



GRAND RAPIDS
SYMPHONIC BAND

September 2024

Dear Music Educator:

The Grand Rapids Symphonic Band is sponsoring their annual Youth Soloist Competition. This opportunity is available to any student who is currently enrolled in a secondary band program in the state of Michigan. **In addition to performing a solo with the band, the winning student will also receive a \$1000 scholarship that they can redeem to use toward the university/college they will attend or toward any music related expense such as a summer music camp, music lessons, upgrading an instrument, etc.** The winner will appear in concert with the GRSB, conducted by Barry Martin, on **Saturday, February 8th, 2025** at Grandville High School at 7:00pm.

Students must select a solo that has a **readily available band accompaniment**. Students must submit a preliminary recording that includes the entire selection not to exceed 15 minutes. Recordings with accompaniment are encouraged, but not required. Submissions are to be emailed with a recording in mp3 format, a copy of the solo and the application form in PDF format. **Applications, sheet music and recording must be received by Friday November 22nd.** The finalist(s) selected may be asked to perform a live audition at Grand Valley State University on **Tuesday December 17th at 7:00pm. Each finalist MUST bring his or her own accompanist for this final audition.** The winner will be selected that evening at the conclusion of the live auditions. The winner must be available for a minimum of two, possibly three, Thursday evening rehearsals in January and February.

As a music educator, please consider personally inviting your best students to apply for this fantastic opportunity. The board of directors and conductor Barry Martin are very excited about providing this unique opportunity to showcase the talent of Michigan's youth!

Sincerely,

Krystal Lesky, Chair GRSB Youth Soloist Competition
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