Dear Guitarists, Enthusiasts, and Friends,

We would like to invite you to the **LASP 14th Classical Guitar Festival & Youth Competition.** It will be a wonderful day of competition, workshops, master classes and an evening concert. 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 take place on: **Saturday, February 20th, 2027**, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year we will feature: Master classes with 4 wonderful performers, including our guest soloist. Participants will also receive workshops in topics related to guitar performance, history and practice. The day will include the competition and the grand finale concert featuring Polish guitarist Kasia Smolarek.

The 2027 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 2027 LASP Guitar Festival including entry into the Youth Competition, Master Class with guest artists, workshops, and entrance to the Guitar Festival Concert for only $40.

Anyone not participating in the competition who is 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 $20.

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 February 1, 2027. Do not miss this unique opportunity!

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Dinorah Márquez Abadiano
Latino Arts Strings Program Director

Jone Ruiz
Guitar Festival Coordinator