

HAZEL GROVE MUSICAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

www.hazeltgrovemusicalfestival.org.uk

PRESIDENT: MR SIMON BOTTOMLEY

CHAIRMAN: MR DONALD SYKES

GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr Richard Glazier

COMPETITORS' HON SECRETARY - VOCAL

Ms Michelle Parr

COMPETITORS' HON SECRETARY - INSTRUMENTAL

Mrs Eileen Rigg

COMPETITORS' HON SECRETARY - SPEECH AND DRAMA

Mrs Corinne Lawrence

COMPETITORS' HON SECRETARY - CHORAL

Ms Kate Atherton

COMPETITORS' HON TROPHY SECRETARY

Mrs Brenda Moseley

General Enquiries

secretary.hgmf@outlook.com

or c/o 1, Windsor Road, Hazel Grove SK7 4SW

ADJUDICATORS AND ACCOMPANISTS WILL INCLUDE:

MUSIC

Christina Thomson GRSM, LRAM, ARCM, PGCA

Angela Rowley BA (Hons), ARCM, PGCE, MISM

SPEECH & DRAMA

Peter Dayson

ACCOMPANISTS

Stewart Death, BSc(Hons), PPRNCM

Catherine Hall-Smith, BMus, PgDipRNSM, MISM

Tim Kennedy, MA, FRCO, DipABRSM

Welcome to Hazel Grove Musical Festival 2025

(Friendly, competitive classes in Speech, Drama, Instrumental, Vocal and Choral Music for over 100 years.)

**Speech & Drama, Vocal, Instrumental and Pianoforte classes
will take place between Friday 31st October & Sunday 2nd November
Choral Day will be held on Saturday 8th November**

Completing your General Entry form

(Teachers and organisations entering multiple candidates, please use the Teacher Entry Form also available via hazelgrovemusicalfestival.org.uk)

Entry requirements.

Please read the rules and entry requirements contained within the Syllabus. If you would like any further help or information, please email - secretary.hgmf@outlook.com or contact the relevant Competitor Secretary directly.

Competitor details.

Complete all relevant boxes on the entry form. Please ensure that details are clear and accurate, as they may be used for programme entries and certificates. If you are a parent or carer making entries for more than one child, please complete a separate form for each. We require contact and correspondence details for a parent or carer of any competitor under the age of 18. Please also make clear on the form any medical or accessibility requirements which may help us to ensure your day goes smoothly.

Choirs.

Some choral classes attract large numbers of participants. To ensure that we allocate sufficient seating for all competitors, we ask that you provide a realistic maximum number of participants in your choir (to include the singers, accompanist and Conductor).

Select your classes.

Complete the details of the classes you wish to enter, along with the cost of each (listed alongside in the syllabus). If you would like to receive a copy of the Festival Programme, posted to your address in advance, please also include the cost of this on the form.

Details of pieces for performance.

Please include the title of all pieces of music or prose and their author or composer for each class.

Privacy policy and Photographic consent.

Please ensure that you read and complete these sections, to provide or decline the relevant consents.

Copies of music or prose.

It may be that you are required to provide copies of the pieces that you intend to perform. These can be sent with your entry form or posted separately, before the closing date, but please ensure that they are clearly marked.

Entry Dates

The 2025 Festival opens for the receipt of entries from Sunday 1st June and will remain open until Monday 14th July.

Submitting your entry

You can either post your form to –

Hazel Grove Festival Entries c/o 14 Rutland Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire SK7 6JE

Scan/photograph the form and send it by email to secretary.hgmf@outlook.com

Or complete it online via our website www.hazलगrovemusicalfestival.org.uk

If you need further help or information, you can find out more about what happens at the Festival on our website, but if you can't find what you are looking for, please do get in touch via secretary.hgmf@outlook.com

What happens next.

Once we have your form, we will send you an email to acknowledge receipt and put you in contact with your relevant Competitors' Secretary.

We will then collate all your details and contact you again, to confirm your entries, ask you for any further information and if required, copies of music and prose. We will also provide you with a payment reference, so that you can then pay for your entry by bank transfer.

The entries will all then be sent for timetabling. We will endeavour to keep you updated with provisional dates and timings as we go along, but you will be informed of the precise timetable details in September, before the Festival Programme goes to press. Entries may be withdrawn and any entry fees refunded by cheque, at any point before the Programme is sent for printing, in September.

The Festival Committee reserves the right to restrict entries where classes or sessions are over subscribed. We will always aim to update our website and social media as soon as classes are full and have to be closed to new entrants. One of the most enjoyable aspects of a Festival, is for entrants to have the opportunity to compete alongside other performers, if there are insufficient entries for a particular class, we will make every effort to offer a suitable combination with another similar class or, if there are no suitable close combinations available, we may offer an adjudicated "Performance Class".

The Timetable will be available on the website from late September/Early October and you will receive joining instructions, and any Programmes that have been ordered in advance of the Competition.

On the day of the Festival

Adjudicator's copies. If you have not provided it in advance, please make sure that, in addition to any music or copy that you are bringing for your own performance, you bring a copy for the adjudicator's use (see rules on preparation of photocopied music).

Our website contains information about transport and directions to our venues, but please be aware that parking is limited and particularly in the case of Windsor Road, will involve parking on residential streets, so please leave plenty of time and be mindful of our neighbours.

On arrival, you will be able to check your class timings and class location at the desk.

Additional programmes will be on sale, along with tickets for audience members (parents and carers of competitors will require an entrance ticket).

There will be drinks, cake and light refreshments available for sale at the Wesley Street venue. If you require a full meal, you are welcome to bring a packed lunch, and there are a number of shops and eateries within easy walking distance.

