STRATFORD & EAST LONDON MUSIC FESTIVAL

Competition For All Ages

2027 Syllabus

Festival dates: 8, 11 and 15 - 20 February 2027

Closing date for entries: 31 December 2026

Festival founded in 1882
Registered Charity No. 208659
www.stratfordmusicfestival.org.uk

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Welcome from the Chairman

Welcome to the 2027 Stratford & East London Music Festival Syllabus - we are a festival for all - young and old, beginners and advanced. Please enter and become part of the oldest competitive music and drama festival in the UK.

We will be holding our next festival in February 2027 and entries need to be received by the end of December 2026. We welcome entrants to the festival from performers of any age and ability. This is an excellent opportunity to perform live, and showcase and hone your talent in a friendly and encouraging environment. All entrants will receive a written and verbal assessment from a professional adjudicator, plus a certificate, and most winners will receive a cup. We also have a number of cash prizes to reward the best entrants ranging from £25 to £500.

Please have a look at the whole syllabus - you will see we offer a very wide range of classes covering choirs and bands, solo and ensemble singing, piano, instrumental, composition, and speech and drama. If you have any questions about the festival, please get in touch. In the syllabus you will find the contact details for the convenors of each section.

Matthew Taylor - Festival Chair

General Rules and Regulations

WHO MAY PERFORM

The Stratford & East London Music Festival is open to amateurs only, except the Open Classes which are also open to professionals. An amateur is considered as one who does not derive the main part of their income from the subject entered. Students under 19 years of age are considered to be amateurs for the purposes of the competitions.

AGE LIMITS: Where age limits apply, they refer to the age the competitor will be on 31st August 2027 (the end of the academic year), thereby making the 'xx years and under' categories more relevant to individual entrants than they were previously. For example, children who turn 11 during the 2026-27 academic year may perform in classes for 11 years and under; those turning 17 may perform in classes for 17 years and under, and so on. For group entries, the class is determined by the age of the oldest competitor in the group, unless the class is 'Open'.

Unless otherwise stated, competitors may perform only once in each class, except in duet, trio or ensemble classes where a competitor may perform more than once, provided that a different part is performed. Solo competitors may not enter a class if, for three consecutive years, they have been the winner of that class. Solo competitors may not enter a class if they have received tuition from the adjudicator in the last two years. Conductors may not sing with their choirs.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries may be made online at www.playandperform.co.uk/selmf. This link is also accessible via our website at www.stratfordmusicfestival.org.uk.

All entries must be received by 31st December 2026.

Entry fees cannot be refunded except for classes cancelled by the decision of the Committee. The Trustees are prepared to offer limited assistance with travel costs in the case of hardship for Junior

and Infant School Choirs only. Please contact the Festival Secretary.

DATA PROTECTION

Under the terms of GDPR, the Stratford & East London Music Festival undertakes not to pass on any information about competitors or members, and to use such information only for the purpose of the Festival.

BEFORE THE EVENT

Information will be sent to competitors at least ten days before the date of the competition. The Committee reserves the right to limit, cancel or subdivide any class, to combine two similar classes, or to transfer classes from one day to another. In exceptional circumstances, there may be a change of adjudicator.

THE PERFORMANCE

Only stewards, performers and their accompanists will be guaranteed access to the performing area. Copies of 'own choice' pieces must be handed to the adjudicator's steward before their performance. The Festival is bound by copyright law and cannot allow video, mobile phone or any form of recording equipment to be used during performances - it is in breach of copyright and is an offence. The individual as well as the Festival may be fined. In the large group competitions held at St Mary's Church, photographs may be taken of the group at the end of each performance, provided that this complies with parent's wishes and/or the individual school's policy on this matter. In all other sections, only officials of the Festival may take photographs. Please refer to the Child Protection Policy for further information.

ADJUDICATION

The adjudicators' decisions are final. Awards may be withheld if, in the opinion of the adjudicator, sufficient merit is not shown. No entrant, teacher or interested party may discuss any aspect of the Festival with an adjudicator before, during or after classes, except at the invitation of the adjudicator. Adjudications and certificates are normally available at the end of each class. Competitors who do not perform at the scheduled time will not receive any marks.

MARKING SYSTEM

First prize winners gaining 84% or above are awarded either trophies or medals. In classes where there are ten or more entries, a second place medal is awarded. The British and International Federation of Festivals has agreed the following descriptors for use by adjudicators, and certificates will be awarded as follows:

Exceptional: 95%+ - A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality
Outstanding: 90% to 94% - An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity and clear individuality
Honours: 85% to 89% - An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
Commended: 80% to 84% - A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability

Merit: 75% to 79% - A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/ or technical ability
Progressing: 70% to 74% - A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment
Developing: 65% to 69% - A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency and artistry

TIME LIMITS

Time limits must be observed. If a competitor chooses to introduce their item, this must be included in the overall time limit where set. The performance may be stopped if the time limit is exceeded, and over-long performances will not be eligible for any prize.

OWN CHOICE PIECES

Full details of the title and composer/author of 'own choice' items must be shown on the entry form. Any competitor who does not perform their stated choice as printed in the programme will receive adjudication but will NOT receive marks or a certificate or be eligible for any prize. Likewise, any competitor who fails to provide a copy of their 'own choice' piece will receive adjudication but will NOT receive marks or a certificate. Competitors may not perform the same 'own choice' in more than one class, except for the Millennium Classes.

COPYRIGHT

For Speech & Drama competitors, it is not necessary to seek copyright permission to perform poetry, prose or solo dramatic items. Competitors entering duologues and group dramatic activity classes must contact publishers for permission to perform and pay the required fee. Competitors must produce evidence of copyright clearance. Items must be announced with title and author at the time of performance. Words or gender of a character must not be changed. For Music competitors, if the 'own choice' composition is from a large publication and the piece is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the adjudicator. The copy will be retained and destroyed after the competition. The accompanist should always be given a printed copy of the music. Music which has been downloaded from the internet must be accompanied by the permission statement which accompanies the music.

ACCOMPANIST

Performers are invited to provide their own accompanist but, if preferred, there is an official accompanist available. The availability of an official accompanist is subject to competitors stating on the entry form that they require this service. There is an additional fee and this must be sent with the entry. It is generally possible to have a short run-through in the hour preceding the class. Most music can be handed to the accompanist on the day of the competition. More advanced pieces (eg Lieder, Recital and Grade 5 and above) should be sent to the Accompanist Coordinator, 5 Benrek Close, Ilford, Essex, IG6 2QL. The accompaniments supplied must be in the correct key. The use of a backing track is acceptable, provided that it does not infringe any copyright restrictions. The competitor should bring their own equipment on which to play the backing track.

If the piece to be performed has a written accompaniment, then it should not be performed unaccompanied.

TROPHIES

Trophies and/or medals will normally be presented at the end of the class. Trophies which are awarded for the highest marks in a particular section will be presented during the Young Musician Competition on the evening of Saturday 20th February 2027. All cups and trophies remain the property of the Stratford & East London Music Festival. They are held by the winners for eleven months and must be returned before 10th January 2028. Winners must sign for receipt of the cup or trophy, and are required to enter into a bond of safe custody of the item, and to bear the cost if they wish to have their names engraved on it.

ADMISSION TO COMPETITIONS

Competitors and their accompanists are admitted without charge. Children of school age and competitors' music/drama teachers are admitted without charge. Friends of the Stratford & East London Music Festival are admitted without charge. Other visitors will be required to pay a small fee for admission.

QUERIES

If you require further clarification of any of the rules and regulations, please contact the Festival Secretary. If you have a query concerning a particular section of the Festival, please contact the convenor whose name and telephone number appears at the beginning of that section.

Choirs, Orchestras & Bands Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Stella Redburn: 020 8530 3148, stella_redburn@fast-email.com

Venue: St Mary's Parish Church, High Road, South Woodford, London, E18 2PA

Dates: 8 & 11 February 2027
Note: Children's and Young People's classes will take place on Monday 8th February
Adult classes will provisionally be timetabled on these two days, depending on the number of entries:
Monday evening 8th February: Classes 201, 202, 203, 205, 206
Thursday evening 11th February: Classes 204, 211, 212, 216

Closing Date for Entries: 31st December 2026

All classes have a time limit of ten minutes. Please remember to give the number in each group on the entry form.

