TWENTY-FOURTH NATIONAL COMPETITION

2021

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read carefully and keep for future reference.
The Rules and Regulations of the Competition are binding on each participant:
Contestants, Judges, Legal Advisor and Chairman.

A. COMPETITION DIVISIONS

1. The Competition is divided into five (5) Divisions:

   Young Professional
   (Maximum age 30 years on 1 June 2021)

   Advanced
   (Maximum age 21 years on 1 June 2021)

   Intermediate II
   (Maximum age 18 years on 1 June 2021)

   Intermediate I
   (Maximum age 15 years on 1 June 2021)

   Junior
   (Maximum age 12 years on 1 June 2021)

2. If there are fewer than three contestants in a Division, such Division may be cancelled for that year's competition.
3. Contestants will appear in a predetermined random order. The number or letter assigned will determine the performance order. This order will be announced at a meeting prior to the commencement of each division.
4. Every contestant will be entitled to complete his/her performance of the program and will not be interrupted by the judges.
5. The public is invited to attend the Competition but may not applaud or physically encourage the participants.
6. A contestant may enter only one Division.
7. Only the Junior division will be behind a screen.

B. PRELIMINARY STAGE

1. A preliminary video upload will be required of all contestants.
2. The recording will include all of the required repertoire.
3. The uploaded performance may stop between pieces and movements.

C. ELIGIBILITY

1. All contestants must be national members of the American Harp Society, Inc.
2. All contestants must:
   a) be citizens of the United States (naturalized citizens must submit proof of citizenship)
   - OR -
   b) be a citizen of the Americas.

D. THE PROGRAM

I. The contestants may perform the program in any order.
2. All compositions must be performed by memory.
3. All repeats are optional EXCEPT Scarlatti Sonatas in Advanced division.

E. JUDGES

1. Upon request, a list of the members of the jury will be given to any contestant after the Competition.
2. Judges will certify to the Chairman that none of the contestants is related to them nor has the contestant been a student of theirs within the previous 12 months.
3. Judges will refrain from making any public statement whatsoever concerning the activities of the Competition.
4. The judges will vote by secret ballot.
5. Judges will not abstain from voting.

F. VOTING AND COUNTING

1. Judges will receive a ballot for each contestant from the Chairman of the Competition.
2. At the conclusion of each Division, judges will be asked to cast a ballot for each contestant.
3. Ballots will be cast individually by each judge without discussion.
4. In the event a situation occurs that is not covered by the preceding, then the 1st Place winner will be determined by a discussion among the judges, supervised by the Chairman.
5. The tabulation of votes will be supervised by the Legal Advisor and one other person designated by the Chairman.
6. The judges have the right to withhold any prize in any Division if no contestant in that Division is considered qualified for such prize by the judges.

G. THE CHAIRMAN

1. The Chairman shall be responsible for the management of the Competition. The Chairman represents the American Harp Society to the judges, the contestants, and all outside parties in all matters.
2. The Chairman is entrusted with the investigation of any infringements of the rules and may take any steps required in consultation with the Legal Advisor.
3. In all matters, the Chairman is authorized to delegate powers or specifically designated functions to others.
4. Public statements concerning the Competition will be issued only by the Chairman.
5. The Chairman will preside over the tabulation of the ballots.
6. The Chairman will publish the results.
7. The Chairman will explain the rules and procedures to the contestants and the judges.
8. The Chairman or designated surrogate will be present at all performances of the Competition.

H. THE LEGAL ADVISOR

1. Chairman will appoint a Legal Advisor whose function will be to advise in legal matters.
2. Decisions regarding questions of procedure not settled by these rules will be settled by the Chairman of the Competition, the Legal Advisor, and the National President of the American Harp Society, Inc.

I. PRIZES

1. Contestants will be awarded Certificates of Participation.
2. The prizes will be presented to the winners at a special Winners' Recital during the Summer Institute of the same year. This recital will be recorded.
3. The winners of the 1st, 2nd and/or 3rd prize in each Division may be expected to play without remuneration at the Winners' Recital. Excuse from this performance must be requested in advance.
4. The winner of the Young Professional Division will be presented at a national conference and will be the AHS Concert Artist for the next two years until the next Young Professional winner is determined.

J. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Entry Form and all required material must be received no later than April 15, 2021. **There will be no exceptions.**
2. Entry fees will be charged as follows: Each division, $50.
3. Entry fees are not refundable.

K. CONDITIONS

1. Travel expense to and from the Competition, including travel, harp transportation, meals and lodgings are the responsibility of the contestant.
2. The American Harp Society, Inc. is not responsible for loss or damage to any harp in transit or during the Competition.

L. PENALTIES

The following penalties may be imposed by the Chairman:

1. Reprimand
2. Censure
3. Exclusion from the proceedings

M. MISCELLANEOUS

1. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Competition will be supplied to each contestant and to each judge.
2. The 1st Prize winner in any Division will be ineligible to compete in that Division in future competitions.
3. The winners must accurately represent their winning status at all times.
4. Harps will be provided upon request. They will be strung with gut strings up to 2nd octave C.