2025-2026 Young Artists Competition Rules and Regulations

1. **Purpose**
    - The ISCS Young Artists Competition provides an opportunity for talented young musicians to perform as soloists with the Idaho State-Civic Symphony and receive scholarships. This biennial competition aims to inspire and support the next generation of musicians through a high-level performance experience.

2. **Eligibility Residency Requirement**
    - Applicants must be legal residents of Idaho or currently attending high school, college, or university within the state.
    - **Junior Division**: Students aged 18 or younger as of September 1, 2025.
    - **Senior Division**: Students aged 19-24 as of September 1, 2025.
    - **Ineligibility**: Past winners may not compete in the same division again but may compete in the other division if eligible.

3. **Prizes**
    - **Junior Division Winner**: $500 scholarship and an opportunity to perform with the ISCS at the February concert in the 2025-2026 season.
    - **Senior Division Winner**: $1,000 scholarship and an opportunity to perform with the ISCS at the February concert in the 2025-2026 season.
    - Scholarship amounts are subject to increase and will be confirmed prior to the competition.

4. **Important Dates**
    - **Preliminary Round Video Submission Deadline**: May 15, 2025
    - **Finalists Announced**: By June 30, 2025
    - **Final Round Live Competition Recital**: September 20, 2025, 2:00 p.m. at Stephens Performing Arts Center
    - **Rehearsals with Symphony**: February 17 and 19, 2026
    - **Performance Date**: February 20, 2026

5. **Repertoire Guidelines**
    - **General Guidelines**: Instrumentalists and vocalists will be considered in the same pool. The repertoire must feature the soloist with standard orchestral accompaniment, and the soloist must perform preliminary and final rounds with piano accompaniment. The selection(s) must be published and available through reliable commercial sources. The repertoire for the audition must remain the same through subsequent rounds. Cuts to the solo part must be approved; cuts to the accompaniment are encouraged but do not need prior approval.
    - **Junior Division**: Only one movement of a standard concerto 5-15 minutes long (or equivalent selections not exceeding 15 minutes) should be prepared. If necessary, to meet the minimum time requirement, instrumentalists may add an additional movement from the same piece; vocalists may add an additional aria or song.
    - **Senior Division**: Only one movement of a standard concerto 10-20 minutes long (or equivalent selections not exceeding 20 minutes) should be prepared. If necessary, to meet the minimum time requirement, instrumentalists may add an additional movement from the same piece; vocalists may add an additional aria or song.
    - **Orchestration Availability**: Selections must have affordable and readily available orchestral parts for rental or purchase. Applicants are responsible for confirming this before applying. If you have questions, please contact the ISCS Librarian at librarian@ISCSymphony.org.
    - **Memorization**: Strongly encouraged but not required.

6. **Application Requirements**
    - A completed online application form.
    - A $50 non-refundable entry fee.
    - A video link (unlisted YouTube video) of the applicant performing their selected piece. The video must be an uninterrupted performance with clear audio and visuals. The applicant must be fully visible, including hands and instrument. Accompaniment is required.
    - Submission must be received by 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2025.

7. **Competition Format**
    - **Preliminary Round**: Judged based on video submissions. Finalists will be selected and notified by June 30, 2025.
    - **Final Round**: A live recital in Pocatello on September 20, 2025. Finalists must perform the same repertoire submitted in the preliminary round.

8. **Adjudication**
    - Decisions of the judges are final and cannot be appealed. Judges reserve the right to withhold awards if no performance meets the required standard.

9. **Performance with the Symphony**
    - Winners will perform their selected piece with the Idaho State-Civic Symphony. Winners must be available for the following evenings:
    - **Rehearsals with Symphony**: February 17 and 19, 2026
    - **Performance Date**: February 20, 2026

10. **Additional Rules**
    - **Collaborative Piano**: Finalists are responsible for providing their own pianist for the live recital. For out-of-town contestants (greater than 50 miles from Pocatello), a local pianist will be available for a brief rehearsal and performance the day of the competition at the contestant's expense. Please indicate on the application form if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity.
    - **Music Scores**: Finalists must provide three (3) copies of the piano accompaniment with the solo part for judges. Photocopies are acceptable. Clearly mark cuts and entrances.
    - **Judging Time Limits**: Judges will hear the contestant's selection in its entirety (no longer than 15 minutes Junior Division, no longer than 20 minutes Senior Division). If your piece is longer than this, cuts to the solo part must be approved; cuts to accompaniment are encouraged but do not need prior approval.
    - **Attire**: Performers are expected to wear formal recital attire.

11. **Contact Information**
    - For questions, please contact info@ISCSymphony.org or call 208-282-2266.