Where an own choice work is selected from a publication containing several different works which is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the adjudicator provided that the choir has already purchased its own copy. The photocopy made will be retained and destroyed immediately after the event.

The accompanist should always be given a printed copy - it is illegal to perform from photocopies of published music.

In the case of junior and infant choirs, if the piece is improvised or taught by ear then the requirement to provide a copy can be waived. In all other cases, a copy must be provided in order to receive an adjudication.

All pieces in this section can be played with or without accompaniment, or they can be accompanied by a backing track.

Adjudicator

Manvinder Rattan BA (Hons), Hon.D.Litt, FRSM, ACertCM

Manvinder is a choral and orchestral conductor and trainer of conductors. He was born in Nairobi, Kenya and moved to the United Kingdom with his family when he was two. He has lived most of his life in Woodford Green in Essex where he went to Churchfields Junior School and then Ilford County High School for Boys.

Having spent 25 years as Musical Director for the John Lewis Partnership where he was responsible for the company's 21 choirs and orchestra, he is now Musical Director of Hertford Choral Society, Hertford Chamber Choir and the professional Serafine Sinfonia and Chamber Choir, with whom he has released critically acclaimed recordings.

Manvinder is one of the U.K.'s most experienced conductor trainers, with a considerable track record of success in both choral and orchestral training. He spent 17 years as Head of Conductor training for Sing for Pleasure, during which time the courses became accredited by the ABRSM. As

well as the UK, Manvinder has directed conducting courses in Europe, India and Kenya. He has been a popular adjudicator at music festivals and appeared as a judge in the BBC Two series "The Choir" with Gareth Malone in 2012 and also the BBC Choir of the Year.

Choral Singing - Children

These classes will take place in the daytime on Monday 8th February 2027

Class	Age	Time	Fee
209 Children's Choir (11 yrs and under) Traditional anonymous folk song Award: Daisy Wykes Cup (1st place) The Delcor Cup (2nd place) Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces. The adjudicator will be listening for musicianship and vocal quality. 1. Own choice of a traditional anonymous folk song 2. Own choice Group of a minimum of 6 people	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
210 Children's Choir (7 yrs and under) Free choice Award: Cantori Vocal Ensemble Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces of their own choice. At least one of the songs should include actions. Group of a minimum of 6 people	7 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
213 Junior choir - Classical Award: Challenge Cup School Choirs - Junior Girls or Boys Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces, at least one of which must be from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic or 20th (classical) repertoire Group of a minimum of 6 people	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £22.00
214 Christmas in February - Childrens Choirs Award: Musicianship Cup An opportunity for choirs to perform two contrasting pieces they learnt for Christmas. Group of a minimum of 6 people	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
215 Children's Choir (9 years and under). Traditional anonymous folk song Award: St. Aubyn's Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces. The adjudicator will be listening for musicianship and vocal quality. 1. Own choice of a traditional anonymous folk song. 2. Own choice. Group of a minimum of 6 people. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £22.00

Choral Singing - Young People

These classes will take place in the early evening on Monday 8th February 2027

Class	Age	Time	Fee
207 Youth Choir (11 to 16 yrs) Free choice Award: Radio Basildon Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces of their own choice. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Between 11 and 16	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
208 Youth Choir (18 yrs & under) Free Choice Award: Senior School Choirs Cup (16 - 18 years) Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces of their own choice. Group of a minimum of 6 people	18 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00

Choral singing - Adult

These classes will take place in the evening.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
201 Amateur Choir Classical Award: Throne Challenge Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces, at least one of which must be Baroque, Classical, Romantic or 20th Century (classical) repertoire Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
202 Amateur Choir Contemporary repertoire Award: The Sir JB Slade JP Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces at least one of which must be Contemporary Repertoire, e.g. Musical Theatre, Rock, Pop, etc. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
203 Amateur Choir Free choice Award: Holland Young Associates Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces. This may include classical songs, early music, folk song arrangements, musical theatre, modern compositions, world music, jazz, pop, etc. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
204 Community Choir - Unison or simple harmony Award: Mike Divver Memorial Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces. Music should be in unison or simple harmony. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
205 Women's Choir Free Choice Award: Clarnico Cup Choirs are required to perform two contrasting pieces. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
206 Christmas In February Adult choirs Award: Simkins Family Trophy An opportunity for choirs to perform two contrasting pieces they learnt for Christmas. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
211 Church choir or Gospel choir Free choice Award: All Saints' Cup An opportunity to sing two contrasting pieces. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
212 Beginner choir Free choice Award: Edith Parnum Cup An opportunity for an adult choir formed in the last three years to perform two contrasting songs. Group of a minimum of 6 people	16 and over	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
216 Non-Competitive Choirs Class Two contrasting pieces. Choirs entering this class will receive an adjudication and a certificate but no mark. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
217 Adjudicator's Choice: Adult Choirs At the end of the choral festival, the adjudicator will be asked to choose his "top pick": the most enjoyable adult performance. That choir will be invited to perform at the Young Musicians Evening on Saturday 20th February at 6pm. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Orchestras, Bands and Recorder groups

These classes will take place on Monday 8th February.

All pieces in this section can be played with or without accompaniment, or they can be accompanied by a backing track.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
241 Children's Orchestra or Band (11 yrs and under) Free choice Award: Orchestra Cup Two contrasting pieces. Repertoire may be classical, romantic, jazz, big band, etc. Group of a minimum of 6 people	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
243 Children's Orchestra or Band (12 to 18 yrs) Free choice Award: The Dickson Cup Two contrasting pieces. Repertoire may be classical, romantic, jazz, big band, etc. Group of a minimum of 6 people	Between 12 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00
253 Children's Recorder Groups (11 yrs and under) Free choice Award: Churchfields Junior School Recorder Cup Groups are required to perform two contrasting pieces. Group of a minimum of 6 people	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£22.00 per group Accompanist £20.00

Solo & Ensemble Singing Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Cathy Edkins, cathy.edkins@btinternet.com

Monday 15th to Wednesday 17th February 2027

PLEASE NOTE - each piece may be used only once - i.e. not entered in more than one class in the Singing Section

If the piece has an accompaniment, it should not be performed unaccompanied, unless specifically appropriate (unaccompanied folk song classes)

Attention singers! Please check out these other categories as you may wish to participate: Millennium Competitions and the Musical Theatre Classes in the Speech & Drama section.

The Margery Schwartz Cup will be awarded to a singer with the most outstanding style and presentation, as decided upon by the adjudicator.

Cash prizes are available for classes 101 (£50), 102 (£50), 103 (£300) and 107 (£30), although a minimum number of entries may be required for the prize to be awarded.

In the event of a tie, the final decision will be made by the adjudicator.

No definitive decisions on the scheduling times can be made until we have all the entry numbers. We thank you for your patience.

Adjudicator

JANE WILKINSON BMUS (Hons) RCS Grad Dip RCM

Lancastrian soprano Jane Wilkinson started her training at a young age with three music scholarships and a place in the National Youth Choir of Great Britain. After winning competitions across the country she accepted a place at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland to complete a BMus with Honours. She then completed her Graduate Diploma at the Royal College of Music.

Whilst at the RCM she won the Godfrey van Someren Competition for English Song and was a runner up in the BBC Radio 3 Kiri Te Kanawa Competition. Her career has taken her to South Africa and to Europe on solo concert tours. Performances have taken place in such venues as Edinburgh Festival Theatre, The Usher Hall, Bridgewater Hall, Royal Albert Hall and many more.

At present, Jane is a singing tutor at Imperial College London and Brunel University. She conducts New Malden Voices and New Malden Youth Choir. She has a busy recording and performing schedule alongside adjudicating for the Federation of Festivals.

