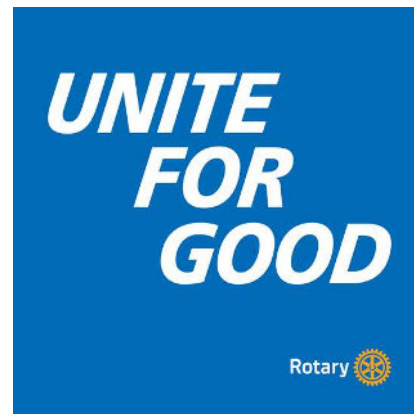




**Rotary International
District 5300
Dan Stover Instrumental Music
Competition**



2025-26 Theme

*UNITE
FOR
GOOD*



Note from the Dan Stover District Chair

I am honored to have been asked to serve as this year's Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition Chair. I bring 58 years of professional musical experience to this role, and I hope to encourage clubs that have not participated before to consider bringing this great experience to their membership. For those clubs that have participated regularly over the years, I look forward to sharing insights in how we may be able to expand our reach into our communities more easily.

This presentation has been updated to reflect the current schedules, competition levels, responsibilities that Club and Regional Chairs will be expected to handle, marketing ideas, and more.

If you need help, have ideas, or need support, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I usually return emails and phone calls the same day or the next day.

Onward!

Mike Bernard

Mike.Bernard@StoverCompetition.com

818-207-6299



THE LEVELS

- **Club Competition**

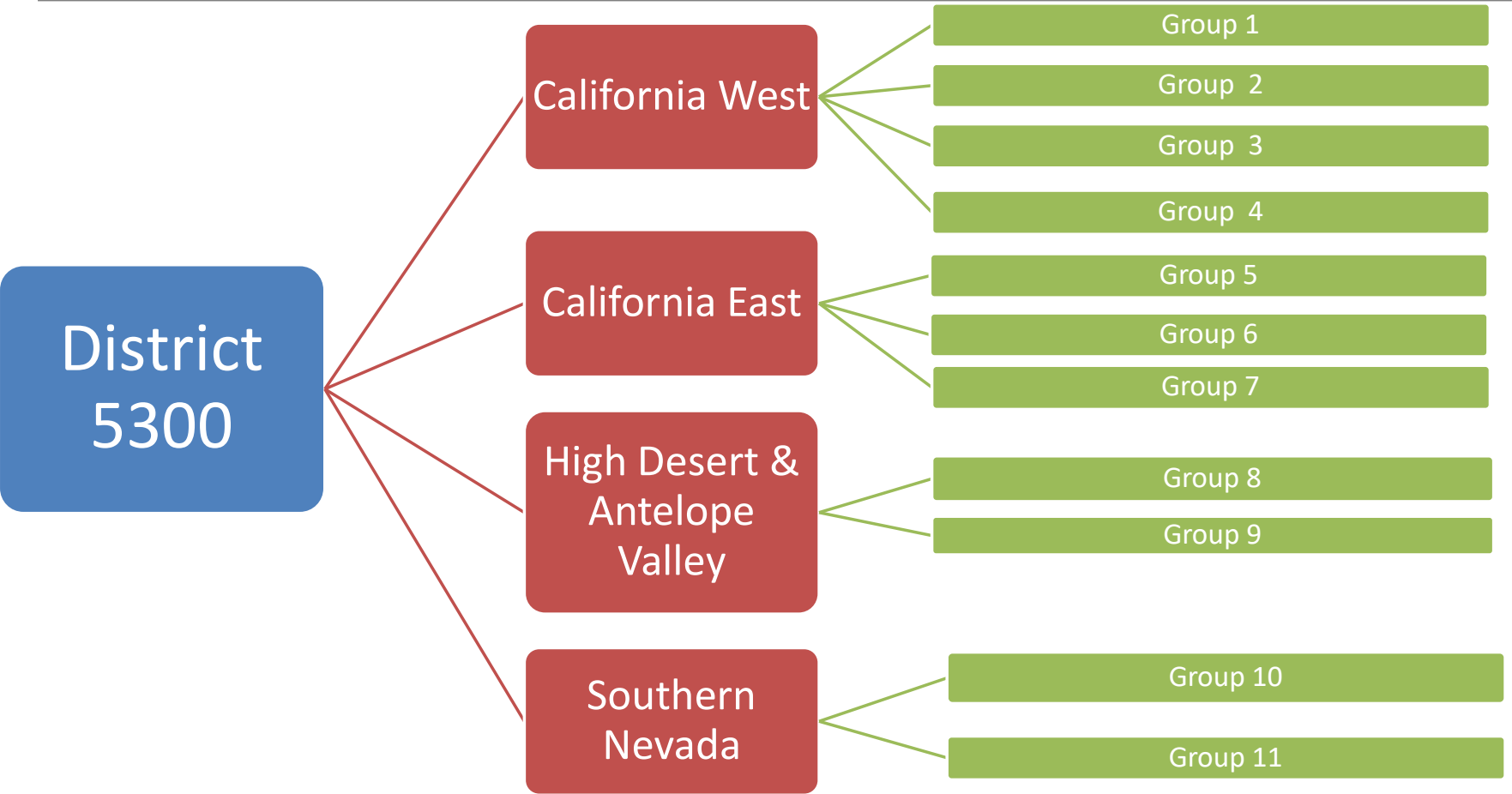
- If a club attracts a large field of musicians to compete, there are options available to manage the field. We can suggest either a live Audition Round be held or require musicians to submit videos of their playing for review by the Club Committee.

