Memorization: Required

Scores: Do not provide music for the judges at Preliminaries or Finals.

Accompanists: Vocalists must provide their own accompanists. Please arrange for a solid commitment from your accompanist prior to submitting your application. We base our scheduling in large part on accommodating accompanists who are playing for several different competitors across multiple divisions on the Competition days. Full accompanist contact information is a requirement for an accepted application. Accompanists are limited to working with no more than 16 competitors. Confirm with your accompanist that they have available slots.

Performance Requirements:
- Literature: Prepare 2 selections, one selection must be an art song
- Performance time: 5 minutes for Preliminaries, 10 minutes for Finals

Selections
Preliminaries: Two selections – must include 1 art song and singer is limited to 1 operatic aria.
An art song is written for one voice with piano accompaniment; it is most often a musical setting of an independent poem or text. Selections must differ in language, tempo, technique and must be drawn from two different time periods as listed below. Be sure to select works that are lengthy enough to fill at least 9 minutes so that if you are chosen for Finals you may take advantage of the longer performance time.
Finals: The same 2 selections but starting with a complete performance of one art song plus an extended portion or all of the other selection as time allows.

- Pre - 1800
- 19th Century
- 20th Century and Music of Today

Options for dividing the performance time between your two selections:
A) You may determine the exact division. In rehearsal prior to the Competition, you determine the division of time between both works keeping in mind that you must demonstrate mastery of two different styles. This option allows you to include for example an important climax or a specific technical passage in one piece while still allowing time to present a solid portion of the second selection. In the Competition, you perform what you have planned and the timer stops you only at the end of the allotted time.
B) You may ask a Schubert Club volunteer to stop you at the halfway point—either 2 ½ minutes at Preliminaries or 5 minutes at Finals—so that you may begin your second piece. For this timing option, the halfway point and end are the only allowable stop times.

Eligibility Requirement: Applicants must be a resident or enrolled in a learning institution within the 5-state region (MN, WI, SD, ND or IA).

Performance Procedure and Atmosphere
Check in with the Registration Desk. You will be directed to warm-up rooms and the performance room for your division. Competitors must keep track of the time and go to the performance room at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled performance time.

A Schubert Club volunteer announces each competitor’s performance number and his/her choice of first performance selection to the Preliminary judges. (Note: At Finals, the competitor must begin with an art song.) The competitor enters and the accompanist may briefly test the keyboard prior to performing in full view of the judges. A volunteer is present to time each performance and critiquing period.

At Preliminaries each division level performs before three judges and at Finals, all divisions are evaluated by a single judge.

Immediately following the Preliminaries, names of finalists will be posted near the registration table and through Twitter – twitter.com/schubertclub. Finals will take place on Sunday, following the day of Preliminaries. You will be emailed your competition time for Finals as soon as possible on the day of Preliminaries. All competitors will receive the judges’ written critiques by mail during the week following the competition. Finalist and Scholarship Winner names will also be posted on the Schubert Club website on Monday morning.

At Finals, Piano competitors will perform for a single judge using the same procedure as for Preliminaries. The judge will write critiques and select 1st and 2nd prize winners. Winners’ names are Tweeted, posted at the Competition site, and on the Schubert Club website. Winners are also notified by mail. All competitors will receive the judge’s critique by mail.
1st prize winners will be invited to play at the Winners Recital scheduled on Saturday, March 28, 1 pm at the Ordway Concert Hall. Instructions will be emailed during the week following the competition and performers will be asked for specific repertoire information. 2nd prize winners will be invited to perform if the 1st prize winner cannot commit.

No observers are allowed in the performance rooms for the Preliminaries however they will be allowed at the Finals. If a competitor has a compelling reason for not having observers in the room, they may request that observers wait outside during their performance. However, this request must be submitted directly to Competition Manager, Kate Cooper (kcooper@schubert.org) one week in advance of the Finals. Last minute requests will not be acknowledged.

There is no direct communication between the competitor and the judge(s).