Singing Recital Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
101 Open Recital Class (19 yrs and over) Award: Felix Marr Memorial Cup A prize of £50 will be awarded to the winner of this class Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of three songs of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance, the choice of the programme, and for singing from memory.	19 and over	Up to 15 mins	£17.00 Accompanist £20.00
102 Junior Singing Recital Class (13 to 18 yrs) Award: Margaret Simkins Memorial Award A prize of £50 will be awarded to the winner of this class. Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of three songs of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance, the choice of the programme, and for singing from memory.	Between 13 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £15.00
103 Open Challenge Recital Class (19 yrs and over) Award: J. Spencer Curwen Memorial Challenge Bowl A prize of £300 will be awarded to the winner of this class. A minimum number of entries to this class is required for it to take place. Competitors are required to perform four songs or arias from the following categories; no two songs to be from the same category. 1. Purcell/ Dowland 2. Italian songs and arias 3. Lieder 4. Opera 5. English art song 6. Sacred and oratorio music 7. Chanson	19 and over	Up to 15 mins	£17.00 Accompanist £20.00

Any Age Singing Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
104 Wartime Favourites (any age) Award: Westcott Cup Own choice of a song popularised by the 1st or 2nd World Wars.	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
105 Humorous Song (any age) Award: Moon-Little Cup Own choice of a humorous song by, for example, Tom Lehrer, Flanders & Swann, Noel Coward, etc	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
106 Music Hall Song (any age) Award: Ronald Hills Memorial Award Own choice	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
107 WordSong Recital Class - English in Song and Speech (any age) Award: AESS Cup Competitors are required to perform a themed programme of two Classical English Art Songs and a poem or piece of prose, all of which were originally written in English. The adjudicator will also take into account the spoken introduction explaining the themed choice. A prize of £30 will be awarded to the winner of this class, donated by WordSong. Please note - opera, music theatre, pop and jazz are not appropriate choices for this class.	Any	Up to 10 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £10.00

Classical Style Songs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
108 Grand Opera (19 yrs and over) Award: Rose Cup Own choice. May be sung in the original language or in English.	19 and over	Up to 6 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
109 Light Opera/ Operetta (19 yrs and over) Award: Ernest Fudge Cup Own choice of an aria from a light opera or operetta by, for example, Edward German, Franz Lehár, Ivor Novello, Johann Strauss, Gilbert and Sullivan.	19 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
110 Sacred and Oratorio (17 yrs and over) Award: Mabel Tarrant Cup Own choice. May be sung in the original language or in English.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
112 Lieder Class (17 yrs and over) Award: Lieder Cup Competitors are required to perform ONE song in German, for example, by Brahms, Mahler, Schubert, Schumann, R Strauss or Wolf. Own choice.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
113 English Art Song (17 yrs and over) Award: William Graham Memorial Challenge Cup Competitors are required to perform ONE song for example by Dring, Gibbs, Head, Ireland, L'Estrange, Quilter, Vaughan Williams or Warlock.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
114 International Art Song (17 yrs and over) Award: Gwen Flower Cup Own choice of a song from any country except Britain or Germany.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
115 Bach, Handel or Mozart (17 yrs and over) Award: Janet Gorman Cup Own choice	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
116 Classical Style Songs (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Peter J. Pirie Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
117 Classical Style Songs (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Secretary's Singing Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Jazz Classes

Competitors are required to perform a song in jazz style. It can be a spiritual, blues, ragtime, bebop, or vocalisation. Some improvisation is recommended. Ideally you should bring your own accompanist or a backing track.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
118 Jazz Style Song (19 yrs and over) Award: Ewington Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
119 Jazz Style Song (18 and under) Award: Hummingbirds Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Boys & Girls Own Choice Songs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
120 Boys and Girls Solo (13 to 14 yrs) Award: Leslie Gorrod Memorial Cup Own choice	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
121 Boys and Girls Singing Solo (11 to 12 yrs) Award: Daphne and Archie Granditer Memorial Cup Own choice	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
122 Boys and Girls Singing Solo (9 to 10 yrs) Award: Tonie Berger Cup Own choice	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
123 Boys and Girls Singing Solo (8 yrs and under) Award: Laura Sproit Cup Own choice	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Religious Songs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
124 Religious Song (12 to 16 yrs) Award: Stockwell Family Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 16	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
125 Religious Song (11 yrs and under) Award: Walter Tee Trophy Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Graded Singing Examination Classes

Competitors are required to perform ONE song from the most recent syllabus of the Associated Board, Trinity Guildhall, or London College Examinations. The competitor must NOT have passed any grade higher than the one from which the choice is made. There is no age limit on any of these classes. Please state on the entry form the Examination Board and the year of your choice.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
126 Singing Solo (Grades 7 and 8) Award: Dorothy Parnum Memorial Cup	Any		£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
127 Singing Solo (Grades 5 and 6) Award: James Allen Hatch Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
128 Singing Solo (Grades 3 and 4) Award: Hedwig Brejora Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
129 Singing Solo (Grades 1 and 2) Award: Dr. Morris Schwartz Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Unaccompanied Traditional Song

Traditional Songs are folk songs originating among the native people of a region and forming part of their culture. It can be sung in any language or key. The first note or the key-chord may be played on the piano to establish pitch. If the song uses words other than English, a short translation should be read to the audience and adjudicator first.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
130 Traditional Song (19 yrs and over) Award: Plessey Challenge Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
131 Traditional Song (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Enid Dobinson Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
132 Traditional Song (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Christine Spiers Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
133 Traditional Song (11 yrs and under) Award: Junior Folk Song Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Accompanied Traditional Song

Traditional Songs are folk songs originating among the native people of a region and forming part of their culture. It can be sung in any language or key. If the song uses words other than English, a short translation should be read to the audience and adjudicator first.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
134 Traditional Song (19 yrs and over) Award: Tina Davidson Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
135 Traditional Song (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Anna Knight Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
136 Traditional Song (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Catherine Margaret Elsky Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
137 Traditional Song (11 yrs and under) Award: Pamela Cairns Cup own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Songs From The Shows (Pre 1960)

Competitors are required to perform a solo from any musical show (stage or film) published up to and including 1960.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
138 Songs from the Shows (Pre 1960) (19 yrs and over) Award: Barbara Halestrap Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
139 Songs from the Shows (Pre1960) (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Mildred Pirie Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
140 Songs from the Shows (Pre 1960) (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Joy Harris Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
141 Songs from the Shows (Pre 1960) (11 yrs and under) Award: Secretary's Cup Junior Songs from the Shows Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Songs From The Shows (1961 - 1990)

Competitors are required to perform a solo from any musical show (stage or film) published between 1961 and 1990.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
142 Songs from the Shows (1961-1990) (19 yrs and over) Award: Ronald Spiers Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
143 Songs from the Shows (1961-1990) (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Peter Lawrence Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
144 Songs from the Shows (1961-1990) (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Redbridge Mencap Trophy Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
145 Songs from the Shows (1961-1990) (11 yrs and under) Award: Junior Singing Challenge Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Songs From The Shows (Post 1991)

Competitors are required to perform a solo from any musical show (stage or film) published from 1991 onwards.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
146 Songs from the Shows (Post 1991) (19 yrs and over) Award: Dr Laurence Allen Challenge Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
147 Songs from the Shows (Post 1991) (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Ruby Hanwell Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
148 Songs from the Shows (Post 1991) (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Ronald Skillett Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
149 Songs from the Shows (Post 1991) (11 yrs and under) Award: Kathlyn Ryan Memorial Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Ensemble Classes

Competitors are required to perform in small groups of two to nine people. Own choice. Part-singing is essential and there must be only ONE singer to each part.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
150 Ensemble (any age) Award: Plessey Ensemble Cup Own choice Group of any size	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group Accompanist £7.00
151 Ensemble (18 yrs and under) Award: Group Award Cup Own choice Group of any size	18 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group Accompanist £7.00
152 Ensemble (11 yrs and under) Award: Ensemble Class Challenge Cup Own choice Group of any size	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per group Accompanist £7.00

Senior Citizens' Class

Class	Age	Time	Fee
153 Senior Citizens Class (60 yrs and over) Award: Butler Cup Own choice	60 and over	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Non-Competitive Singing Classes

These are non-competitive classes and would suit people who would like an opportunity to perform and receive feedback on their performance without the pressure of competition.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
154 Non-Competitive Singing - Classical Song Style (any age) Own choice	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
155 Non-Competitive Singing - Songs From The Shows (any age) Own choice	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Popular Songs (written or arranged after 1950)

Class	Age	Time	Fee
171 Popular Songs (19 yrs and over) Award: Stembridge Memorial Cup Own choice	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
172 Popular Songs (16 to 18 yrs) Award: Peter Sewell Memorial Cup Own choice	Between 16 and 18	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
173 Popular Songs (12 to 15 yrs) Award: Redbridge Singing Cup Own choice	Between 12 and 15	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
174 Popular Songs (11 yrs and under) Award: New Decade Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Piano Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:
Joanna Brown, jo.clarinet@btopenworld.com

Dates: 15th to 18th February 2027. Please note that no class can be guaranteed to take place on any particular day or time of day.

