



# Penfield Symphony Orchestra's Jo Amish Young Artist Competition Raymond Santirocco Memorial Piano Award

Open to Instrumentalists and Pianists in Grades 11 & 12



## Jo Amish

Jo Amish enjoyed a lifelong love of music. She was a strong supporter of the Penfield Symphony Orchestra, where she served as principal second violinist for more than thirty years. She believed strongly in the importance of promoting the arts to youth.

During Jo's final years, her five children decided to honor their mother through a contribution to the PSO by underwriting the Young Artist Award. The award was subsequently renamed in her honor. Jo was deeply touched by this and took great pride in presenting the award while her health permitted. Her love of music and generosity of spirit live on through the award and through her children and grandchildren.



## Raymond Santirocco

Raymond Santirocco served as Dean and Associate Provost during his tenure at Rochester Institute of Technology. At the same time, he served eight years on the Penfield Town Board.

He was an accomplished pianist, and music was his constant love. During his many careers, Santirocco served on the boards of United Way, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Penfield Symphony Orchestra, and Genesee Early Music Society, as well as the Penfield Library, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Crime Stoppers, Society for Total Emergency Preparedness (STEP), Manufacturing Partnership, Prevention Partners, and Project Unique.

## Jo Amish Competition Prizes

**First Place - \$400** and an appearance as soloist with the PSO on May 4, 2026

**Second Place - \$300**

**Third Place - \$200**

Application is on the following page

## Audition Requirements

- Contestants are expected to perform either the first or third movement of a concerto or a composition for solo instrument and orchestra.
- Memorization of audition material is recommended but not required.
- Piano accompaniment is required for all contestants. All applicants are to provide their own accompanist. Please abbreviate long tutti passages in the accompaniment.
- Each audition will last a maximum of ten minutes. Contestants may be interrupted at the discretion of the judges.
- A non-refundable fee of \$20 must accompany each application. Checks should be made out to Penfield Symphony Orchestra.

Note on repertoire selection: Due to time and cost constraints, orchestral parts must be available from a publisher or rental agency in the USA. If you need help in verifying this, please contact the PSO office. *Performance must be of the auditioned material.*

## Eligibility

Each year the Penfield Symphony Orchestra holds auditions for the Jo Amish Young Artist Competition. It is open to students in grades 11 and 12 who live in Genesee, Orleans, Livingston, Seneca, Monroe, Wayne, Ontario, Wyoming, or Yates County. Eligible instruments are strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, harp, guitar, and piano.

## Raymond Santirocco Memorial Piano Award

If any of the winners play the piano, they will also receive the Raymond A. Santirocco Memorial Piano Award. This award was established by the late Berthe Santirocco to honor her husband, who was a pianist and a former member of the Penfield Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors. This additional cash award is \$100.



**Penfield Symphony's**  
**Jo Amish Young Artist Competition**  
**Raymond Santirocco Memorial Piano Award**  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
Repertoire to be performed \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
High school music teacher — print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
High school music teacher signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
High School music teacher —email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Private music teacher — print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Private music teacher signature and email

\_\_\_\_\_  
High School music teacher —email

The signatures below give the PSO permission to use your photo and biography in press releases and other publicity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

Additional application forms can be found on our website:

**Applications Are Due**

**January 9, 2026**

The schedule will be sent out no later than January 13th.

**Auditions Will Be Held On**

**Saturday, February 7, 2026**

Auditions will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until all students have been heard.

Please reserve the morning.

**Winner Will Perform On**

**Monday, May 4, 2026**

Winners Will Be Required to submit a

high res. photo and bio by March 1, 2026

Photo must be at least 300 dpi and 5" x 8" or larger.

**Please send completed application with a non-refundable application fee of \$20 to:**

**Penfield Symphony Orchestra**

**1587 Jackson Road**

**Penfield, New York 14526**

[www.PenfieldSymphony.org](http://www.PenfieldSymphony.org)

**Questions [YAC@PenfieldSymphony.org](mailto:YAC@PenfieldSymphony.org)**