



## GSYO EMERGING COMPOSERS' COMPETITION

The Golden State Youth Orchestra announces its first Emerging Composers' Competition. The competition is open to all composers of any nationality under the age of 35 to get their work performed by the Golden State Youth Orchestra (GSYO) along with prize money.

### Who are we?

More than 450 K-12 students from over 100 schools from San Francisco to Santa Cruz train and perform in four orchestras and two ensembles, led by the award-winning, internationally recognized Symphony Orchestra. Concerts, tours, retreats, summer workshops, masterclasses and music festivals form a vital part of the GSYO experience, creating opportunities for youth at all levels of musical development to grow socially and artistically while participating in the Bay Area's foremost instrumental training and education program.

### Prizes:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – US\$750, Performance of the work during the 2025-2026 season by Symphony Orchestra, top orchestra at GSYO including professional audio recording of the concert performance
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – US\$500
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – US \$250

All composers of any career status, nationality, or demographic group under the age of 35 are encouraged to apply. Works will be considered based on its **composition quality** and **appropriateness for GSYO and its audience**.

The two video recordings below are reflective of GSYO's playing level of recently composed works:

Jonathan Shin's Night Bazaar (2019): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYcBZa9WXTQ>

Anna Clyne's Masquerade (2013): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IRNNIZ\\_dCA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IRNNIZ_dCA)

**Requirements:**

- Works must be between 6-12 minutes.
- Previous commissions by community orchestra or composition projects in music schools are allowed. However, works that have been publicly performed by a professional orchestra are not allowed.
- The work must not have been commercially recorded
- Work must be written for a full symphony orchestra. Maximum instrumentation (3.3.3.3 – 4.3.3.1 – strings – hp.pf – 5 perc). Composers are encouraged to fully utilize this instrumentation but not necessarily all of them.
- No chorus or concerto/vocal soloists
- No staged elements (e.g. operas, ballets)
- Works with multimedia (e.g. video, electronics) are acceptable. But technical requirements must be sent along with submission. Upon the discretion of GSYO, performance may or may not include multimedia elements.

**To apply:**

- PDF Score of the complete work in its complete orchestration (no short scores or reductions)
- Do not include your name in the full score during submission
- MIDI recording of the work
- Program notes of the work
- If the composer is under the age of 18 by the time of the dateline, the form must be completed by a parent or legal guardian
- Composer born on or after Jan. 1, 1990; proof (passport copy, for example) may be required for finalists
- \$50 application fee; if the fee will cause an undue financial hardship, please contact Lori Bingham at [lori@gsyomusic.org](mailto:lori@gsyomusic.org)

**Jury:**

- Yun Song Tay (Music Director, GSYO)
- Valeria Pelka (Composer & Orchestrator)
- Jeffery Meyer (Professor of Music, Orchestral Conducting, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music)

All materials must be submitted online – no mail submissions, in whole or part.

**Application deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 5pm (PDT). Late applications will not be accepted.**

Results will be announced before 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2025.