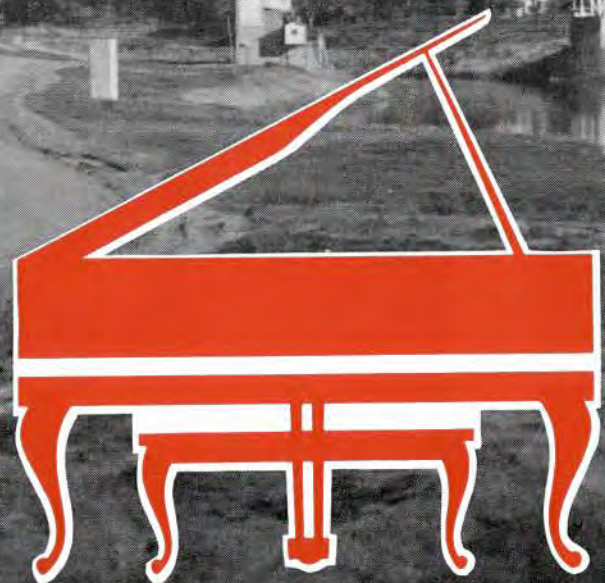


Fort Worth

DECEMBER 1961



THE VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION QUADRENNIALLY AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS 24 SEPTEMBER 1962

Fort Worth - - Music Capital

Piano Artists of the World Prepare for City's 1962 Van Cliburn Competition

The eyes of the music world will be on Fort Worth in 1962.

In every corner of the globe, talented young pianists eager for fame and fortune are making plans for the Van Cliburn International Competition.

The fabulous contest, to be held on the TCU campus in September, will make Fort Worth an internationally-known music capital.

A small fortune is at stake. First prize is \$10,000. The next five prizes total \$11,750.

That alone is enough to attract hundreds of pianists between the ages of 17 to 28 to compete in the greatest piano competition ever assembled.

But with the fat purses will go fame. The winners will be launched on careers that may equal those of Van Cliburn, the young Texas genius in whose honor the competition is named.

Seven symphony orchestras already have agreed to present the first prize winner in concert. The winner also is assured of professional concert management.

So impressive are the prizes and the scope of the contest that the United States government is telling the world about it.

The U. S. Information Agency is circulating the official announcements and other information about the Fort Worth event to every country on the globe.

Pianists from 17 to 28—the eligible ages—are expected from far and near.

In Mexico, a nationwide contest is being held to choose a national contestant. The talented youngsters will compete at Mexico City's Institute Nacional de Belles Artes in April. The winner will be sent to Fort Worth at Mexican government expense and will represent his nation at the keyboard.

A similar contest also will be held at the University of Madras in India, according to P. Sambamoorthy, chief of the Indian Music Department.

The competition will bring to life a long-held dream of Dr. Irl Allison, founder and president of the National Guild of Piano Players.

International contest chairman is Mrs. Grace Ward Lankford, co-founder and president of the Fort Worth Piano Teachers Forum.

To administer the enormous work of staging a competition vast enough to attract the world's top young pianists, the Fort Worth Piano Teach-



VAN CLIBURN and Mrs. Grace Ward Lankford discuss world piano competition.

ers Forum was chosen. This group of 42 leading teachers has been influential in music for 11 years.

The National Guild of Piano Teachers is a Texas success story, too. It started in the state 32 years ago and now enrolls more than 6,000 teachers and 75,000 students in every state of the nation. Its financial record and resources are impressive.

Typical are the prizes set up for the Van Cliburn International Competition. They have never before been equalled in a similar contest.

Van Cliburn, whose name is "magic" to music lovers around the globe, has given his blessing and support to the Fort Worth competition.

A group of internationally-known artists and teachers are on the advisory committee to establish the contest rules and decide the repertoire.

Any person in the world between the ages of 17 and 28 who meets the eligibility requirements can enter.

Their arrival in Fort Worth will bring a dazzling collection of talent to the city. Transportation arrangements are being made with international and U. S. airlines. The foreign contestants will be met at East and West Coast ports by qualified interpreters and guides.

In Fort Worth, they will be entertained and housed in such fashion that they can return home with a true picture of American life.

EVERY CORNER of the globe is receiving information about the Van Cliburn competition in Fort Worth. Workers are shown preparing stacks for mailing abroad.



VAN CLIBURN COMPETITION

• Starts on Page 7

Joint sponsors of the competition with the National Guild are the Fort Worth Piano Teachers Forum and TCU. The university has made the facilities of Ed Landreth Auditorium available to the contestants.

Judges will be nine concert artists and symphony conductors of world renown. Agreements to serve have already been made by Claudio Arrau, Rudolf Serkin, Madame Gina Bachauer and Madame Guimar Novaes.

The executive committee includes Dr. M. E. Sadler, chancellor of TCU, Dr. Allison, J. H. Chowning, president of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, and Mrs. Lankford. A number of other committees are hard at work on the details.

Lorin A. Boswell is chairman of the organizing committee of civic leaders assembled for the event. He is chairman of the TCU trustees.

Serge Saxe, composer, critic, and president of the Fort Worth Opera Association, is chairman of the competition jury.

The Van Cliburn International Competition will become a permanent landmark in world culture. It will be held in Fort Worth every four years.

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