



THE ORCHESTRA TORONTO CONCERTO COMPETITION RULES & HISTORY

In 2011, Orchestra Toronto established the Orchestra Toronto Concerto Competition in memory of Marta Hidy, one of Canada's foremost violinists.

The competition is an annual event for Canadian virtuosos aged 23 and younger that focuses on a different instrument every year. It offers a scholarship of \$1,000 and an opportunity to perform as a soloist with Orchestra Toronto at its popular December youth-oriented concert at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. The 2011 prize was for violin, and in the ensuing years, the Competition has cycled through the major instrument families, returning to the violin in 2018. In 2020, the prize will be awarded to a cellist.

The prize was established to honour Marta Hidy's legacy as a solo artist, orchestral and chamber musician, conductor, teacher and music professor. Marta Hidy's passion for music and for young talent influenced the lives of generations of musicians and the Orchestra Toronto Concerto Competition's mission is to continue that influence. Supported by the Hidy Fund, the competition aims primarily to showcase talented young Canadians and help them make the transition to professional life.

The 2020 Orchestra Toronto Concerto Competition: The Marta Hidy Prize for Cello

Orchestra Toronto is pleased to announce that its tenth edition of the Concerto Competition is open to cellists who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents aged 23 or younger. The winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and will be invited to perform a concerto of his or her choice in OT's 2020-2021 season with Orchestra Toronto in the George Weston Recital Hall at the Meridian Arts Centre (formerly the Toronto Centre for the Arts).

The Required Application & Competition Process

An application form is available for at Orchestra Toronto's website, <http://www.orchestratoronto.ca>. It must be filled in and submitted by e-mail or online by January 24, 2020.

There is a \$40 registration fee. The fee may be submitted online via Paypal when you register, or mailed in via cheque.

After receiving the application and fee, Orchestra Toronto will e-mail competitors specific instructions on how to upload a competition video.

The video competition

Applicants must upload a competition video of themselves playing three pieces. Two of the pieces must be of contrasting tempi and style and showcase the flexibility and agility as well as expressiveness of the applicant. The third piece must be a movement from a concerto.

The video must begin with the competitor identifying himself or herself and giving the names of the pieces to be played and their composers.

By participating and uploading a competition video, competitors are giving their consent to have their videos viewed by the competition judges and to have their videos publicly available through the Orchestra Toronto website and Facebook pages.

Members of the concerto competition jury will be looking for artistry, musicianship, technical skills and stage presence. The deadline for uploading the competition video is **February 4, 2020**.

The live competition

The live final competition will take place on **Saturday, March 28, 2020**, in the Heliconian Hall in downtown Toronto. Those selected for it must be available on this date.

Up to six finalists will be asked to perform the entire concerto that they wish to perform with Orchestra Toronto. (Candidates will be notified well in advance as to whether their choice of concerto has been approved.)

Finalists must bring their own piano accompanist.

The competition will be open to the public.

The judges

The winner of the Orchestra Toronto Concerto Competition will be decided by a five-member panel of judges.

They are:

- Michael Newnham, the Music Director of Orchestra Toronto
- Professor Shauna Rolston Shaw
- Winona Zelenka, Assistant Principal Cellist, Toronto Symphony Orchestra
- Tom Mueller, Principal Cellist, Orchestra Toronto
- John Dvorak, Orchestra Toronto cellist and son of Marta Hidy

Rules and regulations

Eligibility

The 2020 Cello Competition is open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Proof of citizenship or permanent resident status might be required.

Candidates must be aged 23 or younger on April 1st, 2020. Proof of age may be required.

A parent or legal guardian of a candidate who is under the legal age of majority (18) must ensure that the competitor will comply with these rules and warrant that the competitor is capable of agreeing to these rules and giving the necessary consents.

The parent or legal guardian of the competitor must agree to indemnify Orchestra Toronto for and against: (a) any claims made by the competitor, his or her legal guardian, or any member of his or her family against Orchestra Toronto in connection with the competition; and (b) any losses (including any liability) caused by any conduct of the candidate that is inconsistent with these rules.

Registration

The registration form is available online at <http://www.orchestratoronto.ca>

Registration Fee & Application Form

Applicants must pay a \$40 CAD registration fee in the form via Paypal at the time of registration or via a cheque made payable to Orchestra Toronto and mailed, along with a print out of the application form, to

Concerto Competition
Orchestra Toronto
5040 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario, M2N 6R8

Deadline

The completed registration form must be submitted by later than **January 24, 2020**.

Video Competition & Finals Repertoire Guidelines

Each candidate must upload a competition video playing three pieces. Two of the pieces must be of contrasting tempi and style and showcase the flexibility and agility as well as expressiveness of the applicant. The third piece must be a movement from a concerto.

For the Finals Live Competition, candidates will play the concerto they wish to perform with Orchestra Toronto. (Candidates will be notified well in advance as to whether their choice of concerto has been approved.)

Adjudicators may ask the competitors to stop and start during this part of the competition. Finalists must provide their own piano accompanist.

Creative Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on:

- Artistry
- Musicianship
- Flexibility
- Technical skills

Finalists will also be evaluated on stage presence.

Personal Data & Consent

The initial round of this competition is held online through the use of YouTube. Personal information collected from competitors will be used in accordance with the YouTube Privacy Policy, it is available at https://www.youtube.com/static?&template=privacy_guidelines and in addition as otherwise set out in these rules for the purpose of administering this competition. Each

competitor expressly agrees to the use of his or her personal information for such purposes.

The following information will be collected from each competitor for the purpose of administering the competition:

- YouTube Username,
- Video ID, and
- date/time of entry.

Orchestra Toronto will not sell, share or otherwise disclose information collected in any manner with third parties, other than those parties necessary to fulfill the above purposes, unless the competitor has given his or her prior express consent to receive additional information from a third party.

Competition Dates & Deadlines

There are two rounds in the competition:

1. **Video Competition**, which must be uploaded by **February 4, 2020**.
2. A **live finals competition** for up to six selected finalists will perform on **March 28, 2020**.

Other deadlines:

January 24, 2020: Deadline for submitting the application form and \$40 registration fee.

February 10, 2020: Finalist candidates are selected and told of their status.

Punctuality

Candidates must be present at least fifteen minutes before the time set for the Finals Live Competition

Results

Candidates will be evaluated by five adjudicators. Based on the applications and video competition uploads submitted by February 4, 2020, the finalists for the Finals Live Competition on March 28, 2020, will be announced by February 10, 2020. The winner will be announced live at the end of the Final Competition and published on the Orchestra Toronto website. The results will also be sent by e-mail to all finalists following the Finals Live

Competition. Should no candidate meet the standards of the judges, Orchestra Toronto reserves the right not to award the prize.

Expenses

All travel and lodging expenses, as well as accompanists' fees, are the candidates' responsibility.

Cancellation

Should it become necessary for a candidate to cancel, the candidate must notify Orchestra Toronto. Alternate dates for the Live Competition cannot be accommodated.

Disqualification

Candidates who do not comply with these rules will be disqualified.

Candidates who provide false information in the application will be disqualified.

Other Contingencies

Any situation not covered by these rules shall be referred to the Orchestra Toronto's Music and Executive Director, whose decision on such matters shall be final.