



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **REGION'S GIFTED YOUNG MUSICIANS SOUGHT FOR VSO'S PRESTIGIOUS 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION**

*Over \$5,000 in scholarship money awarded, honor of performance with symphony*

(Vancouver, WA) **The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** is happy to announce the beginning of its 2017 Young Artists Competition with a Call for Entries.

One of The VSO's most highly-anticipated events, the Young Artists Competition ranks among the area's best, and is the annual gathering for many of the outstanding local young musicians who often use it as a launching pad for a life-long career in music.

The Young Artists Competition resonates with VSO conductor Salvador Brotons. "I love working with our three young artists every spring. Every season, I am amazed at the talent, passion and skill these young musicians bring to the orchestra."

"Our Young Artists Competition is a great way for young musicians to showcase their incredible talents," said VSO Executive Director Dr. Igor Shakhman. "The audiences for both our winter competition and the April concerts are enthusiastic and keep growing every year."

Students of 18 years of age or under as of January 1, 2017 who reside in Oregon and Washington and are currently studying with a private music instructor are eligible to compete in the categories of piano, strings and brass/woodwinds/percussion.

Following the initial judging of application CD's by select area musicians, the three top candidates in each category will compete January 8, 2017 in front of an audience at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vancouver for the scholarship prizes of \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place. First place finishers then perform their winning selections with Maestro Brotons and **The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** at our April 22 & 23, 2017 concerts at Skyview Concert Hall. New this year: selected Young Artist Competition winners may be invited to perform solo as part of VSO Chamber Music Series.

Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 309 W 39th St, Vancouver, WA.

Complete information and an application are available at [vancouverSymphony.org](http://vancouverSymphony.org). Deadline for all submissions is December 2, 2016.

Please note: every submission must be approved by the VSO office. It is recommended to get the approval of the repertoire early in the preparation process. No unapproved submissions will be accepted. For approvals, please e-mail [orchestramgr@vancouverSymphony.org](mailto:orchestramgr@vancouverSymphony.org). **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.**

### **About The VSO**

Entering its 38th season, The VSO has been a cornerstone of Southwest Washington's arts community, providing world-renowned classical music, promoting young musicians, and opening doors to classical music for young audiences through events such as the annual In-School concerts, Young Artists Competition and various family-styled special events and performances. A full-sized professional orchestra of over 70 core members provides performs a multi-concert classical season every year. Symphony performances are at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver.

### **About our Sponsors**

The VSO's Young Artist Competition is generously supported by All Classical Portland, Oregon Public Broadcasting, The Community Foundation of SW Washington, The Columbian, Michelle's Pianos and Integrity Tree Care, Inc.

Tickets for all VSO symphony concerts, The VSO Chamber Series and all VSO events are on sale at (360) 735-7278 or [vancouverSymphony.org](http://vancouverSymphony.org).

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