

# Piano Syllabus

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

Dates: 16th to 19th February 2026. 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

#### **Andrew Hansford**

BMus(Hons), BA(Hons), MA, MMus(Perf), MMus(Cantab), PGCert(OU), ARCM, ARCO, LRSM, LGSM, LTCL, FLCM

Andrew Hansford holds music degrees from multiple universities in the UK. A performing classical pianist specialising in piano accompaniment from relatively early on in his career, he is also an organist, harpsichordist and a choral singer.

In addition to working as an active international BIFF Music Adjudicator, Andrew has been a committed and experienced piano/jazz piano tutor since 1990, teaching all ages from beginner-level to an advanced diploma-level. He has also examined and mentored for the ABRSM and for Trinity College London.

Currently researching for a doctorate, Andrew has previously undertaken postgraduate research on the subject of 'A Study of the (Christmas) Carol' for his own curiosity and interest, and he also continues to enjoy occasional advanced piano accompaniment studies at the Royal College of Music as part of his own ongoing professional development.

Andrew has always had a real affinity for both choral and vocal music (especially English Song as a piano accompanist), nurtured since beginning his musical life at a UK Cathedral Choir School, and he takes special pleasure in accompanying choirs, choral ensembles and singers. He is also one of the resident organists at a local church in Oxfordshire near to where he lives. Particularly adept in the art of music improvisation and having also periodically explored composition (which has led to a number of non-published/personal compositions to date), his preferred choice of instrument for his

# 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 21st February 2026. 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 21st February 2026.

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

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

# **Solo Piano Classes of 18 Years and Under**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
310 Piano Recital Class (11 to 18 yrs)	Between 11 and 18	Up to 10 mins	£12.00
Award: Barbara Halestrap Trophy			
A recital of two or three compositions of contrasting styles and periods			
(Grade 5 and above).			
311 Junior Baroque Class (15 yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 5 mins	£8.00
Award: Audrey Sheard Cup			
312 Junior Beethoven (15 yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 5 mins	£8.00
Award: Laurence Springett Cup			
313 Sonatina Class (15 yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
Any sonatina movement.			
314 Piano Solo (18 years and under)	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00
Award: Yvonne Adair Cup			
Own choice			
315 Piano Solo (17 yrs and under)	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00)
Own choice			
316 Piano Solo (16 yrs and under)	16 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00)
Award: Grace Herring Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
317 Piano Solo (15 yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
Award: Mundy Family Cup			
Own choice			
318 Piano Solo (14 yrs and under)	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
Award: Delta Security Cup			
Own choice			
319 Piano Solo (13 yrs and under)	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
Award: Intermediate Piano Challenge Cup			
Own choice			
320 Piano Solo (12 yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
Award: Bloxham Cup			
Own choice			

Class	Age	Time	Fee
321 Piano Solo (11 yrs and under)	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
Award: Col. W. Johnson Galloway Challenge Cup			
Own choice			
322 Piano Solo (10 yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
Award: Junior Piano Cup			
Own choice			
323 Piano Solo (9 yrs and under)	9 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
Award: Akerman Award			
Own choice			
324 Piano Solo (8 yrs and under)	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
Award: Gwen Flower Junior Piano Challenge Cup			
Own choice			
325 Piano Solo (7 yrs and under)	7 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
Award: Lily Law Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
326 Piano Solo (6 yrs and under)	6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
Own choice			

#### **Graded Piano Classes**

One piece from the current 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)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00, Senior £8.00)
Award: James Dace Cup for Piano			,
A Grade 7 or 8 listed exam piece from a current syllabus.			
330 Piano Solo (Grades 5 and 6)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00, Senior £8.00)
Award: Don Egner Cup			20.00)
A Grade 5 or 6 listed exam piece from a current syllabus.			
331 Piano Solo (Grade 4)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00, Senior £8.00)
Award: Ivor Rees Memorial Cup			20.00)
A Grade 4 listed exam piece from a current syllabus.			
332 Piano Solo (Grade 3)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00,
Award: Don Egner Memorial Cup			Senior £8.00)
A Grade 3 listed solo exam piece from a current syllabus.			
333 Piano Solo (Grade 2)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00, Senior £8.00)
Award: James Kirby Cup			23.00)
A Grade 2 listed solo exam piece from a current syllabus.			

Class	Age	Time	Fee
334 Piano Solo (Grade 1)	Any		£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00, Senior £8.00)
Award: Rose Akerman Cup			20.000
A Grade 1 solo listed exam piece from a current syllabus.			

### **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)	14 and under	Up to 6 mins	£8.00
Two contrasting pieces.			
336 Piano Repertoire (11 yrs and under)	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£8.00
Two contrasting pieces.			

#### **Jazz/Pop Piano Classes**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
338 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (Open)	Any	Up to 7 mins	£11.00
Award: Jazz Open Cup			
Own choice			
339 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (18 yrs and under)	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00)
Own choice			
341 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (13 yrs and under)	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
Award: Cecil Handley Cup			
Own choice			
343 Jazz/Pop Piano Solo (9 yrs and under)	9 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
Own choice			

# 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)	19 and over	Up to 7 mins	£10.00 (Senior £8.00)
Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 7 minutes			
346 Come and Play! (12 to 18 years)	Between 12 and 18	Up to 7 mins	£10.00 (Under 16 £8.00)
Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 7 minutes			
347 Come and Play! (11 years and under)	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00 (Under 16 £8.00)
Non-competitive class - own choice. Time limit 4 minutes			

### **Novice Piano**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
348 Beginner (Pre-Grade 1 Level) Piano	Any	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
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.			

### **Senior Citizens**

Class	Age	Time	Fee	
349 Senior Citizen Piano Class (60 yrs and over)	Any	Up to 5 mins	£8.00	

### **Duets and Teams**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
350 Pupil and Teacher Duet (Pre-Grade 1 level)	Any	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 per duo
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.			
351 Pupil and Teacher Duet (Grade 1-3 level)	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00 per duo
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.			
352 Piano Duet (Open)	Any	Up to 7 mins	£12.00 per duo
Own choice			
353 Piano Duet (16 yrs and under)	16 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per duo
Award: Jim Akerman Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
354 Piano Duet (13 yrs and under)	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per duo
Award: Shalini Ganesh-Ram Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
355 Piano Duet (11 yrs and under)	11 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per duo
Award: Mary Sheehan Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
356 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (Open)	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per group
Own choice			
Group of a minimum of 3 people			
357 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (16 yrs and	16 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group
under)			
Group of a minimum of 3 people			

Class	Age	Time	Fee
358 Piano Team - three or more players at one piano (11 yrs and	11 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group
under)			
Award: Dr Linsay Kobelis Memorial Cup			
Own choice			
Group of a minimum of 3 people			