



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER CHURCH MUSIC MINISTRY ST. ROMANOS VIRTUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL



## PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES ♦ 2026

### EVENT OVERVIEW

We are excited to launch our first *St. Romanos Music Festival*, a new program initiated by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians and approved by the Holy Eparchial Synod to be implemented throughout our Archdiocese! Modeled after the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, this opportunity invites our young people to deepen their knowledge of our Church's sacred hymns and to prepare for the next generation of Church Musicians!

#### **JUNIOR DIVISION**

Grades 7–9

**MAY 2, 2026**

10:00 AM • Mountain Time (MT)

11:00 AM • Central Time (CT)

Registration Deadline: April 26

#### **SENIOR DIVISION**

Grades 10–12

**MAY 9, 2026**

10:00 AM • Mountain Time (MT)

11:00 AM • Central Time (CT)

Registration Deadline: May 3

### ELIGIBILITY

Each participant must be a member in good standing of a Greek Orthodox Parish in the Metropolis of Denver.

### COMPETITION FORMAT

- Each participant will select **one hymn from the designated list** to perform for the competition.
- Hymns may be sung in **Greek or English**.
- **All modes/tones are acceptable** unless otherwise specified.
- Participants may use **either Western or Byzantine notation**.
- All performances must be sung as a **soloist, a cappella, without instrumental accompaniment**.
- The 2026 performances will be conducted **virtually via video conferencing and evaluated by a panel of judges**.

### HYMN LIST

Hymnography Selections		
Άξιον εστιν	Axion estin	It is Truly Right
Άγιος, Άγιος, Άγιος	Agios, Agios, Agios	Holy, Holy, Holy
Σε υμνούμεν	Se Imnoumen	We Praise You
Σώμα Χριστού	Soma Hristou	Receive the Body of Christ
Ο Άγγελος εβόα...Φωτίζου, φωτίζου	O Angelos evoa...Fotizou, fotizou	The Angel Cried...Shine, Shine
Τη υπερμάχω	Ti Ipermaho	To You, Champion Leader
Την ωραιότητα της παρθενίας σου	Tin Oraiotita Tis Parthenias Sou	The Beauty of Your Virginity
One of the 8 Resurrectional Apolytikia		
Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος	Tou lithou sfragisthentos	Although the Stone was Sealed
Ότε κατήλθες	Ote katilthes	When You Descended
Ευφραινέσθω τα ουράνια	Efrenestho ta ourania	Let the Heavens Rejoice
Το φαιδρόν	To fethron	The Women Disciples
Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον	Ton sinanarhon Logon	Let us the Faithful
Άγγελικαί δυνάμεις	Angelikai Thinamis	Angelic Powers Appeared
Κατέλυσας τώ Σταυρώ σου	Katelisas to Stavro sou	By Your Cross
Εξ ύψους κατήλθες	Ex ipsous katilthes	From on High

**Possible sources of music:**

<https://dcs.goarch.org/goa/dcs/dcs.html>

<https://stanthonysmonastery.org/pages/the-divine-music-project>



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## HYMN SUBMISSION

- Participants must submit **one clean and legible copy** of the hymn they will perform.
- The **phrases or measures must be numbered**.
- The music **must not contain any identifying information**, including the participant's name, home parish, priest, or teacher.

## PERFORMANCE FORMAT

- All hymns will be performed ***a cappella* (without accompaniment)**.
- Participants **do not need to memorize** their selected hymn. A music stand may be used.
- A **tuning fork, pitch pipe, or another instrument** may be used **only to establish the starting pitch** before singing.

## ATTIRE

Participants should wear **proper church attire**.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE HYMN

Before beginning the performance, participants should briefly introduce their hymn. This introduction should be approximately one minute and include the following information:

- **Title of the hymn**
- **Theology or theme expressed in the hymn**
- **Hymn category (e.g., Apolytikion, Kontakion, Megalynarion, etc.) and when the hymn is sung liturgically**
- **Your reason for choosing this hymn**
- **The composer and/or arranger including the date or historical period of composition**

If any of this information is unknown, the participant should simply state that it is unknown.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Participants will be evaluated based on the following musical and performance elements:

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ✓ Pitch accuracy and Intonation | ✓ Diction and Enunciation         |
| ✓ Rhythmic Accuracy             | ✓ Poise and Posture               |
| ✓ Breath Support                | ✓ Interpretation and Musicianship |
| ✓ Tone Quality                  |                                   |

## AWARDS & ADVANCEMENT TO THE ARCHDIOCESAN LEVEL

The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place participants will receive a music scholarship, per division.

The **winner from each division** will be invited to attend and participate in the **Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Convention** in Cleveland, Ohio (June 29 – July 2, 2026). **Winners must be accompanied by an adult.**

## MEDIA RELEASE

Participants grant permission for **their photographs and/or recordings of their performances** to be used for **promotional and educational materials**.

## QUESTIONS

Contact the Denver Metropolis Music Ministry and reference the *St. Romanos Music Festival*:

[DenverMetropolisMusicMinistry@gmail.com](mailto:DenverMetropolisMusicMinistry@gmail.com)



[www.denver.churchmusic.goarch.org/resources/stromanos-festival](http://www.denver.churchmusic.goarch.org/resources/stromanos-festival)