



NEW 2026 All-Around Championship Rules & Regulations

\$500 Cash Prizes Given

125th Anniversary Special Edition

The All-Around Championship is the premier individual award of the American Guild of Music, honoring the most versatile and dedicated musicians. During the 125th contest year, the accumulation of points will include eligible events for any Online Contest, Regional Contest and National Contest taking place during the 125th anniversary year (2026). More points = more chances to win! **Please note: To celebrate our 125th Anniversary, specific enhancements regarding prize money and scoring have been implemented exclusively for the 2026 season.**

I. Eligibility & Attendance

- **Exclusivity:** The All-Around title is exclusive to the American Guild of Music National Convention & Contest.
- **National Attendance:** To remain eligible for the title and the anniversary prize, contestants must be registered and present at the **2026 National Contest**.
- **Instrument Minimums:** A champion will be declared for each instrument where there is a minimum of **20 students or 10% of the total contest enrollment** participating in solo divisions for that instrument.

II. The "Triple-Threat" Qualification

To qualify for the All-Around competition, a student must demonstrate proficiency across three distinct pillars:

1. **Solo Performance:** Entry into one or more solo performance events.
2. **Group Performance:** Entry into one or more group performance events (includes duets/ensembles).
3. **Non-Performance:** Entry into one or more non-performance events (e.g., Theory, Sight-reading, or Cadet Clinic).

III. Scoring & Seasonal Integration

The All-Around winner is the student with the highest cumulative points on their instrument.

- **[125th ANNIVERSARY UPDATE — EXCLUSIVE TO 2026] Regional & Online Integration:** For this season only, points earned at Regional and Online Events will factor into your final National All-Around total. This allows a season-long accumulation of points leading into the National Contest.
- **Point Strategy:** Entering more categories increases the chance of winning. Refer to the official Syllabus for the detailed point table.

IV. Event Categories & Limits

To ensure fair play, the following regulations apply to scoring:

- **Solo Performance:** Points are awarded for all solo events, **excluding** NAIC/NAOCC qualifications, NAIC/NAOCC finals, and Age finals.
- **Group Performance:** * Up to **two** Duet/Duo entries and up to **two** Ensemble/Group entries (including Piano Quartet/Trio) count toward the total.
 - Battle of the Bands, Show Band, Show Choir, and Pop Combo qualify as group entries.
 - Participation in the **Convention Orchestra** and/or **Convention Choir** provides additional group performance points.
- **Non-Performance:** Points are awarded for the Sight-reading test, Theory test, and either the Cadet Teachers Clinic or the Student Essay (not both).
- **Score Capping:** If a student exceeds the allowed number of entries in a specific category, only the **two highest scores** will be used for the All-Around calculation.

V. Tie-Breaker Protocols

In the event of a point tie, the following hierarchy will determine the winner:

1. **Primary:** The student with the most 1st place wins in eligible solo competitive events.
2. **Secondary:** The most 2nd place wins, followed by 3rd place wins.
3. **Tertiary:** The highest score on the student's highest-level Theory Test taken at the 2026 contest.
4. **Final:** If a tie still persists, a joint tie will be declared.

VI. Awards & Prizes

- **[125th ANNIVERSARY UPDATE — EXCLUSIVE TO 2026] \$500 Cash Prize:** In honor of our milestone 125th year, the standard cash award has been increased to **\$500** for All-Around Champions. This increased purse is a one-time celebration of our 125th anniversary.
- **Trophy:** All-Around Champions will also receive a commemorative 125th Anniversary trophy.