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.