- **Regional Competition**

- **District Competition**



Competition Regional Structure



Club & Club Chair Responsibilities

- The competition begins at the club level. Clubs will market the competition to attract competitors. If a large field is attracted, a live audition round or screening videos can be used to determine the club finalists.
- Clubs may choose to combine and can register with the district as such.
- Select 3 independent judges to adjudicate the competition.
- Club Final will be held at the regular weekly meeting.
- Local clubs fund prize monies for their winners, honoraria for the judges, other expenses connected with the competition.
- **The District Dan Stover Competition web page provides more details:**
<https://www.district5300.org/service/youth-service/796-2/>
- Club Competitions should be completed by April 30, 2026.
- Winner moves on to the Regional Contest



Regional Chair/Coordinator Responsibilities

- Select a Club in the Region to host the event. The club will be asked to collect the requested monies from the clubs in the region and make payments as needed.
- In addition to the \$350 District Fee and the Club Budget, the budget for the Regional Final should be developed by the Regional Chair in coordination with the Club Chairs and Club leadership. This should include planning for expenses such as:
 - Prize monies for Regional winners
 - Judges' honoraria—use of gift cards is discouraged.
 - Piano rental/tuning (if needed)
- Select 3 independent judges to adjudicate the competition.
- Coordinate with the host club committee chair as needed.
- All regional finals need to be completed by May15, 2026.
- Regional Coordinator is responsible to send the Regional Winner Submission Form to the District Chair by May 15, 2026
- **The District Dan Stover Competition webpage provides more details:**

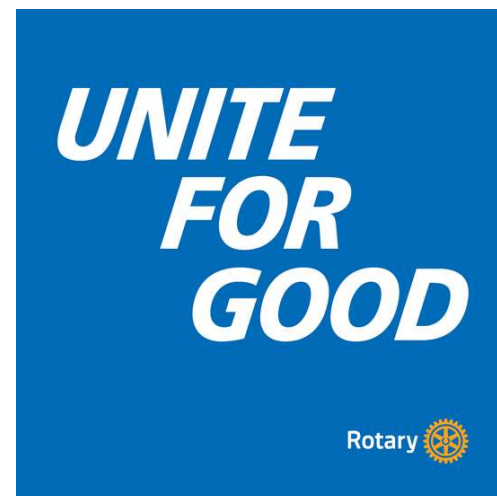
<https://www.district5300.org/service/youth-service/796-2/>



District 5300 Final

- District Chair will host the competition.
- In 2026 the District Competition will be at the District Assembly on May 23, 2026.
- **The District Dan Stover Competition webpage provides more details:**

<https://www.district5300.org/service/youth-service/796-2/>



Winners' Designations and Prize Money Guidelines

Winners' Designations:

1st Place

1st Runner-Up

2nd Runner-Up

***Each participating club budgets Prize money the three winners for their club competition(s) and pool their resources for the Regional Final winners. We suggest that the Regional Prize Awards be sufficient to reflect the accomplishment**

***District Competition Prizes will be based upon number of clubs that participate. Details on the prize pool will be available after the clubs send in their entry fees.**

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Rotary 

Prize Money Guidelines (Continued)

Club Level Prize Money Guidelines

Each club determines their own prize money pools. For example, if the prize money pool is \$1000, the following allocation could be done:

1st Place:	\$500
1st Runner-up:	\$300
2nd Runner-up:	\$200

Regional Level Prize Money Guidelines:

Each Region will develop the prize money pool in collaboration with the participating clubs. It is suggested that the prize money pool be twice the average amount that the clubs paid out. In this example, \$2000 is the prize money pool:

1st Place:	\$1000
1st Runner-up	\$ 600
2nd Runner-up	\$ 400



Suggested Judges' Honoraria

Club Competition Judges

Clubs will determine their own amounts to pay their judges. Depending on the market and professional standing of the judges, \$50-\$100 per judge is appropriate. Payment should be made by check. Judges' meal should be comped by the club.

Club Competition Judges

Judges' compensation will be determined through collaboration with the participating clubs. Judges selected for this round should be at a higher level of professional musicians/teachers than were used in the club round. Compensation of \$100-\$150 per judge is appropriate. Payment should be made by check.



Deadline for Registration

Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition Entry Deadline will be announced.

Entry fee will be \$350 per club (or per entry if two or more clubs combine).

The Entry Form will be available for completion on-line and it will include an online payment option. If payment is to be made by check, the mailing address will be available as part of online entry form completion. A copy will be automatically sent to District Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition Chair, Mike Bernard.

Mike.Bernard@StoverCompetition.com



Suggested Timeline

- February/March 2026– Begin Marketing the competition to your communities. Begin scheduling the Club competition(s). **Sample Media Kit and email language is on the District 5300 web page at:**

<https://www.district5300.org/service/youth-service/796-2/>

- April 30, 2026—Club competitions must be completed and winners' information sent to the Regional Coordinator for your Club.
- May 15, 2026--Regional Finals are to be completed. Regional Coordinators to send 2026 Regional Winner Submission Form to the Stover Competition District Chair.

May 23, 2026– District 5300 Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition Final to be held at the District Assembly.



Full Details and information are available at:

<https://www.district5300.org/service/youth-service/796-2/>

The web page includes samples of the following:

- *Registration Form
- *Stover Competition Rules
- *Adjudication Forms (Fillable PDF and Word document for editing)
- *Time Sheet (Fillable PDF and Word document for editing)
- *Sample Media Kit that was used in Pasadena 2025
- *Sample Run-of-Show script
- *Sample Musician Event Sign-in Sheet (Word documents for editing)
- *Sample spreadsheet to track competitor data
- *Copy of this PowerPoint Presentation





Mike Bernard
District 5300 Chair
Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition

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818-207-6299

**If you need help,
or have ideas to
share, I look
forward to
hearing from you.
Thank you all for
supporting this
great Rotary
tradition!**