

Lions of Virginia Bland Music Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
REGISTRATION AND RULES OF THE COMPETITION
FOR VOCALIST OR INSTRUMENTALIST

The Annual Bland Music Scholarship Program was established in 1948 to assist and promote cultural and educational opportunities for the musically talented youth of Virginia. The program consists of elimination contests starting at club level and continuing through "State Final Contest" and is administered by the following rules.

1. Any student, vocalist or instrumentalist, of elementary, middle or senior high school age, or home schooled, must be properly sponsored by a Virginia Lions Club. Any student who resides in or attends school in Virginia (or within a club's jurisdiction) is eligible to participate.

2. **Contestants**

a. Are allowed to enter only one club contest annually and may participate in either the vocal or instrumental division but not both. Students who enter more than one contest may be banned from future participation.

b. **Shall render one composition and are allowed eight (8) minutes to present it.** In order to keep within the 8-minute time limit, contestant may eliminate part of his or her composition. The part shall be marked on the score for the information of the judges. A one-point penalty (per judge) for every five seconds exceeding the eight-minute limit, with a grace period for the first five seconds, will be assessed at the state level. The point penalty may be enforced at the district, zone/region, or club level at the discretion of the Competition Bland Chair. In case of a tie, the judges shall determine a winner.

c. Must memorize his or her composition.

d. Shall furnish the required number of parts of his or her composition as defined by the club, zone/region, district and state chair.

e. Lions of Virginia shall provide no instrument for contestant other than a piano. Instrumentalists other than pianists, and vocalists, must have an accompanist, if dictated by the composition. **Accompaniment must be provided with musical instruments played by live performers, other than the contestants themselves.**

f. All contestants must compete on the date and at the place and time of the scheduled club, zone/region, district or state contest.

3. **Judges**

a. Judges for the competition shall be competent teachers or performers of music not connected with the contestant or the sponsoring club.

b. When appropriate, there should be 2 judges for each division of music (vocal and instrumental). **Two judges for each division are required at the District and State levels.**

c. Shall score the contestant on his or her musical ability.

d. Score sheets shall be given to the contestant after the contest.

4. **Awards shall be furnished by the State Bland Foundation Committee as follows:**

a. Official certificates (1st and 2nd places, and participation) at the club, zone/region, district and state levels.

b. State Scholarships for BOTH Vocal and Instrumental WINNERS are:

▪ First Place SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,000 each
▪ Second Place SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,500 each
▪ Third Place SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,000 each
▪ Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Place SCHOLARSHIPS	\$1,500 each

c. Scholarships are not transferable, and those not claimed within five (5) years of the date of State Competition will be forfeited.

d. State first place winners are NOT eligible to compete again.

e. Scholarships are not transferable and are payable only to a college or school of music, summer music program or to a private or public music teacher. Requests for payment to a college or school must be accompanied by the winner's course curriculum, which must include a music course, and a statement from the school indicating an outstanding balance of at least the payment amount being requested. Requests for payment to private and public teachers must include a signed statement for lessons given the student, showing the dates, the number of lesson hours, and fee per hour. **Scholarships cannot be used for expenses incurred prior to the competition date.**

The contest will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 15, 2026, at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA. Complete the registration form and mail no later than January 31 to:

Jeff Root
13220 Ormond Drive
Bristow, VA 20136-3513

Email: JNRoot@aol.com
Cell (703)-508-1876

Participation will be limited to the first 15 registrations.

PLEASE PRINT

Lions of Virginia Bland Music Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
REGISTRATION FORM FOR VOCALIST OR INSTRUMENTALIST

Please enter me in the competition to be held on Sunday, February 15, 2026, at 2:00 P.M.
at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax.

Contestant's Name _____

(First, Middle, Last)

Parent or Guardian _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Grade _____

School _____ Email _____

Type of Instrument _____ Type of Voice _____

Composition _____

Composer _____

Accompanist _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Music Teacher _____ Phone _____ Email _____

I give permission to be photographed at the competition for publicity purposes: YES NO (circle one).

I have read and I accept the rules and regulations of the competition:

(Signature of Contestant, or if under 18, Parent's Signature)

(Date signed)