2024 OFFICIAL BEARDSLEY PIANO PRIZE COMPETITION RULES:

1. The Robert B. Beardsley Piano Prize Competition is open to all. There are no age or citizenship restrictions.
2. All entrants must submit a completed registration form via www.Ruthmere.org, and a video audition showcasing two or more contrasting styles or time periods. All pieces must be for solo piano only—no orchestral accompaniment. YouTube videos are preferred.
3. Entrants may submit two or more videos *totaling* approximately 8-15 minutes. Longer videos are acceptable, but may not be viewed in their entirety. Multiple videos may be combined under a single link, but this is not required.
4. Videos must be submitted via email to [mdoddington@ruthmere.org](mailto:mdoddington@ruthmere.org). Video links will be passed on to the judges after August 23, 2024. Judges will select up to 6 finalists.
5. Deadline for entries is 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, August 23, 2024.
6. All entries must be accompanied by a non-refundable $25.00 entry fee payable via the Ruthmere website.
7. All chosen finalists must give an in-person performance of 15-20 minutes on Saturday, September 21, 2024. Selection(s) performed may vary from audition video(s).
8. All finalists will receive a travel stipend of $100.00 immediately after the competition.
9. Ruthmere will provide lodging for all finalists for the night of Friday, September 20, 2024, at the Elkhart Travelodge, 115 Northpointe Blvd., Elkhart, Indiana 46514. Lodging is courtesy of Ruthmere and need not be repaid.
10. Ruthmere’s Concert Coordinator, Mark Doddington, will meet with finalists on the evening of Friday, September 20, 2024, at 8:00 pm at the Travelodge. All finalists are requested to arrive in Elkhart on Friday, September 20, 2024, in order to draw numbers for playing order. Anyone unable to attend this meeting will have a number drawn for them. These numbers are binding.
11. Finalists are responsible for all travel expenses (except lodging in Elkhart) beyond the $100 stipend.
12. Rehearsal facilities will be provided the morning of the competition at the First Presbyterian Church next to Ruthmere. Each finalist will have one hour before their scheduled performance.
13. First-place winner will perform a one-hour concert at Ruthmere’s Fall Concert Series opening night, October 17, 2024. A contract will be sent to the winner, and must be signed and returned to Ruthmere on or before October 17, 2024. Winner should play the same selection(s) as in the Finals round, plus additional material of the winner’s choice.
14. Winner will be required to fill out a W-9 form in order to receive $1,000.00 prize. Prize will be issued in the form of a check on the night of Thursday, October 17, 2024.
15. Second- and third-place prizes of $300 and $200, respectively, will be awarded in addition to the travel stipend. Checks will be mailed to the second- and third-place winners shortly after the competition. Winners and finalists will be responsible for any and all taxes on their winnings.
16. Ruthmere employees, contest judges, and their families are prohibited from entering.
17. Former First-Prize winners are prohibited from entering. Former Second- and Third-Prize winners are eligible.
18. Performances will be judged by a panel of three qualified judges, all Doctors of Music. Judges’ decisions are final.
19. For questions regarding any aspect of the competition, please contact Mark Doddington at [mdoddington@ruthmere.org](mailto:mdoddington@ruthmere.org) or (574) 264-0330, ext. 107.