Major, No. 13	Antonio Vivaldi
Hungarian Fantasy	Carl Maria von Weber

Clarinet

Adagio and Tarantella	Ernesto Cavallini
Concertino	Carl Maria von Weber
Concerto for Clarinet No. 1 (rondo)	Carl Maria von Weber
Concerto No. 3 (mvt. 1)	Carl Stamitz

Saxophone

Concerto for Alto Saxophone	Alexander Glazanov
Concerto for Alto Saxophone	Jacques Ibert
Concerto in A Major	Antonio Vivaldi
Serenade for Alto Sax	Frank Bencriscutto

French Horn

Concerto No. 2 (mvt. 1)	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Concerto No. 3 (mvt. 1)	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Concerto for French Horn and Band	John Zdechlik
Morceau de Concert Op. 94	Camille Saint-Saens

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Trumpet

A Trumpeter's Lullaby	Leroy Anderson
Concerto for Trumpet (Finale)	Johann Hummel
Concerto for Trumpet in Eb Major	Joseph Haydn
Stars in the Velvety Sky	Herbert L. Clark

Trombone

Andante et Allegro	J. Ed Barat
Concerto for Trombone and Band	Gordon Jacob
Concerto for Trombone & Military Band	Rimsky-Korsakov
Morceau Symphonique	Alexandre Guilmant

Euphonium

Andante et Allegro	J. Ed Barat
Morceau Symphonique	Alexandre Guilmant
Rhapsody	James Curnow
Those Endearing Young Charms	Simone Mantia

Tuba

Concerto	Frank Bencriscutto
Tuba Rhapsody	Clare Grundman
Variations for Tuba and Winds	Arthur Frackenpohl

Percussion

Concertino Op. 43 for Marimba	Paul Creston
Concerto for Vibraphone and Band	Thomas Briggs
Concerto for Marimba and Winds	Alfred Reed
Expansions, Concerto for Marimba and Band	Larry Stukenholtz
Galop from "The Comedians" for Xylophone	Dmitri Kabalevsky