PLEASE NOTE - each piece may be used only once - i.e. not entered in more than one class in the Piano Section.

Attention pianists, please check out these other categories as you may wish to participate: Concerto Class, Confinemento and Millennium Competitions.

For 'own choice' classes, you must play your chosen piece as printed in the programme and must bring a copy of the music for the adjudicator. Any competitor who plays a different piece on the day, or who fails to provide a copy of their 'own choice' piece, will receive an adjudication but will NOT receive marks or a certificate.

Adjudicator

Timothy Barratt ARAM, GRSM, LRAM, ARCM, LMusTCL

Timothy studied Piano and Viola on a Scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, winning many major awards, and completed his studies with Vlado Perlemuter in Paris and also with Geoffrey Parsons. His performing career throughout the UK and abroad as soloist, accompanist and chamber music player has spanned more than 40 years, with a particular interest in voice and piano partnership.
Teaching forms a major part of Timothy's musical life, and he enjoys working with pupils of all ages and levels from beginner to post-graduate. He was Head of Keyboard at Dulwich College for many years whilst also teaching at the Royal Academy and Trinity College, and now pursues a busy freelance practice. Formerly a member of the examining, training and review panel for the ABRSM, he now acts as a Piano Syllabus Consultant. He regularly directs Masterclasses and Residential Courses for performers and teachers, and is much in demand as a Competition and Festival adjudicator.

FELIX MARR AWARD (£500) AND EPTA CUP

The FELIX MARR AWARD of £500 will be awarded to the competitor gaining the highest mark in the open classes 301-309 (inclusive). In the event of a tie, the final decision will be made by the adjudicator. The value of the prize may be reduced if there are fewer than six entrants.

The prize will be presented in memory of Felix Marr (1947-2012) and the winner will be asked to perform during the final evening of the festival, Saturday 20th February 2027. Felix Marr's family intend that the award be used to support the further studies and development of exceptional entrants.

The EPTA UK Cup will be awarded to the most outstanding pianist aged 18 or under, as decided upon by the adjudicator.

Open Piano Classes (any age)

The FELIX MARR AWARD of £500 will be awarded to the competitor gaining the highest mark in the open classes 301-309 (inclusive). In the event of a tie, the final decision will be made by the adjudicator. The value of the prize may be reduced if there are fewer than six entrants. The prize will be presented in memory of Felix Marr (1947-2012) and the winner will be asked to perform during the final evening of the festival, Saturday 20th February 2027.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
301 Recital Class (Open) Award: Michael Cheung Cup A recital of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods (Grade 8 and above).	Any	Up to 15 mins	£17.00 (Under 16 £12.00, Senior £17.00)
302 Baroque Class (Open) Award: Betty Drown Memorial Cup	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
303 Classical Class (Open) Award: Lady Frederick Lewis Cup Any music written between 1750 and 1830 but excluding Beethoven.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
304 Beethoven Class (Open) Award: Stratford Express Cup Any music by Beethoven.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
305 Romantic Class (Open) Award: Piano Cup Any music of a Romantic style written between 1830 and 1900 but excluding Chopin.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
306 Chopin Class (Open) Award: Phillip Young Cup	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
307 Impressionist Class (Open)	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
308 British Music Class (Open) Award: George Keene Memorial Cup Any music written by a British composer since 1850.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
309 20th/ 21st Century Class (Open) Award: Ackroyd Open Challenge Cup Any music written since 1900.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00

Solo Piano Classes of 18 Years and Under

Class	Age	Time	Fee
310 Piano Recital Class (11 to 18 yrs) Award: Barbara Halestrap Trophy A recital of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods (Grade 5 and above).	Between 11 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£12.00
311 Junior Baroque Class (15 yrs and under) Award: Audrey Sheard Cup	15 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
312 Junior Beethoven (15 yrs and under) Award: Laurence Springett Cup	15 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
313 Sonatina Class (15 yrs and under) Any sonatina movement.	15 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
314 Piano Solo (18 years and under) Award: Yvonne Adair Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
315 Piano Solo (17 yrs and under) Own choice	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00)
316 Piano Solo (16 yrs and under) Award: Grace Herring Memorial Cup Own choice	16 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00)
317 Piano Solo (15 yrs and under) Award: Mundy Family Cup Own choice	15 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
318 Piano Solo (14 yrs and under) Award: Delta Security Cup Own choice	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
319 Piano Solo (13 yrs and under) Award: Intermediate Piano Challenge Cup Own choice	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
320 Piano Solo (12 yrs and under) Award: Bloxham Cup Own choice	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
321 Piano Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Col. W. Johnson Galloway Challenge Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
322 Piano Solo (10 yrs and under) Award: Junior Piano Cup Own choice	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
323 Piano Solo (9 yrs and under) Award: Akerman Award Own choice	9 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
324 Piano Solo (8 yrs and under) Award: Gwen Flower Junior Piano Challenge Cup Own choice	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
325 Piano Solo (7 yrs and under) Award: Lily Law Memorial Cup Own choice	7 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
326 Piano Solo (6 yrs and under) Own choice	6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Graded Piano Classes

One piece from the syllabus of any recognised exam board. There is no age limit on these classes. The fee is to be paid according to age.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
329 Piano Solo (Grades 7 and 8) Award: James Dace Cup for Piano A Grade 7 or 8 listed exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)
330 Piano Solo (Grades 5 and 6) Award: Don Egner Cup A Grade 5 or 6 listed exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)
331 Piano Solo (Grade 4) Award: Ivor Rees Memorial Cup A Grade 4 listed exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)
332 Piano Solo (Grade 3) Award: Don Egner Memorial Cup A Grade 3 listed solo exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)
333 Piano Solo (Grade 2) Award: James Kirby Cup A Grade 2 listed solo exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)
334 Piano Solo (Grade 1) Award: Rose Akerman Cup A Grade 1 solo listed exam piece from any syllabus.	Any		£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00, Senior £9.00)

Repertoire Classes

Two contrasting pieces to be performed. Competitors may not play the same piece in any other piano class. However repetition of an item is possible if they enter the Millennium Class.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
335 Piano Repertoire (14 yrs and under) Two contrasting pieces.	14 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
336 Piano Repertoire (11 yrs and under) Two contrasting pieces.	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00

Jazz/Pop Piano Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
338 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (Open) Award: Jazz Open Cup Own choice	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
339 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (18 yrs and under) Award: Beryl Waghorn Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00)
341 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (13 yrs and under) Award: Cecil Handley Cup Own choice	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
343 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (9 yrs and under) Own choice	9 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Non-competitive classes

A new category for those who prefer to share their music in a non-competitive situation. All entrants will receive feedback from the adjudicator, and a participation certificate.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
345 Come and Play! (19 years and over) Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 7 minutes	19 and over	Up to 7 mins	£11.00 (Senior £9.00)
346 Come and Play! (12 to 18 years) Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 7 minutes	Between 12 and 18	Up to 7 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00)
347 Come and Play! (11 years and under) Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 4 minutes	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00

