

North American Saxophone Alliance 2026 Collegiate Solo Competition

The Ohio State University, March 12-15

1st Prize

\$1,500 in cash and/or merchandise

2nd Prize

\$1,000 in cash and/or merchandise

3rd Prize

\$750 in cash and/or merchandise

The First Place Prize Winner will be featured on the Winners' Recital at the 2026 NASA Biennial Conference.

I. Eligibility

- 1.) Contestants must be no older than 26 as of April 15, 2026.
- 2.) All contestants must be current members of the North American Saxophone Alliance (NASA) as of November 15, 2025.
- 3.) First Place Prizewinners from previous NASA Solo Competitions may not enter.

II. Application Guidelines

- 1.) The deadline for submission of applications, **video recordings**, and fees is **November 15, 2025**. All application materials must be submitted online via the NASA website.
- 2.) Contestants must submit an entry fee of \$65. All payments must be made through the online application by November 15, 2025.
- 3.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 4.) The contestant's birth date must be verified at the competition site with the contestant's driver's license, birth certificate, or passport. Any contestant who does not show proof of age, or is older than 26 years of age as of April 15, 2026, will be disqualified.
- 5.) There are three rounds of the NASA Solo Competition: a recorded Preliminary Round, a live Semi-Final Round and a live Final Round. The deadline for the recorded Preliminary Round is November 15, 2025. The live Semi-Final Round and live Final Round will be held in conjunction with the 2026 NASA Biennial Conference.

6.) Due to the logistical difficulties of preparing facilities, dates listed in the application for Semi-Final Rounds, Final Rounds, and Winners Recitals are subject to slight change.

III. Preliminary Round

THE PRELIMINARY ROUND WILL CONSIST OF A RECORDED VIDEO AUDITION. AUDIO AND VIDEO COMPONENTS OF THE RECORDING MUST BE UNEDITED, and all recordings must be submitted via the application portal with the initial application materials by the deadline, November 15, 2025. If applicable, music with accompaniment must be recorded with live piano accompaniment. Digital versions of piano accompaniments such as smart music or music-minus-one play-a-long formats are not acceptable. For all videos submitted, all performers must be clearly visible at all times. Technical guidelines for the recordings will be posted when the online application becomes available. The recording should contain a complete performance, with live piano accompaniment, if applicable, of:

1. Lucie Robert – *Rhapsodie*
2. Additional music of the performer's choice.

The total amount of performance time for the preliminary round is not to exceed 15 minutes. Contestants will NOT be penalized for submissions with too little or too much recorded time; however, adjudication will not consider more than 15 minutes of recorded audition time.

IV. Semi-Finals

Up to 25 saxophonists will be invited to perform in the Semi-Finals. The Semi-Finals will be held in conjunction with the 2026 North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference. Each semi-finalist will be required to perform the following:

1. Alfred Desenclos - *Prélude, cadence et finale*
2. Steven Banks - *Salleras Variations*
3. Additional music of the performer's choice. Choice music cannot be repeated between live rounds; HOWEVER choice music from the taped preliminary round may be used in a live round. **All semi-finalists must provide one original copy of the score(s) for the choice repertoire. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.** Semi-finalists are NOT required to bring original copies of the required repertoire.

IMPORTANT – SEMI-FINALISTS WILL HAVE 20 MINUTES ON STAGE ONLY! This timing includes walking on and off stage. If performers go over their allotted time, they will be stopped by a proctor. There is no penalty for being stopped by the proctor.

V. Finals

Up to 6 saxophonists will advance to the final round. The final round will take place during the 2026 NASA Biennial Conference. Each finalist will be required to play the following:

1. One piece from the compilation *Saxiana Presto: 7 Characteristic Pieces for Solo Saxophone* (Billaudot):
 - a. Jun Nagao: *L'oiseau enfermé*
 - b. Michael Lysight: *Seti*
 - c. Philippe Geiss: *Sax Hero*
 - d. Gabriela Ortiz: *Estudio Tongolele*
 - e. Polina Medyulyanova: *Hallucination*
 - f. Luis Naón: *Target*
 - g. Vache Sharafyan: *Opus brevis*
2. John Anthony Lennon - *Rhapsody* (Movement I. Drammatico ONLY)
3. Additional music of the performer's choice. Choice music cannot be repeated between live rounds; HOWEVER choice music from the taped preliminary round may be used in a live round. **All finalists must provide one original copy of the score(s) for the choice repertoire. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.** Finalists are NOT required to bring original copies of the required repertoire.

IMPORTANT – FINALISTS WILL HAVE 30 MINUTES ON STAGE ONLY! This timing includes walking on and off stage. If performers go over their allotted time, they will be stopped by a proctor. There is no penalty for being stopped by the proctor.

VI. General Guidelines

1. Semi-Finalists will be announced via email. All communication with the semi-finalists will be handled via email; therefore it is the contestants' responsibility to make sure they can receive email communications throughout the entire competition.
2. The Winners' Recital will feature the First Place Prizewinner in the Collegiate Solo Competition and will be held during the 2026 North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference.
3. Eligible contestants may also enter the Jazz Competition and the Quartet Competition, but they must submit a separate application and separate entry fee for each category entered.
4. All fees and dues are non-refundable.

5. All expenses, including lodging and transportation to and from the competition, are the sole responsibility of the contestants.
6. A minimum of 15 entries is required to hold this competition. Entry fees will be refunded if the competition is canceled.
7. Choice repertoire in all rounds may be programmed as complete multi-movement works or individual movements from multi-movement works and may be played on any saxophone. Works may be accompanied or unaccompanied, but must be performed with piano if they are composed with piano.
8. Semi-Finalists and Finalists will have the opportunity to hire a NASA staff pianist. Additional details such as costs and repertoire will be made available when the application web site becomes available. You must be available on site to rehearse on site if you request a staff pianist.
9. If you are planning to hire a NASA staff pianist, you must consult their repertoire lists (which will be posted on the NASA website) when programming your choice repertoire. At least 2 of the 3 pianists need to know the piece you wish to program. If none or only 1 of the pianists knows a piece you wish to program, you must contact the Collaborative Artist Coordinator, Casey Dierlam, via email to get special permission:
caseygene3@hotmail.com
10. The required repertoire may only be used in the rounds in which they are required. Choice music cannot be repeated between live rounds; HOWEVER choice music from the taped preliminary round can be used in the live rounds.
11. In both live rounds, the judges reserve the right to request specific movements and/or excerpts of each performer's program due to time constraints. This could include judges asking contestants to stop within a movement and skip to a different section.
12. Professional musicians will judge both the preliminary audition recordings and the live round performances. Semi-Finalists will be evaluated solely on their Semi-Final live round performance and Finalists will be evaluated solely on their Final live round performance.
13. Questions may be directed to the Chair of the Competition Committee, Gabe Piqué, via email at Gabriel_Pique@baylor.edu.