



2026  NEW ORLEANS
INTERNATIONAL
GUITAR
Festival

Rules

The Elias Barreiro Young Artists Competition is open to classical guitarists of all ages and nationalities, as well as those at the beginning of their professional careers. Previous 1st prize winners are ineligible to participate. There is no registration fee.

PRIZES

- 1st Place – \$2,000
- 2nd Place – \$1,000
- 3rd Place – \$500
- Audience Award - \$500

First Round (Virtual):

- First-round video must include two (2) or more free choice works in contrasting styles and should not exceed the duration of 15 minutes.
- Excerpts of pieces are allowed.
- All music must be performed from memory.
- See below for submission information.

Semi-Final Round (In-person)

- Four competitors will be chosen for the Semi-Final Round.
- \$500 will be awarded to each competitor to help with travel expenses to New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Lodging will be provided from Wednesday, March 18 to Saturday, March 21. Any expenses such as meals, internal transportation, etc., will be at the competitor's expense.
- In-person round will be Thursday, March 19, so the four selected competitors must arrive in New Orleans by Wednesday, March 18.
- The semi-final round performance must include two or more free choice works in styles that shall include one piece from the Renaissance or Baroque period and should not exceed the duration of 25 minutes.
- Competitors may repeat works from the previous round without penalty BUT must include at least one work not included in the previous round.
- It is expected that every competitor's choice of music fits within the time. Time duration starts the moment the first note is played.
- All music must be performed from memory.

Final Round (In-person)

- The final round will take place on Friday, March 20 at 7pm.
- The final round performance must include two or more free choice works in contrasting styles and should not exceed the duration of 20 minutes.
- Competitors may repeat works from the previous rounds.
- It is expected that every competitor's choice of music fits within the time. Time duration starts the moment the first note is played.
- All music must be performed from memory.

FIRST-ROUND SUBMISSIONS

First, submit your completed application form to jolondo@tulane.edu
Then submit your first-round application video link to jolondo@tulane.edu

The first-round application video submitted must be a newly recorded, unedited live performance uploaded to a streaming service (YouTube unlisted preferred).

Video Title must follow this template:

2026 Elias Barreiro Young Artists Competition – Competitor's name

Your video must include the following information in the video description:

This is my application video for the 1st round of the 2026 Elias Barreiro Young Artists Competition.

Competitor's country of origin.

Name of Repertoire performed:

Piece 1. [time stamp 00:00 – piece title – composer]

Piece 2. [time stamp 00:00 – piece title – composer]

Etc.

Only fully completed forms with details will be accepted.

The **deadline** for first-round submissions is Monday, February 9, 2026, at 11:59 PM ET.
No late submissions will be accepted. No exceptions.

- Competitors moving onto the semi-final round will be notified no later than February 27, 2026.
- Competitors will be evaluated on their technique, musicianship, and overall presentation. Judges' comments will not be made available to competitors.
- Choice of music is entirely at the discretion of the competitor.
- Your entry constitutes your consent to any use of your submitted content and likeness in any and all media by the New Orleans International Guitar Festival and the Elias Barreiro Young Artists Competition.
- For competitors moving on to the semi-final round in New Orleans, you will be asked to sign a Liability Waiver form.

Per U.S. IRS regulations, prizes awarded to non-U.S. citizens may be subject to tax withholding, dependent upon the current tax treaty between the U.S. and the winner's country of citizenship. U.S. citizens who are awarded prizes will not have tax withheld and will receive an IRS Form 1099 from the NOIGF produced by Cervantes Foundation, at the end of the year if the total earnings are \$600 or more.

All judges' decisions are final.