Novice Piano

Class	Age	Time	Fee
348 Beginner (Pre-Grade 1 Level) Piano Award: Grace Herring Junior Memorial Cup Competitors must have received less than two years of tuition at the time of the festival and must not have passed Grade 1 or higher. Piece must be of below Grade 1 level. Fee to be paid according to age. Own choice.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Senior Citizens

Class	Age	Time	Fee
349 Senior Citizen Piano Class (60 yrs and over)	Any	Up to 5 mins	£9.00

Duets and Teams

Class	Age	Time	Fee
350 Pupil and Teacher Duet (Pre-Grade 1 level) Award: Mayors Pharmacy Cup Pupil to play the Primo part of a duet, this part to be Pre-Grade 1 level (Secondo part any level). Adjudication will be given on the Primo part and on the ensemble.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 per duo
351 Pupil and Teacher Duet (Grade 1-3 level) Award: Karen Akerman Cup Pupil to play the Primo part of a duet, this part to be of Grade 1-3 standard (Secondo part any level). Adjudication will be given on the Primo part and on the ensemble.	Any	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 per duo
352 Piano Duet (Open) Own choice	Any	Up to 7 mins	£12.00 per duo
353 Piano Duet (16 yrs and under) Award: Jim Akerman Memorial Cup Own choice	16 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per duo
354 Piano Duet (13 yrs and under) Award: Shalini Ganesh-Ram Memorial Cup Own choice	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per duo
355 Piano Duet (11 yrs and under) Award: Mary Sheehan Memorial Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per duo
356 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (Open) Own choice Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per group
357 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (16 yrs and under) Group of a minimum of 3 people	16 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group
358 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (11 yrs and under) Award: Dr Linsay Kobelis Memorial Cup Own choice Group of a minimum of 3 people	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group

Concerto Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:
Karen Akerman: orchestral.selmf@gmail.com or 07931 707381

18th/19th February 2027

Provided that there are sufficient entrants, the winner of this class will be awarded a prize of £300.

Adjudicator

James Kirby GRSM, ARAM

James is a popular adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals. He has been delighted to work at many Festivals throughout the UK, as well as the Hong Kong Festival on several occasions.
As a pianist, James studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Moscow Conservatoire He currently gives recitals throughout the UK, and also in Europe and Asia, as well as many concerto performances with the English and Scottish Chamber Orchestras and Moscow and Penang Symphony Orchestra. He was a member of the Barbican Piano Trio for over thirty years and performed regularly with them at Festivals and important concert series in the UK and throughout Europe and the USA. The Trio has a repertoire consisting of over seventy works and an impressive discography.
James is a dedicated teacher and enjoys positions at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Royal Holloway, University of London and Eton College. He is an Honorary Professor of the Rachmaninov Institute in Tambov, Russia, and serves on the juries of many international competitions. He gives many masterclasses in the UK and overseas. James has been an ABRSM examiner since 1998 and has worked in Singapore, China, and Indonesia and many European countries.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
801 The Concerto Class (Open) Award: The Concerto Class Shield The winner of this class will be awarded a prize of £300 Competitors are required to perform one movement from any standard concerto for Piano, Strings, Woodwind, Brass, Recorder, Guitar or Harp. Ideally, competitors should bring their own accompanist (two pianos will be available).	12 and over		£22.00 Accompanist £20.00

Millennium & Confinemento Classes Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Karen Akerman: orchestral.selmf@gmail.com or 07931 707381

Dates: To be timetabled during 17th - 19th February 2027

Adjudicator

James Kirby GRSM, ARAM

James is a popular adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals. He has been delighted to work at many Festivals throughout the UK, as well as the Hong Kong Festival on several occasions.
As a pianist, James studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Moscow Conservatoire He currently gives recitals throughout the UK, and also in Europe and Asia, as well as many concerto performances with the English and Scottish Chamber Orchestras and Moscow and Penang Symphony Orchestra. He was a member of the Barbican Piano Trio for over thirty years and performed regularly with them at Festivals and important concert series in the UK and throughout Europe and the USA. The Trio has a repertoire consisting of over seventy works and an impressive discography.
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The Millennium Competition

Competitors are required to present a programme consisting of THREE solos, each chosen from a different discipline as listed below.

Competitors may repeat only one item performed in another class during the festival but cannot duplicate anything between the Millennium and Confinemento classes.

The adjudicator will take into consideration the quality of the performance and the choice of programme.

The Millennium Competition disciplines are:

1. Singing
2. Piano
3. Strings
4. Guitar
5. Harp
6. Woodwind
7. Brass
8. Percussion
9. Recorder
10. Speech & Drama

Class	Age	Time	Fee
991 Millennium Competition (11 yrs and under) Award: Dr. and Mrs. M. Schwartz Millennium Cup	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£10.00 Accompanist £10.00
992 Millennium Competition (15 yrs and under) Award: Friends Millennium Cup	15 and under	Up to 15 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £10.00
993 Millennium Competition (18 yrs and under) Award: Katie Ayers Millennium Cup	18 and under	Up to 20 mins	£14.00 Accompanist £10.00

The Confinemento Classes

The Confinemento classes (named after the confinement suffered during the countrywide lockdown due to the Covid pandemic) was introduced for the 2021 online festival. The classes were very popular and we have decided to retain them. This category acts as a memorial to how Covid changed the world and this festival, and challenged us to work and think differently.

Competitors are required to present a programme consisting of TWO solos, each chosen from a different discipline as listed below.

Competitors may repeat only one item performed in another class during the festival but cannot duplicate anything between the Millennium and Confinemento classes.

The adjudicator will take into consideration the quality of the performance and the choice of programme.

The Confinemento Competition disciplines are:

1. Singing
2. Piano
3. Strings
4. Guitar
5. Harp
6. Woodwind
7. Brass
8. Percussion
9. Recorder
10. Speech & Drama

Class	Age	Time	Fee
901 Confinemento Competition (11 yrs and under)	11 and under	Up to 6 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
902 Confinemento Competition (15 yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 10 mins	£10.00 Accompanist £10.00
903 Confinemento Competition (18 yrs and under)	18 and under	Up to 15 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £10.00

Instrumental Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Karen Akerman: orchestral.selmf@gmail.com, or 07931 707381

Wednesday 17th - Friday 19th February 2027

PLEASE NOTE - each piece may be used only once - i.e. not entered in more than one class in the Instrumental Section

If the piece has an accompaniment, it should not be performed unaccompanied.

Attention recorder players. Recorder classes are now included within the Instrumental section of the syllabus.

When an own choice piece is selected from a publication containing several different works and which is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the adjudicator provided that the competitor has already purchased their own copy. The photocopy made will be retained and destroyed immediately after the event. It is illegal to perform from photocopies of published music.

Time limits will be strictly adhered to. Any part of the performance played outside of the time limits will not be adjudicated.

Please note that there will be cash prizes of £50 for:
Best performance on a brass instrument;
Best performance on a stringed instrument, including harp;
Best performance on a woodwind instrument, including recorder;
Best performance on percussion.

Adjudicator

James Kirby GRSM, ARAM

James is a popular adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals. He has been delighted to work at many Festivals throughout the UK, as well as the Hong Kong Festival on several occasions.
As a pianist, James studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Moscow Conservatoire He currently gives recitals throughout the UK, and also in Europe and Asia, as well as many concerto performances with the English and Scottish Chamber Orchestras and Moscow and Penang Symphony Orchestra. He was a member of the Barbican Piano Trio for over thirty years and performed regularly with them at Festivals and important concert series in the UK and throughout Europe and the USA. The Trio has a repertoire consisting of over seventy works and an impressive discography.
James is a dedicated teacher and enjoys positions at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Royal Holloway, University of London and Eton College. He is an Honorary Professor of the Rachmaninov Institute in Tambov, Russia, and serves on the juries of many international competitions. He gives many masterclasses in the UK and overseas. James has been an ABRSM examiner since 1998 and has worked in Singapore, China, and Indonesia and many European countries.

