

# *The Reading Symphony Orchestra League*

## *Fifty Eighth Auditions*



### **Sponsor**

In order that talented young people may have greater musical opportunities, the Reading Symphony Orchestra League established Student Auditions. Audition Judges are chosen for their educational background and experience in music.

### **Eligibility & Rules**

Students who audition must be proficient, either as instrumentalists or vocalists, and must meet at least one of these requirements:

1. Reside in Berks County or be a member of RSYO.
2. Attend junior or senior high school (or equivalent) in Berks County.
3. Be a pupil of a private teacher in Berks County.

Unusually gifted and well-prepared students below junior high level may apply but must arrange with the Audition Committee for a pre-audition. Vocalists should be 16 years or older. In addition, students are ineligible after their graduation from high school. Students are limited to one audition in one category only each year. They may not appear with the orchestra more than once on a given instrument.

### **Open Audition Policy**

Auditions are open to participants, parents, and teachers; students will be grouped according to instrument (strings, piano, voice, woodwind/brass) in a specific time block. At the conclusion of each group, the Maestro will offer comments and evaluations, reflecting his and the judges' impressions.

### **Awards**

- \***First Place:** Ruth Anne Bengtson offers an award of \$1000 in memory of Miriam Weiss Heisler.
- \***Second Place:** White Star Tours and Adelphi Kitchens Inc offer an award of \$800.
- \***Third Place:** George and Debbie Pyle offers an award of \$600 in memory of Elizabeth Zug.
- \***Fourth Place:** Reading Symphony Orchestra League offers an award of \$400 in memory of Mrs. Yole de Santis.
- \***Fifth Place:** Jean Blickle offers an award of \$300 in honor of the Student Audition winners.
- \***Sixth Place:** Lamm and Witman Funeral Home offers an award of \$300.
- \***Additional Prize:** The Reading Symphony Orchestra will award an honorarium of \$50 to each applicant who performs with the R.S.O. at the Student Concert in October.

\*All judges' fees provided courtesy of Sarah and Stratton Yatron

### **Commitments**

1. Recital for the Music Club of Reading-Berks at the Berks County Historical Society on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
2. Featured performers at the Reading Symphony Orchestra League program on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jack Lusch.
3. **SELECTED WINNERS WILL ALSO PERFORM WITH THE SYMPHONY AT THE RSO'S STUDENT CONCERT IN OCTOBER.**

\*The RSOL will contribute \$50 toward the accompanist fee for performances at the Historical Society of Reading-Berks and the Reading Symphony Orchestra League program.

\*\* AWARDS WILL NOT BE DISTRIBUTED UNTIL ALL PERFORMANCES ARE COMPLETED. THE INABILITY TO FULFILL THE TERMS OF ANY AWARD WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF THAT AWARD. IN THAT EVENT, THE NEXT ELIGIBLE APPLICANT WILL MOVE UP ONE PLACE IN RANKING.

\*\*\* STUDENTS WHO ARE CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE MUST REMAIN UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A QUALIFIED TEACHER UNTIL ALL PROGRAMS ARE COMPLETED.

# **Audition Procedures**

## **\*REPERTOIRE**

*Instrumentalists:* Perform one movement only of a concerto or a work of equal importance with available orchestral accompaniment.

*Singers:* Perform works with available orchestration such as oratorio or operatic arias, or other music of comparable quality, which is appropriate for young developing voices. (Voice teachers should keep in mind the size and weight of required orchestral accompaniment for all music chosen).

Several top finalists will be selected to perform with the symphony. If a student is selected, the musical selection to be performed shall be approved first by the Music Director in consultation with the Executive Director. The student will know in a timely fashion if a different piece is to be performed with the orchestra.

We regret that we are unable to accommodate organists at the present time.

## **\*ACCOMPANIMENT**

All auditionees, other than pianists, must provide their own accompanists. Teachers may accompany their own students. Financial responsibilities must be assumed by auditionee. Pianists will audition with no accompaniment, allowing brief pauses for orchestral interludes. All applicants and accompanists are asked to check in a half hour before the scheduled audition time.

## **\*TIME LIMIT**

The maximum time allowed for an audition will be SEVEN MINUTES. This time limit will be strictly enforced, and any auditionee will be interrupted if his or her program extends beyond seven minutes. If an auditionee is subsequently chosen to perform with the Symphony, appropriate cuts will be made in the score by the conductor if the selection exceeds seven minutes.

## **\*MEMORIZATION**

ALL MUSIC MUST BE MEMORIZED FOR AUDITIONS AND RECITALS AND FOR THE OCTOBER STUDENT CONCERTS. The original and three copies of the music must be provided for use by the judges.