



## 2025 ISB Double Bass Competitions

To be held on the Florida State University campus  
Tallahassee, Florida USA

### Youth Orchestral Division – Sean Michael Casey, Chair

Monday, June 2, 2025

*Winners announced evening of June 3, 2025 in a ceremony preceding evening concerts*

#### PRIZES:

- First place is \$2500
- Second place is \$750
- Third place is \$500

#### ELIGIBILITY:

- The competition is open to bassists who are aged at least 15 and have not yet reached the age of 19 on the first day of the competition (June 2, 2025).
- Applicants must be current ISB members at the time of online application. If you are not a current member you can join at <https://www.isbworldoffice.com/join.asp>. If you are unable to join with a credit card, contact [office@isbworldoffice.com](mailto:office@isbworldoffice.com) for instructions.
- **Must not** be or have previously been a member of an ICSOM member orchestra. International applicants must not have previously held a full-time position with a symphony orchestra, radio orchestra, or an opera company. Additionally, applicants may not be members of an ICSOM member orchestra, or hold a full-time position with a symphony orchestra, radio orchestra, or an opera company at the time of the semi-final round of the competition.
- Competitors must play in orchestra tuning for all rounds of the competition.

#### DEADLINE:

**Must submit online application by 11:59 PM Central Time, Friday, January 17, 2025 for the Preliminary Round.**

#### PRELIMINARY ROUND RULES:

Preliminary Round repertoire -

- One solo of the candidate's choice originally written for the double bass
- Sibelius: Symphony No. 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> movement, mms. 2-28
- Mahler: Symphony No. 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement, solo, mms. 3-10
- Brahms: Symphony No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, mms. 54-66 [Rehearsal B]
- Mozart: Symphony No. 35, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, mms. 13-48

Applicants for the Orchestra Division are required to submit required preliminary round high-quality digital audio recordings using the Acceptd platform. Entry fee is \$60.

- A separate audio file (no video) for each preliminary round piece, identified by the name of the piece and not including the competitor's name.
- Record each audio file individually in a single take, with no edits or digital processing.
- MP3 files are preferred, MP4 or .WAV files accepted.
- Either "live" or "studio" recordings are acceptable. Please remove any time stamp.
- Applicants must submit a resume with the online application that includes a chronological list of:
  - all private teachers
  - education
  - honors and awards

### **SEMI-FINAL & FINAL ROUND RULES:**

Semi-Final Round repertoire for **SEMI-FINAL** and **FINAL** rounds will be selected by the judges from the following: **the first movement of a standard bass concerto** and :

- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, 6 before Rehearsal D [m. 103]-Rehearsal E [m. 132]
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, Rehearsal I [m. 280] – Rehearsal K [m. 322]
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> movement, mms. 3-26
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, 4<sup>th</sup> movement, Recitatives and Theme, mms. 8-107
- Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, 4<sup>th</sup> movement, Rehearsal M [m. 123] to Rehearsal R [m.165]
- Brahms: Symphony No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, mms. 233-250
- Dvorak: Symphony No. 8, 4<sup>th</sup> movement, Rehearsal O [m. 268] to Rehearsal P [m. 292]
- Haydn: Symphony No. 31, solo, 'Horn Signal' Variation 7
- Mahler: Symphony No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, beginning to Rehearsal 1
- Mozart: Symphony No. 40, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, pickups to mms. 115 - 138
- Mozart: Symphony No. 40, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, mms. 191 - 225
- Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, 4<sup>th</sup> bar of Rehearsal B to Rehearsal C

Five excerpts will be selected in the **SEMI-FINAL**, and five additional excerpts will be selected in the **FINAL** round; excerpts from the **SEMI-FINAL** will not be chosen in the **FINAL**. The concerto movement can be asked for in either round. If a student performed their concerto movement in the preliminary round, they may use it again in the **SEMI-FINAL** or **FINAL** round.

- Applicants advancing to the in-person semi-final round will be notified **by February 17, 2025**.
- Semi-Final and Final rounds will be held behind a screen.
- Semi-Finalists will be offered a discounted registration rate to attend the 2025 ISB Convention that follows the competition, June 2-7, 2025 at the Florida State University School of Music Theater and Dance, Tallahassee, Florida USA.
- Formal attire is not required. Contestants should dress neatly (appropriate for a masterclass setting) but comfortably.
- The performance order for semi-finalists and finalists will be determined randomly. **Contestants will be notified of their performance order for the semi-final round by May 2, 2025.** Final Round performance order will be determined after the semi-final round on June 2, 2025.