

Dear Guitarists, Enthusiasts, and Friends,

The LASP 11th Classical Guitar Festival & Youth Competition is going live again this year. As you know, the personal touch of being face to face with a master teacher, or playing your competition piece for a panel of judges in person is a formative and wonderful experience for young musicians.

The festival will once again take place all on the same day: **Saturday, February 3rd, 2024**, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year we will feature: Master classes with 4 wonderful performers; a Mariachi style workshop that will include a performance experience in that genre; a career conversation and mini concert with professional Vietnamese guitarists Professor An Tran, from Roosevelt University in Chicago and renowned Mexican Guitarist, Ivan Resendiz. The day will also include the competition and the grand finale concert featuring Spanish guitarist Andrea Gonzalez..

The 2024 LASP Classical Guitar Youth Competition intends to provide young musicians ages 8-18 with an opportunity to exhibit their talent and reward their hard work, as well as to encourage them to appreciate music from different cultural origins. We wish to encourage new generations of young guitarists to:

- Explore and discover the pleasures of playing classical guitar
- Experience a regional competition at a youth level
- Play for world class judges
- Have an experience of performing as part of a guitar orchestra
- Share the stage with renowned world class guitarists
- Connect with our guest artists through master classes
- Enjoy workshops and other activities with other young guitarists.

A panel of local and international classical guitarists will select one winner from each level, Intermediate and Advanced. The winners of the competition will perform with our guest artists during the Guitar Festival Concert. They will also receive cash and other prizes donated by our sponsors. For more details, see the attached guidelines and judging procedures form.

All youth competitors will have access to all parts of the 2024 LASP Guitar Festival including entry into the Youth Competition, Master Class with guest artists, workshops, and entrance to the Guitar Festival Concert for only \$35.

Anyone interested in observing the Master Class and the Workshops will get a unique chance to experience the festival by reserving their spot in advance for only \$15.

To register for the Youth Competition and to RSVP for a Master Class, please visit http://www.latinoartsinc.org/strings-program/annual-guitar-festival-and-competition/. Registration closes January 20, 2024; do not miss your chance for this unique opportunity!

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Dinorah Márquez Abadiano Latino Arts Strings Program Director Jone Ruiz Guitar Festival Coordinator