



2027 ISB Double Bass Competition

To be held at the University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM, USA

Jazz Division – Rodney Jordan, Chair

Monday, June 7, 2027

Winners will be announced the evening of June 7, 2027 in a ceremony preceding the evening concert.

PRIZES

- The Scott LaFaro Prize is \$5,000
- Second place is \$2,500
- Third place is \$1,000

ELIGIBILITY

- The competition is open to bassists who are at least 18 years of age and have not yet reached the age of 31 on the first day of the competition (June 7, 2027).
- 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 for instructions.
- Applicants must not have previously won first prize in the ISB Double Bass Competition Jazz Division.

DEADLINE

Must submit online application by 11:59 PM Central Time, January 18, 2027 for the Preliminary Round.

DRESS CODE

Formal attire is not required. Candidates should dress neatly (appropriate for a masterclass setting) but comfortably.

REPERTOIRE

- Blues or Medium tempo American Popular Song Standard
- Ballad
- Up-tempo Jazz Standard or BeBop
- Straight-eighths, Brazilian, Afro-Cuban, or Afro-Caribbean Standard
- Original composition, contemporary arrangement of Jazz Standard, American Song Book Standard, or Post-Bop Standard- newly arranged, or as written.

Ideas for songs from composers include but are NOT limited to: Thelonious Monk, Mal Waldron, Hoagy Carmichael, Vernon Duke, Cole Porter, Tadd Dameron, Cedar Walton, Herbie Hancock, Joe Henderson, Charlie Parker, Bud Powell, Miles Davis, Tommy Flannagan, Benny Golson, Sonny Clark, Bobby Timmons, Geri Allen, Art Blakey, Wallace Roney, Roy Hargrove, Mary Lou Williams, Lil Harden, Shirley Scott, Alice Coltrane, Bobby Hutcherson, Rufus Reid, Jimmy Heath, Marian McPartland, Percy Heath, Bertha Hope, Terri Lynne Carrington, Wayne Shorter, Horace Silver, Bobby Timmons, Hank Mobley, George Cables, Oscar Pettiford, Renee Rosnes, Paul Chambers, Scott LaFaro, Ray Brown, Henry Mancini and John Coltrane.

PRELIMINARY ROUND RULES

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

- Submit one tune from each of the five repertoire categories.
- Accompaniment is at the discretion of the applicant. Demonstration of arco playing is encouraged but not required. Submissions will be assessed for quality of performance, virtuosity, sensitivity, and creativity.
- 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 individual audio file 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.
- Record 25 minutes of music, maximum.
- Applicants must submit a list of their preliminary round repertoire, and a resume with the online application that includes a chronological list of all private teachers, education, honors and awards

SEMI-FINAL ROUND RULES

- Applicants advancing to the in-person Semi-Final Round will be notified **by February 18, 2027**.
- Semi-finalists will be offered a discounted registration rate to attend the 2025 ISB convention that follows the competition, June 7-12, 2027 at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.
- The performance order for all contestants performing at the convention will be determined randomly. **Contestants will be notified of their performance order by May 3, 2027.**
- All Semi-Final competitors will be provided with a professional pianist and drummer and will have a 45-minute rehearsal before their semi-final round.
- Applicants should plan to arrive in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA by the morning of Sunday, June 6, 2027 or earlier for rehearsal.
- **IMPORTANT:** Out of consideration for the collaborative trio artists, semi-finalists must provide digital copies of lead sheets **for their semi-final and final round repertoire selections** to the ISB office immediately upon notification that they have been named a semi-finalist.
- Semi-finalists should prepare five selections, one each from the five categories above, for the 25-minute Semi-Final Round.
- The jury reserves the right to stop performers, without penalty, in an effort to hear all required categories.
- The primary objective of the competition is for the performer to demonstrate musicianship through their functional role and artistry as an accompanist and soloist.
- Repartee within the trio, quality of the program, and stage decorum will be assessed.

FINAL ROUND RULES

The final round, if necessary, will consist of another 30 minutes of playing during which they will perform five works (one each from the five repertoire categories.) Finalists will have the option of repeating their selections from the semi-final round or choosing other works from the list categories. If a final round is scheduled, finalists will be given a rehearsal option of fifteen minutes with the trio prior to the performance.