Concerto/Aria Competition Procedures

Repertoire
Complete or single movement solo work with orchestral, chamber orchestra, or wind ensemble accompaniment no longer than 20 minutes. Select complete movements from a multi-movement work to comprise the twenty minutes may be permitted.
Length: This stipulation is flexible at the discretion of the orchestra director. The Director of Orchestras must approve all repertoire prior to the area’s semi-final round. This follows the approval and recommendation of the applied teacher. Memory is not required for audition and performances.

Eligibility
The Concerto Competition is open to all music majors enrolled full-time and in applied lessons during the semester of competition and performance semester. Applicants that are student teaching or have graduated prior to the performance semester are eligible understanding that they will provide their own transportation to SFA and make themselves available for at least two rehearsals. Previous winners may not enter the competition. The director of orchestras has final rule regarding performance opportunities.

Deadlines
Application forms, available online (music.sfasu.edu), must be approved by the Director of Orchestras two weeks prior to the area’s semi-final round. Forms that do not have the signature of the orchestra director are not approved and thus not permitted to enter the area semi-final round.

Accompanist Services
It is the student’s responsibility to procure the services and arrange for payment of an accompanist for both rounds of the competition. Please see the Director of Accompanying for a list of qualified pianists.

Preliminary Round
Competitors will enter in one of four divisions:
1) strings, piano and percussion
2) woodwinds
3) brass
4) voice

Each division will have independent preliminary rounds, each advancing a maximum of three performers to the finals. The faculty of each division shall form the preliminary panel for judging. The preliminary panel must listen to the entire work by each student. All competitors must play with accompaniment for both the preliminary and final round. The preliminary panel will designate a chairperson, who will sign off on the forms for those moving onto the final round and submit to the Director of Orchestras.
Final Round
The final round will be held as stated on the website. Finalists will perform complete solo parts with necessary cuts in accompaniment to facilitate time. Final round performances do not need to be memorized.

Cuts inserted in the accompaniment must be made in respect to common performance practice. If the competitor's work is selected, it will be presented with the cut made at the final round. **Students must provide two (2) copies of the piano accompaniment part for the judging panel.** Cuts should be clearly marked in the scores. The panel shall consist of four judges: three members and the Orchestra Director. The judges' deliberations shall remain confidential and their decisions final.

Total time available on the concert is approximately 50 minutes. Winners will be scheduled to appear in the upcoming orchestra concert season.

Other information
It is the responsibility of each competitor to schedule rehearsals in Cole Hall prior to the Final Round of the competition.

During preparation of the concert, if it is seen that the performer has failed to maintain the work at performance level or has shown egregious character flaws against the university and its student and faculty body, it is the right of the Director of Orchestras to cancel that student's performance with the orchestra.