



Stratford & East London Music Festival

Young Musician Competition Syllabus

Please address any queries to the convenor:

Date: Saturday 22 February 2025

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

RICHARD DEERING

FTCL, GTCL, LRAM, ARCM, PGCA

Richard has been an adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals for well over 30 years, adjudicating an average of 12 festivals a year as a piano or brass specialist and generalist.

Although no longer active as a performing brass player, Richard has given piano performances as soloist and accompanist in many countries, and has held teaching positions in establishments such as London College of Music, Trinity College of Music, Cambridge University and New York State University. Composers of the calibre of Malcolm Arnold, Malcolm Williamson, Brian Chapple and Charles Camilleri have written piano works especially for him, and for several years Richard had a close performing relationship with Elisabeth Lutyens. In 2023 he recorded the entire piano works of Hubert Parry and William Wordsworth as two separate projects, whilst his recording of Lutyens piano music is due for re-issue during 2024.

Richard was an adviser to the London Arts Board on contemporary music and jazz. Federation work has included serving on the Central Board of Trustees, Vice-Chair of the Adjudicator's Council and the administration of the PGCA qualification. Currently he is the Chair of Trustees of Croydon Performing Arts Festival and he was elected as a BIFF Fellow in 2012.

Richard is also a high-ranking international cricket umpire, a Life Member of Essex County Cricket Club and a season ticket holder at Sutton United Football Club.

