

# COMPETITION —Repertoire—

## ELLIS COMPETITION FOR DUO PIANISTS

PRELIMINARY: (on a high-quality, unedited video recording) and FINAL: (live)

- A work written by an American composer OR Tableau by Benjamin Lees (Commissioned by NFMCC)
- A minimum of three additional works of contrasting styles and periods. Single movements of larger works are acceptable. One piece must be for one piano, four hands.
- A complete concerto of the contestant's choice.
- All works should be written originally for one or two pianos; or, they must be transcribed by the composer.
- All repertoire must be memorized with the exception of the work written by an American composer.

No changes in repertoire between Preliminary and Final will be allowed.

SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS BY FEBRUARY 1, 2025:

- Completed application form
- Entrance fee of \$50.00 per team
- Statement that the entrants are not now and have never been under professional management as a team
- A professional quality recording
- A cover page including title, composer, and timing of each movement of all pieces recorded
- Copy of birth certificate or naturalization papers

NFMCC PRESENTS



# ELLIS COMPETITION —for— DUO PIANISTS

## AWARDS

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE: \$20,000 (duo team)

2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$5,000 (duo team)

ABILD AMERICAN MUSIC AWARD: \$1,000  
(for the best performance of American music)



## NATIONAL FEDERATION of MUSIC CLUBS

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RECTOR-HONG PIANO DUO  
SYLVIA HONG &  
MICHAEL RECTOR

2021 Ellis Duo  
Piano Winners

# COMPETITION —Procedures—

## PRELIMINARY

- Preliminary judging will be by video recording submitted to the NFMF website.
- Complete application must be submitted by February 1, 2025.
- Age limits: 18 through 38. Entrants must have reached their 18th birthday not their 39th by March 31, 2025.
- There must be no verbal identification of the team on the submitted recording.
- All entrants will receive official notification of results of the preliminary judging by March 1, 2025.

## FINAL

- Final auditions will be held live on March 29, 2025 at Converse University, South Carolina.
- Pianos will be available for rehearsal before the competition.
- Finalists may provide their own orchestral collaborator for the concerto; or, upon request, a professional collaborator will be provided at entrant's expense.
- Contestants not bringing their collaborator for the concerto must send a piano reduction of the orchestral part for a third piano to Naomi Sanchez, Ellis chair, upon acceptance in the finals.
- Winners will be announced at the close of the competition.
- Decisions of the judges will be final.
- The 2025 winning Duo Team will be invited to perform in concert at the 2025 NFMF Biennial Convention June, 2025 in Austin, Texas
- NFMF will serve as the promotional agent in securing concerts for the Ellis winners following the competition.



Naomi Sanchez, Chairman  
NFMF Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists  
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San Francisco, CA 94117  
naomi11sanchez@gmail.com

# COMPETITION —Application—

ENTRY  
DEADLINE:  
February 1,  
2025

## APPLICATION

Each entrant must submit the application available online at [nfmf-music.org/applicant-file-upload](http://nfmf-music.org/applicant-file-upload). The complete application will include the performance uploaded to the website.

All awards are at the discretion of judges and the Ellis Competition Committee.

Preliminary will be held by recorded performance, uploaded to the NFMF website.

The recording must clearly show that all repertoire is performed from memory.

Final will be held live. The winners will be invited to perform in concert at the 2025 NFMF Biennial Convention.



2021 Ellis Duo Winners Hong/Rector Duo: Sylvia Hong & Michael Rector