

Lifestyle

Herbie Hancock Jazz Institute Semifinalists Announced

Competition Dec. 2-3 in D.C.

WI Web Staff
11/25/ 2019



Courtesy of hancockinstitute.org

Twelve young jazz guitarists from around the world will compete Dec. 2-3 in the 2019 Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz International Guitar Competition to be held in D.C.

The semifinalists include Cecil Alexander of Muskegon, Michigan; Joseph Bell of Princeton, New Jersey; Will Brahm of Portland, Oregon; François Chanvallon of Paris; Lucian Gray of Toronto; Max Light of Bethesda, Maryland; Armen Movsesyan of Los Angeles; Evgeny Poboziy of Seversk, Russia; Matt Sewell of St. Louis; Juan Vidaurre of Caracas, Venezuela; Tal Yahalom of Jerusalem; and Francesco Zampini of Rome.

The aspiring musicians will perform for 15 minutes in the semifinals round before an all-star judging panel from noon to 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 2 at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian.

The judges will select three finalists to perform in the Competition Finals on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Northwest.

At stake will be more than \$150,000 in scholarships and prizes, including a \$30,000 first-place scholarship and guaranteed recording contract with Concord Music Group.

The evening will culminate with an All-Star Gala Concert featuring performances by Herbie Hancock, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Bobby Watson, Musical Director John Beasley and others.

Proceeds from the competition and All-Star Gala Concert will support the Institute's public schools' education programs in D.C., Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, Newark, San Francisco and the Mississippi Delta.