Instrumental Recital Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
405 Instrumental Recital Class (Open) Award: Reginald Turner Memorial Cup The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance and the choice of the programme. Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods.	Any	Up to 15 mins	£17.00 Accompanist £20.00
406 Instrumental Recital Class (18 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance and the choice of programme.	18 and under	Up to 13 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £15.00
407 Instrumental Recital Class (11 yrs and under) Award: Tonie Berger Instrumental Cup Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance and the choice of programme.	11 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £15.00

Chamber Music

Class	Age	Time	Fee
408 Unaccompanied Instrumental Performance (18 yrs and under) Competitors to perform a movement or movements from a piece originally written for an unaccompanied solo instrument.	18 and under	Up to 7 mins	£12.00
409 Senior Chamber Music (12 to 18 yrs) Award: Purcell School Chamber Music Cup Any combination of two or more players (one player to a part) are required to perform music of their own choice. If there is a piano part and this is an accompaniment, it will not be adjudicated. This is an ideal opportunity to 'try out' a GCSE or AS/A2 level ensemble piece. Group of any size	Between 12 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per group
410 Junior Chamber Music (11 yrs and under) Award: Junior Chamber Music Cup Any combination of two or more players (one player to a part) are required to perform music of their own choice. A piano part is optional and will not be adjudicated. Group of any size	11 and under	Up to 7 mins	£11.00 per group Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
411 Ensemble Class (Open) Award: Chamber Music Challenge Cup Maximum of five players. Any combination of piano, strings, wind and brass instruments. Suitable for duet, trio, quartet or quintet. If the accompaniment or continuo is an integral part of the work then all instruments will be adjudicated. Group of 2 to 5 people	Any	Up to 7 mins	£12.00 per group
412 Ensemble Class (11 yrs and under) Maximum of five players. Any combination of piano, strings, wind and brass instruments. Suitable for duet, trio, quartet or quintet. If the accompaniment or continuo is an integral part of the work then all instruments will be adjudicated. Group of 2 to 5 people	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 per group
413 Family Group Instrumental Class (Open) Any combination of two or more players who all belong to the same family. There must be one player to a part. Group of any size	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per group

Challenge Classes

Competitors must perform only one piece. Challenge Classes are open to any instrument, with the exception of piano who have their own specific classes.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
414 Instrumental Challenge Class (Open) Own choice	Any	Up to 10 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £10.00
415 Challenge Class (18 yrs and under) Award: Doris Hudson Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 8 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £10.00
416 Instrumental Challenge Class (11 yrs and under) Award: Junior Challenge Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00

Instrumental Examination Classes

Competitors are required to perform ONE piece from the appropriate current syllabus of the Associated Board, Trinity Guildhall, Victoria College or London College Examinations.

The competitor must NOT have passed any grade higher than the one from which the choice has been made.

There is no age limit on any of these classes. The fee is to be paid according to age. Please state on the entry form the Examination Board and the year of your choice.

You must bring a copy of the music for the adjudicator.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
417 Instrumental Solo (Grades 7 and 8) Award: James Dace Instrumental Cup	Any		£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
418 Instrumental Solo (Grades 5 and 6) Award: Redbridge Instrumental Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
419 Instrumental Solo (Grades 3 and 4) Award: Hazel Martin Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
420 Instrumental Solo (Grades 1 and 2) Award: Maureen Westcott Cup	Any		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Strings

Class	Age	Time	Fee
430 Strings Solo (18 yrs and under) Award: Senior Strings Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
431 Strings Solo (14 yrs and under) Award: Grace Palmer Memorial Cup Own choice	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
432 Strings Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: H. J. Large Memorial Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
433 Strings Solo (8 yrs and under) Award: John and Olive Burren Cup Own choice	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
434 Novice Strings Solo (any age) Award: Akerman Orchestral Cup Beginner/ Pre Grade 1. Must not to have taken the Grade 1 exam or progressed beyond Grade 1 level. Piece must be below Grade 1 level.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Woodwind and Brass

Class	Age	Time	Fee
440 Woodwind and Brass Solo (8 yrs and under) Award: Mark Cup Own choice	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
441 Woodwind Solo (18 yrs and under) Award: Senior Woodwind Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
442 Woodwind Solo (14 yrs and under) Award: Norman Waghorn Memorial Cup Own choice	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
443 Woodwind Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Yvonne Dudley Cup Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
444 Novice Woodwind Solo (any age) Beginner/ Pre Grade 1. Must not to have taken the Grade 1 exam or progressed beyond Grade 1 level. Piece must be below Grade 1 level.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
445 Adult Woodwind and Brass (19 yrs and over) Open to amateurs only.	19 and over	Up to 4 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £7.00
446 Brass Solo (18 yrs and under) Award: Peter Fudge Cup Own choice	18 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
447 Brass Solo (14 yrs and under) Award: Elgin Trophy Own choice	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
448 Brass Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Hazel Martin Trophy Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
449 Novice Brass Solo (any age) Beginner/ Pre Grade 1. Must not to have taken the Grade 1 exam or progressed beyond Grade 1 level. Piece must be below Grade 1 level.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
452 Instrumental Jazz Solo (18 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform one jazz piece on any instrument that is permitted in the orchestral classes.	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
453 Instrumental Solo (Open) Competitors are required to perform one piece on any instrument from the strings, brass, woodwind, percussion and guitar families.	Any	Up to 10 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £10.00

Percussion Classes

Competitors are required to perform one piece in drum kit, snare drum, timpani or tuned percussion. We have some Instruments available but competitors may have to bring their own instruments. Please contact the convenor to discuss further.

Competitors may perform with or without piano accompaniment, or with a backing CD.

You must bring a copy of the music for the adjudicator

Class	Age	Time	Fee
460 Percussion Solo (18 yrs and under) Award: John Martel Percussion Cup Own choice	18 and under		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
461 Percussion Solo (14 yrs and under) Own choice	14 and under		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
462 Percussion Solo (11 yrs and under) Own choice	11 and under		£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Guitar/ Fretted Instruments

Competitors are required to play one piece of their own choice on the guitar or any fretted instrument.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
470 Guitar Solo (18 yrs and under) Own choice	18 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
471 Guitar Solo (14 yrs and under) Award: Playtent Co-operative Cup Own choice	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
472 Guitar Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Edward Cross Guitar Trophy Own choice	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
473 Novice Guitar Solo (any age) Competitors should have received less than one year of tuition at the time of entry. Fee to be paid according to age. Own choice.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Harp

Class	Age	Time	Fee
480 Harp Solo (18 yrs and under) One or more pieces may be performed within the time limit. Own choice.	18 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
481 Harp Solo (14 yrs and under) One or more pieces may be performed within the time limit. Own choice.	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
482 Harp Solo (11 yrs and under) One or more pieces may be performed within the time limit. Own choice.	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Recorder Recital Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
501 Recorder Recital Class (Open) Award: Britten's Music Challenge Cup Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of three compositions of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance, the choice of the programme, and for playing from memory.	Any	Up to 15 mins	£17.00 Accompanist £20.00
502 Recorder Recital Class (12 to 18 yrs) Award: Gilling Cup Competitors are required to perform a recital programme of three compositions of contrasting styles and periods. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance and the choice of the programme.	Between 12 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £15.00

Recorder - Open and Senior Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
503 Advanced Recorder Solo (Open) Award: Wootton Cup Competitors are required to perform two movements from a Recorder Sonata written for any instrument of the consort. The choice of work will be taken into consideration.	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00 Accompanist £10.00
504 Senior Recorder Solo (12 yrs and over) Award: Walter Bergmann Memorial Cup for Senior Recorder Solo Competitors are required to perform any composition(s) of their own choice on any instrument of the consort.	12 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00) Accompanist £7.00
505 Senior Baroque Recorder Solo (12 yrs and over) Competitors are required to perform any music from the Baroque period.	12 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00) Accompanist £7.00
506 Senior Classical / Romantic Recorder Solo (12 yrs and over) Competitors are required to perform any composition(s) written between 1770 and 1900. Arrangements will be accepted.	12 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00) Accompanist £7.00
507 Senior 20th/21st Century Solo (12 yrs and over) Award: Morris Cup Competitors are required to perform any composition(s) written since 1900. Arrangements will be accepted.	12 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00) Accompanist £7.00
508 Senior Descant Recorder Solo (12 yrs and over) Award: Michael Brown Cup Own choice	12 and over	Up to 5 mins	£11.00 (Under 16 £9.00) Accompanist £7.00

