

# PROPIANO

## CARIBE

### COMPETITION RULES

#### CALL FOR AUDITIONS

PROPIANO CARIBE is a regional piano competition with the aim of promoting the talent and creativity of young people with a passion for the piano and promising careers, organized by the Embassy of the European Union in the Dominican Republic, in collaboration with Fundación Sinfonía. The competition will help foster cultural exchange in the Caribbean region and allow young musicians to demonstrate their talent in front of an international jury. The initiative is also supported by Transcultura, a regional project funded by the European Union, implemented by UNESCO, which promotes the professionalization of young people in the Caribbean in the cultural and creative sector as well as the creation of opportunities and access to new markets.

The ProPiano Award began in the Dominican Republic in 2022 as a national event, with the objective of promoting the study of the piano and encouraging its practice in young musicians. Since then, it has been held annually with the participation of dozens of young pianists in different categories.

Due to the success and enthusiasm provoked by the ProPiano Award in the Dominican Republic, ProPiano Caribe was born, whose first edition was held on March 13 and 14, 2024.

The second edition of PROPIANO CARIBE will be open to candidates from the following Caribbean countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Bonaire, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, French Guiana, Haiti, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, Saba, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Barthélemy, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

The president of the ProPiano Caribe jury will select three finalists through virtual auditions, who will be invited to travel to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic for the final round before a jury of international experts, as well as for the closing concert, on March 17 and 18, 2025.

#### REGISTRATION

Young piano students and pianists aged 18 to 26, born between March 18, 1998, and March 18, 2007 in the Caribbean countries mentioned above, may participate.

Interested parties must complete the **participation request form** on the website [www.propiano.do/caribe](http://www.propiano.do/caribe), attaching the following documents:

- i. Scanned copy of Personal Identification Document, Passport or Birth Certification.
- ii. A video interpreting three of the works in the repertoire chosen for the competition: The baroque work, the first movement of a classical sonata (sonata-allegro form) and the virtuosity étude.

#### Recording Requirements

1. The recording space should comply with the following:
  - a. with no ambient noise, with good lighting and if possible, single-color background, preferably a light color.
  - b. Semi-formal attire.

## 2. Technical requirements:

- a. Place the telephone or camera on a stable surface.
- b. Record on **horizontal** format.
- c. Position the camera on the right-hand profile of the participant.
- d. The video must show the following:
  - i. Participant's technique and execution of the instrument.
  - ii. Clear visual of the keyboard, hands and feet for pedal handling.
- e. Please use an acoustic piano, as far as possible.
- f. At the beginning of the video, the applicant shall state:
  - i. name,
  - ii. age,
  - iii. place of birth.
- g. The video must be posted on YouTube and share the corresponding link in the participation request form.

Works must be recorded without editing, from start to finish.

**The request to participate is free of charge.** The call for applications will be open until Friday, January 31, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. (Dominican Republic time). Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. No exceptions will be made.

### **SELECTION OF FINALISTS**

On Tuesday, February 4, 2025, the selection of the three finalists will be announced by e-mail. The costs for air ticket<sup>1</sup>, lodging and travel expenses will be covered by the organization of ProPiano Caribe 2025.

Finalists must reply by accepting the invitation within three days of the notification email. If a finalist is unable to attend will not be considered to receive the award. In this case, the president of the jury will choose another finalist for replacement.

### **CONTEST**

The competition will be held on March 17 and 18, 2025, at the Máximo Avilés Blonda Hall of the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Each finalist will perform the following repertoire for the jury, selected in accordance with the guidelines of ProPiano Caribe.

### **REPERTOIRE**

A work by J. S. Bach to choose between *Preludes and Fugues*, *Suites*, *Toccatas*, *Partitas* (only two of the main dances, if you submit a *Suite* or *Partita*).

The first movement of a sonata from the classical period (sonata-allegro form).

A virtuoso étude (Chopin, Liszt, Rachmaninov, or similar).

A free work.

A work by Maestro José Antonio Molina, member of the jury, which will be sent to the finalists on Tuesday, February 5, 2025, along with their invitation to participate in the competition.

The total length of the repertoire should be between 25 minutes minimum and 30 minutes maximum.

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<sup>1</sup> With a maximum of EUR 1000 per economy class ticket

## **AWARDS CEREMONY**

The award ceremony will take place on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at the Máximo Avilés Blonda Hall of the Palace of Fine Arts, followed by a closing recital by the winner and the 2025 ProPiano Caribe finalists.

## **AWARD**

A single at of EUR 1,500 will be awarded to the winner of ProPiano Caribe 2025.

## **JURY**

The prizes will be awarded by an expert jury composed of:

- **Dmytro Choni**, president of the jury

Multi-awarded Ukrainian pianist. Bronze winner at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in June 2022 and First Prize and Gold Medal Winner at the Paloma O'Shea International Piano Competition in Santander (2019). He won hearts and accolades with a compelling, colorful musicality that is strengthened by a genuine and immediately captivating stage presence.

- **José Antonio Molina**

José Antonio Molina is a prominent Dominican musician, composer and orchestra conductor. He is recognized for his great contribution to classical music and his ability to combine elements of traditional Dominican music with symphonic music. Molina has conducted major orchestras around the world and is especially known for his work as chief conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra of the Dominican Republic. His career has been fundamental in the development and projection of Dominican music at a global level.

## **TIMETABLE**

**Friday, January 31, 2025** - Final date to submit the participation request form together with video and documents.

**Tuesday, February 4, 2025** – Selection letters will be sent to the finalists selected by the President of the Jury, Dmytro Choni.

**Monday, March 17, 2025** - Competition in the Máximo Avilés Blonda Hall of the Palace of Fine Arts.

**Tuesday, March 18, 2025** - Ceremony of awards and closing concert at the Máximo Avilés Blonda Hall of the Palace of Fine Arts.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- By submitting the participation request form, the candidate accepts the rules and conditions laid down by the organizers of the 2025 ProPiano Caribe Award.
- Applications not accompanied by the required documentation or those submitted after the announced deadline will not be considered.
- The winners of the 2025 ProPiano Caribe Award will not be eligible to compete in subsequent editions.

- Candidates will have the opportunity to rehearse on the competition piano, according to the timetable agreed with the general coordination of 2025 ProPiano Caribe.
- The expert jury reserves the right to hear all or part of each participant and its decision shall be unappealable. It shall also have the power to disqualify any candidate who exhibits improper behavior.
- Any member of the jury who has a family, teaching or professional relationship with a participant must disclose this relationship in advance and abstain from voting that participant.
- The prize for the Competition will be indivisible, so the jury will choose only one winner of ProPiano Caribe 2025.
- The organizers of the 2025 ProPiano Caribe Award reserve the right to authorize the recording and retransmission of the competition events, without the contestants being able to claim any fee or veto them.
- The organizers of the 2025 ProPiano Caribe Award shall resolve any situation not covered by these rules.

For inquiries, please contact us [propiano@sinfonia.org.do](mailto:propiano@sinfonia.org.do)