



2025 ISB Double Bass Competition

To be held on the Florida State University campus
Tallahassee, Florida USA

Youth Jazz Division – Mike Forfia, Chair

Monday, June 2, 2025

Winners announced evening of June 3, 2025 in a ceremony preceding evening concerts

PRIZES:

- First Prize \$2500
- Second place \$750
- Third place \$500

ELIGIBILITY:

- The competition is open to bassists who are aged at least 15 and have not yet reached the age of 19 or started college on the day of the competition. (June 2, 2025)
- Applicants must be current ISB members at the time of online application for the competition. If you are not a current member you can join at <https://www.isbworldoffice.com/join.asp>. If you are unable to join with a credit card, contact office@isbworldoffice.com for instructions.
- Must not have previously won first prize in the Youth Jazz Division. Previous first place winners of the Youth Jazz Division who have not reached age 18 by the next competition may compete in the age 18-30 Jazz Division.

DEADLINE:

Must submit online application by 11:59 PM Central Time, January 17, 2025 for the Preliminary Round.

DRESS CODE:

Formal attire is not required. Candidates should dress neatly (appropriate for a masterclass setting) and comfortably.

PRELIMINARY ROUND RULES:

Preliminary Round repertoire

- Required Piece, choose 1:
“Tricotism” by Oscar Pettiford
or

“Whims of Chambers” by Paul Chambers

or

“What’s New” by Bob Haggart

- Medium tempo American Popular Song Standard
- Blues (Medium or up-tempo)
- Standard Ballad
- Straight-eighths, Brazilian, Afro-Cuban, or Afro-Caribbean Standard

Applicants for the Youth Jazz Division are required to submit required preliminary round high quality digital recordings using the Acceptd platform. Entry fee is \$60:

- A separate audio file (no video) for each preliminary round piece, identified by the name of the piece and not including the competitor's name
- Each individual track must be recorded in a single take, with no edits or digital processing
- MP3 files are preferred, MP4 or .WAV files accepted.
- Either "live" or "studio" recordings are acceptable
- Combined total time for all selections is limited to a maximum of 25 minutes.
- Accompaniment is at the discretion of the applicant, and may include virtual accompaniment for equity considerations.
- Applicants will be asked to submit a list of their preliminary round repertoire and also a resume with the online application that includes a chronological list of all private teachers, education, & honors and awards.
- The primary objective of the competition is for the performer to demonstrate musicianship through their functional role in the jazz idiom and artistry as an accompanist and soloist.
- Demonstration of arco playing is encouraged but not required. Submissions will be assessed for quality of performance, musicality, virtuosity, sensitivity, and creativity.

FINAL ROUND RULES:

- Applicants advancing to the in-person Final Round will be notified by **February 17, 2025**.
- The performance order for finalists will be determined randomly. **Contestants will be notified of their performance order by May 2, 2025.**
- All finalists will be provided with a professional pianist and drummer, and will have a 45-minute rehearsal before their final round performance
- A maximum of four finalists will rehearse on Monday, June 2, at the Florida State University campus between 9 AM and 1 PM. Final round judging will take place that afternoon, June 2, between 2 PM and 5 PM.
 - Finalists should prepare four selections, one each from the categories in the preliminary round repertoire, for the 30-minute final round performance. The jury reserves the right to stop performers, without penalty, in order to hear all required categories. Repartee within the trio, quality of the program, and stage decorum will be assessed.
 - Finalists must provide a digital copy of all lead sheets for their five selections, either with their application or immediately after notification that they have been named a finalist.
 - Finalists will be offered a discounted registration rate to attend the 2025 ISB convention that follows the competition, June 2-7, 2025 at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA.