



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER NOMINATION CHECKLIST: INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC

TEACHER NOMINATION DUE DATE: Friday, December 12, 2025

NEW THIS YEAR (2026 season)! Each SCHOOL / ORGANIZATION is allowed a limited number of nominations per discipline.

If more than one teacher at your school wants to nominate students in the same discipline, you must collaborate to decide who will nominate each student.

- **HIGH SCHOOL** maximum: 5 juniors & 5 seniors
- **PRIVATE STUDIOS/CONSERVATORIES** maximum: 1 junior & 1 senior
- **UNAFFILIATED PRIVATE INSTRUCTORS** maximum: 1 junior & 1 senior

WRITTEN STATEMENTS: You will be asked to write a statement about why you are recommending your student. (min. 250 -1500 CHARACTERS, including spaces (approx. 50 - 300 words))

PROMPT: Tell us why you believe this student is an Artist of the Year.

Your statement does not need to be long. Ultimately, we are looking for a solid quote to publish in the paper that celebrates your student. To this end, if you choose to write a short statement, it's important that your statement is well-written and coherent.

If you want to repurpose a recommendation that you have already written for your students, you can do that as well. But again, we need to pull a few sentences of it to publish in the paper. Your statement will also be included with all materials presented to the judges.

HELPING YOUR STUDENTS

WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR NOMINEES. We have found that students who get help from their teachers submit stronger applications. **At minimum, please ensure they know you have nominated them as early as possible.** (Yes, they will receive an email, however, sometimes they don't check email, or it goes to their SPAM, or it has been blocked by the district firewall, or there was a misspelling in the email you provided.)

Also, check to ensure that they know:

- the student application deadline (Friday, Fri. Jan 9, 2025)
- where to find info on what they need to submit (contact info, photo, photo release, written statements, art portfolio, awards list (optional))
- what feedback/help they can expect from you

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS – artistoftheyear.org

QUESTIONS? Contact Heide Janssen: ocartistoftheyear@aoy.scng.com | (949) 288-3662 (# does not accept texts)

JUNIORS	1	2	3	4	5
Student Name					
Student Email					
Nominating Teacher					
☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student
☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed
☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info
☐ Performance video support	☐ Performance video support	☐ Performance video support	☐ Performance video support	☐ Performance video support	☐ Performance video support
☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support	☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support	☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support	☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support	☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support	☐ Composer/Arranger Portfolio support
☐ Résumé support	☐ Résumé support	☐ Résumé support	☐ Résumé support	☐ Résumé support	☐ Résumé support
☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback

SENIORS	1	2	3	4	5
Student Name					
Student Email					
Nominating Teacher					
☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student	☐ Informed Student
☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed	☐ Deadline confirmed
☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info	☐ Student can find application info
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☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback	☐ Written statements feedback