Recorder - Junior Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
509 Junior Recorder Solo (11 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform on any instrument of the consort.	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
510 Junior Descant Recorder Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Walter Bergmann Memorial Cup for Junior Recorder Solo Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
511 Junior Baroque Solo (11 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform any composition from the Baroque period.	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
512 Junior Classical/Romantic Solo (11 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform any composition(s) written between 1770 and 1900. Arrangements will be accepted.	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
513 Junior 20th/21st Century Solo (11 yrs and under) Award: Recorder Cup for a Modern Solo Competitors are required to perform any composition(s) written since 1900. Arrangements will be accepted.	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
514 Junior Folk Tune Recorder Solo (11 yrs and under) Competitors are required to perform, accompanied or unaccompanied, a traditional melody from any country. A backing CD may be used.	11 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
515 Recorder Solo (9 yrs and under) Award: Junior Recorder Cup Own choice	9 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
516 Novice Recorder Solo Award: Arthur Ingham Memorial Cup Competitors should have received less than one year of tuition at the time of entry. There is no age limit. Own choice.	Any	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Recorder Duets

Class	Age	Time	Fee
520 Recorder Duet (Open) Award: Walter Bergmann Memorial Cup for Recorder Duet Own choice	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per duo Accompanist £7.00
521 Junior Recorder Duet (11 yrs and under) Award: Walter Bergmann Memorial Cup for Junior Recorder Duet Own choice	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per duo Accompanist £7.00

Recorder Consorts and Groups

Class	Age	Time	Fee
524 Recorder Consort (Open) Award: Challenge Cup It is required that there is just one instrument to a part, and that there should be NO conductor, accompaniment or percussion. Own choice. Group of any size	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group
525 Junior Recorder Consort (11 yrs and under) Award: Junior Consort Challenge Cup It is required that there is just one instrument to a part, and that there should be NO conductor, accompaniment or percussion. Own choice Group of any size	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group
526 Recorder Group (Open) Award: Senior Recorder Challenge Cup Three or more players are required to perform two contrasting items of their own choice. Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 per group Accompanist £10.00
527 Junior Recorder Group (11 yrs and under) Award: Cowell Award Three or more players are required to perform two contrasting items of their own choice. Group of a minimum of 3 people	11 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group Accompanist £7.00

Speech & Drama Syllabus

Please address any queries to the class convenor:

Matthew Taylor: 07484 648005, matthewrtaylor34@gmail.com

Date: Friday 19th February 2027

Attention Speech and Drama competitors. Please check out the Millennium Competitions as you may wish to participate.

The Forest School Trophy will be awarded for the most outstanding Speech and Drama performance in the 11-18 age group, as decided by the adjudicator. If the adjudicator feels that the winner was exceptional, then they will be eligible to receive a prize of £100 in further recognition of their achievement. The winner will be asked to perform again during the final evening of the festival, Saturday 20th February 2027.

The Dacia Stevens Award will be awarded to the most promising Speech and Drama performer as judged by the adjudicator and will also be asked to perform again during the final evening of the festival, Saturday 20th February 2027.

All pieces must be performed from memory, unless stated to the contrary.

Costume is optional and no marks are awarded for it. Simple props are permitted; chairs and small tables will be provided.

Competitors must adhere carefully to the time limits.

Verse speaking classes may incorporate occasional gestures in performance where deemed appropriate.

Clear copies of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator

Adjudicator

George Logan MA, Med, PGCE, FRSA, LGSM, LTCL, LLAM, LLCM, ANEA, ADB

Born in Northern Ireland, George became an adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals in 1983. Much of his career has been in education, working until 2015 mainly in the regulation and inspection of schools and children's services in the UK, both maintained and independent. He is currently an accredited consultant in the UAE, where he leads reviews of multi-curriculum international schools.

He became an examiner initially for the Poetry Society and, in 1989, for the Guildhall School (later Trinity-Guildhall, now Trinity College London) and examines widely across the British Isles and overseas in speech, drama and musical theatre. In 2025, he examined in Singapore, Sri Lanka and Mumbai. He also works as a moderator, and examiner-trainer for Trinity College. He has adjudicated at festivals across the UK and Ireland and is a regular visitor to the Hong Kong Schools Festival. George is delighted to be renewing acquaintance with the Stratford and East London Festival in 2027!

Speech & Drama Challenge Classes

Class	Age	Time	Fee
601 Senior Challenge (15 yrs and over) Award: VoiceSpace Cup Competitors will choose two pieces, based on a theme, which can be performed in any order; the whole recital not to exceed 10 minutes. A brief introduction should be given with an appropriate link between each piece. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance, the content and choice of the programme. 1. Verse 2. EITHER: a piece of prose OR a speech from a play OR a devised speech	15 and over	Up to 10 mins	£11.00
602 Junior Challenge (14 yrs and under) Award: Newham Chamber of Commerce Shield Competitors will choose two pieces, based on a theme, which can be performed in any order; the whole recital not to exceed 8 minutes. A brief introduction should be given with an appropriate link between each piece. The adjudicator will give credit for the quality of the performance, the content and choice of the programme. 1. Verse 2. EITHER: a piece of prose OR a speech from a play OR a devised speech	14 and under	Up to 8 mins	£11.00
604 Poetry Writing and Performance (15 yrs and under) Award: Elizabeth Prade Poetry Cup Competitors are required to perform a poem that they have written. The poem must be written in one of the following styles: narrative, sonnet or lyric. For the purposes of this competition, a lyric is defined as the thoughts and feelings (moods, meditations) of a single voice, not necessarily that of the poet. Marks will be awarded for both content and delivery.	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00

Humorous Solo

Competitors are required to perform from memory a piece of Humorous Verse of their own choice

Class	Age	Time	Fee
605 Humorous Solo (13 yrs and over) Award: Olive Allen Cup	13 and over	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
607 Humorous Solo (9 to 12 yrs) Award: Humorous Solo Cup	Between 9 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
609 Humorous Solo (8 yrs and under) Award: Verse Speaking Cup	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Prose Speaking

Competitors are required to perform from memory a piece of prose of their own choice. The passage may be taken from any book of fact or fiction but MUST be age appropriate.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
610 Prose Speaking (13 yrs and over) Award: Edith and Dorothy Parnum Cup	13 and over	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
612 Prose Speaking (9 to 12 yrs) Award: Drama Cup	Between 9 and 12	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
614 Prose Speaking (8 yrs and under) Award: Wetherall Cup	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Verse Speaking

Competitors will select and perform from memory a LYRIC poem of their own choice. A lyric poem is defined as the thoughts and feelings (moods and meditations) of a single voice, not necessarily that of the poet. Poems chosen should be age-appropriate.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
615 Solo Verse Speaking (8 yrs and under) Award: Evelyn Hills Cup	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
617 Solo Verse Speaking (9 to 12 yrs) Award: Plessey Trophy	Between 9 and 12	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
619 Solo Verse Speaking (13 yrs and over) Award: Leslie Pridham Cup	13 and over	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Sight Reading

Competitors are required to read an age-appropriate book of their choice before the Festival.

The adjudicator will select a passage from this book to be read out loud. The title of the book chosen must be indicated on the entry form.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
621 Reading at Sight (13 yrs and over) Award: Sight-Reading Cup	13 and over		£9.00
623 Reading at Sight (9 to 12 yrs) Award: Lilian Blunt Cup	Between 9 and 12		£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
625 Reading at Sight (8 yrs and under) Award: Arthur Simkins Memorial Cup	8 and under		£9.00

Television News Presentation

Competitors are required to take the role of a television newsreader or a roving reporter, treating the adjudicator as the camera.

The content of the newscast is optional. Note cards may be used.

These two classes will be timetabled consecutively. The competitor gaining the highest mark will be awarded the Walter Tee Award; the winner of the remaining class will
receive a class winner's medal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
627 Television Newsreader Presenter (12 yrs and over) Award: Walter Tee Award	12 and over	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
628 Television Newsreader Presentation (11 yrs and under) Award: Walter Tee Award	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Communication Skills

Competitors will give a talk on a topic of their own choosing. Cards may be used in these Classes as an aide memoir. However, marks will be deducted for over-use of notes. Simple visual aids may be incorporated.

These classes will be timetabled consecutively. The competitor gaining the highest mark will be awarded The Speech and Drama Cup; the winner of the other class will each receive a class winner's medal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
629 Communication (14 yrs and over) Award: Speech and Drama Cup	14 and over	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
631 Communication (13 yrs and under) Award: Speech and Drama Cup	13 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Storytelling

Competitors are required to talk or tell a story about an object which they have brought with them.

These classes will be timetabled consecutively. The competitor gaining the highest mark will be awarded the George Birtles Cup; the winner of the remaining class will receive a class winner's medal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
632 Storytelling (13 yrs and over) Award: George Birtles Cup	13 and over	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
633 Storytelling (12 yrs and under) Award: George Birtles Cup	12 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Musical Theatre

Competitors are required to perform a song and a scene/speech as a sequence. These can come from any source and be presented in any order. However, there must be a smooth transition between the two elements as though performing in the context of musical theatre. An introduction must be included. Marks will be awarded for the choice of material as well as the overall performance. Costume/props may be used, but they will not be reflected in the marking. Remember to provide the adjudicator with copies of both the speech and the song.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
636 Solo Musical Theatre (13 yrs and over) Award: Romford YMCA Operatic Society Cup	13 and over	Up to 10 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00
639 Solo Musical Theatre (12 yrs and under) Award: Jane Roberson Cup	12 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £7.00

Acting & Singing Pairs

Pairs will perform a scene and a song as a sequence that demonstrates the ability of both performers equally. A shared introduction must be included.

These classes will be timetabled consecutively with the pair gaining the highest mark being awarded the Anna Knight Cup; the winners of the remaining class will each receive a class winner's medal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
640 Pairs Musical Theatre (13 yrs and over)	13 and over	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per duo Accompanist £7.00
642 Pairs Musical Theatre (12 yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 7 mins	£12.00 per duo Accompanist £7.00

Acting

Competitors are required to perform either a speech from a published play post 1900 or a devised speech; a brief introduction must be included.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
643 Solo Acting (13 yrs and over) Award: Frank Whitworth Challenge Cup	13 and over	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
646 Solo Acting (9 to 12 yrs) Award: Rosa Smith Memorial Cup	Between 9 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
648 Solo Acting (8 yrs and under) Award: Janet Cass Cup	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Classical Theatre

Competitors will perform a speech from a play written before 1900; a brief introduction must be included.

These classes will be timetabled consecutively with the competitor gaining the highest mark being awarded the Joan Oldfield Memorial Cup; the winner of the remaining class will receive a class winner's medal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
649 Classical Theatre (14 yrs and over) Award: Joan Oldfield Memorial Cup	14 and over	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
650 Classical Theatre (13 yrs and under) Award: Joan Oldfield Memorial Cup	13 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Duologue

Competitors are required to perform a scene from any source, together with a brief shared introduction.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
651 Duologue (13 yrs and over) Award: Senior Duologue Shield	13 and over	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per duo
652 Duologue (12 yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per duo

Composition Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Stella Redburn: 020 8530 3148, stella_redburn@fast-email.com

This will be an entirely online discipline. Composers are asked to submit pieces of work in PDF format AND mp3 format or YouTube link. Electronic or very legible handwritten copies are acceptable, or a lead sheet with words and chords if this is all that is available. Please email your pdf and mp3/YouTube link to the convenor at stella_redburn@fast-email.com when you submit your entry on "Play and Perform".

The music must be your own original, unpublished composition. You must be an amateur composer. Your piece must not exceed 5 minutes to perform (or 3 minutes for the under 17s classes).

Please note that if your piece lasts longer than the time limit allowed, the adjudicator will not be able to adjudicate anything after that time allocation.

The closing date for receipt of entries is 31st December 2026

Adjudication will be on Zoom and entrants will be notified of the date. After the adjudication, entrants will be emailed a mark sheet with the adjudicator's comments and a certificate. Prize winners will be asked to submit their bank transfer details.

There will be a cash prize of £100 for the best composition.

Adjudicator

Manvinder Rattan BA (Hons), Hon.D.Litt, FRSM, ACertCM

Manvinder is a choral and orchestral conductor and trainer of conductors. He was born in Nairobi, Kenya and moved to the United Kingdom with his family when he was two. He has lived most of his life in Woodford Green in Essex where he went to Churchfields Junior School and then Ilford County High School for Boys.

Having spent 25 years as Musical Director for the John Lewis Partnership where he was responsible for the company's 21 choirs and orchestra, he is now Musical Director of Hertford Choral Society, Hertford Chamber Choir and the professional Serafine Sinfonia and Chamber Choir, with whom he has released critically acclaimed recordings.

Manvinder is one of the U.K.'s most experienced conductor trainers, with a considerable track record of success in both choral and orchestral training. He spent 17 years as Head of Conductor training for Sing for Pleasure, during which time the courses became accredited by the ABRSM. As well as the UK, Manvinder has directed conducting courses in Europe, India and Kenya. He has been a popular adjudicator at music festivals and appeared as a judge in the BBC Two series "The Choir" with Gareth Malone in 2012 and also the BBC Choir of the Year.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
701 A piece for choir or solo voice. Entrants to be 17 and over You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
702 A piece for choir or solo voice. Entrants to be 16 and under. You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	16 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
703 A piece for instrumental ensemble or solo instrument. Entrants to be 17 and over You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
704 A piece for instrumental ensemble or solo instrument. Entrants to be 16 and under You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	16 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
705 A piece written to showcase a specific ethnicity. Entrants to be 17 and over You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	17 and over	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
706 A piece written to showcase a specific ethnicity. Entrants to be 16 and under You may write your piece with or without accompaniment.	16 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00

Young Musician Competition Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor: Cathy Edkins - cathy.edkins@btinternet.com/07962 270557

Date: Saturday 20th February 2027

The winner will be presented with the Young Musician of the Year trophy and will also receive a cheque for £250.

There are no extra fees to pay for this section. Up to ten young musicians (pianists, vocalists and instrumentalists) aged 12-18 yrs will be selected to take part in this competition.

Competitors will be chosen on the basis of their performance during the festival. There are no specific qualifying classes, but competitors will be required to perform a recital of up to ten minutes.

Entering recital classes in the main festival will provide a good showcase for a competitor's selection. Competitors will be allowed to play/ sing items which they have already performed elsewhere in the festival.

Adjudicator

Ben Norbury Hon TCL, MBA (Open), MA (Oxon), LTCL, ACIEA

After beginning his musical studies by learning the recorder as a part of classroom music lessons, Ben entered the RAM's Junior Exhibitioner course as the first ever student to take the recorder as their main instrument. His studies with Christopher Ball laid firm musical foundations, which were built on first as an undergraduate at Oxford, and then via a postgraduate Master's in recorder and baroque oboe at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague.

Ben currently holds the position of Head of London College of Music Examinations. Prior to that he was Head of Sector Support at Trinity College London and was in charge of exam operations in the UK and Ireland. A spell as Music Syllabus manager culminated in an Honorary Membership of Trinity College, following his leadership of the amalgamation of Trinity and Guildhall's Music Exams.

Ben has enjoyed a varied and wide-ranging career as teacher, performer, adjudicator and Diploma examiner. As an oboist he works mainly in the field of authentic baroque and pre-baroque music, and he also has a close affinity for choral singing and keyboard instruments. His teaching posts have included inner city schools, London's Centre for Young Musicians and the Royal College of Music.