Stewards will be on hand to direct you to your class. If you arrive early, you are welcome to listen to one of the other classes or wait in the café or foyer.

Warm-up and practise space.

For Vocal, Speech & Drama and Instrumental competitors, we may not be able to offer a rehearsal room in advance of classes, and we are not able to offer any practice time on the competition pianos. The exception to this is Choral Day, when choirs will be allocated a time in a separate room for a warm-up.

When you arrive at your class, a Steward will register you, check your ticket and show you in to sit down.

Once the class gets underway, competitors will be called up to perform. Please make sure that you hand the Adjudicator's copy to the Adjudicator's Clerk, before you begin your performance.

At the end of the class, the Adjudicator will provide some verbal feedback and may award certificates or prizes, as appropriate. You will be able to collect your own written adjudication sheet either from the Clerk or from the Festival Office.

A few additional reminders.

Further information is contained in the General Regulations and on the website, but we have been asked to highlight the following –

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding officer will be on site during the Festival and copies of our policy are widely available. However, please be aware that all children under the age of 18 years, must be accompanied by an adult while visiting the Festival. Entries for competitors under the age of 18, must be completed by a parent or carer and must include details for the adult who will be responsible for them and will remain on site.

Photography and recording

No photographs or video/audio recordings, may be taken during the classes.

Accompaniment

Unless specifically stated otherwise in the syllabus, only the official Festival Accompanists can be used for classes. They are available to provide piano accompaniment for competitors, provided that this has been requested and a copy of the music has been sent in advance of the Festival, via the Competitor's Secretary. No recorded music or outside accompanists may be used.

Choirs

Please note that Conductors are not permitted to sing with their choirs during competition.

Choral Day

The capacity of the venue is strictly limited and as such, we need to deal with entrants and audiences for these classes slightly differently from the other categories. On the entry form you will be asked for a total number of members of your choir or ensemble. You will be able to request tickets for your supporters and guests, in advance of any general ticket sales. Every effort will be made to allocate the required number of tickets to each choir, subject to the constraint of the capacity of the church. Any remaining tickets will be offered to the Friends of the Festival before being put on advance public sale. It is likely that for some more popular classes there will not be any tickets available on the door.

Can you help? Volunteers needed!

The Festival has been providing opportunities for individuals and ensembles of all ages to perform, compete and receive expert adjudication for over 100 years. We rely on a small army of volunteers to Steward the event, assist the adjudicators and keep the event running smoothly.

We always welcome anyone who is able to volunteer for at least one four hour session as a Steward during the course of the Festival. We are also always grateful for offers of assistance in the general administration of the Festival, so if you think you can help please do get in contact.

SPONSORSHIP

Thank you for requesting a syllabus for the 2025 Hazel Grove Musical Festival.

The Hazel Grove Musical Festival supports the talent of all competitors, letting them grow in confidence by performing in front of an audience and receiving positive feedback from professional adjudicators. We are proud to say that previous Festivals attracted over 500 competitors!

Our Festival, however, is run and supported on an entirely voluntary basis. If you wish to support the Festival further, then individuals, families, companies, or organisations can help by sponsoring a class or by becoming a subscriber (see below). Please spread the word.

We look forward to a great festival in 2025

TO: Mrs E. Godfrey, c/o 1, Windsor Road, Hazel Grove SK7 4SW

OR: you can send your sponsorship details by email to **secretary.hgmf@outlook.com**

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|
| I/We would like to be a sponsor of Hazel Grove Music Festival.
Name listed in the programme. | <input type="checkbox"/> | £10 |
| I/We would like to sponsor a page of the programme.
Name printed at the bottom of a page. | <input type="checkbox"/> | £20 |
| Junior /Youth Class (under 21 years)
Name listed under specific class | <input type="checkbox"/> | £20 |
| Adult Class
Name listed under specific class | <input type="checkbox"/> | £50 |
| Choral Class
Name listed under specific class | <input type="checkbox"/> | £80 |

If you wish to sponsor a particular class or if the class is to be sponsored in memory of someone please indicate below:

I/We wish to sponsor CLASS NO: CLASS TITLE:

I/We wish to sponsor the class in memory of:

Signed:

FRIENDS OF HAZEL GROVE MUSICAL FESTIVAL

We particularly value the support of individuals who become Friends of the Festival. In return for a donation of £20, you will receive regular updates, a programme in advance of the Festival, free entry to all classes on Friday 31st October & Saturday 1st November, and priority access to advance tickets for the Choral Day classes on Saturday 8th November, where they are not fully subscribed by the competitors.

We prefer to accept payments by bank transfer to –
Name: Hazel Grove Musical Festival
Sort: 16 - 21 - 13
Account 10147398

Reference SPONSOR followed by your name, but cheques can be made payable to – Hazel Grove Musical Festival

Name:

Address:

Post code: Tel:

SPEECH & DRAMA ADJUDICATORS WILL INCLUDE:

Peter Dayson

Peter started his career as an actor in stage, television and film, progressing to writing, directing and producing. He ran an International Award Winning Community Cross-Over Project which took children and students from across the London Boroughs and performed in the West End, transferring to Ohio, U.S.A. As an Actor Peter has appeared in many tv series and sit-coms, on stage played everything from John Macey in 'MONDAY AFTER THE MIRACLE' (West End) to Chris Keller in 'ALL MY SONS' with rep seasons ranging from Manchester, Nottingham, Birmingham, Leeds, Swansea, and Basingstoke. As a writer Peter has written several plays, 8 musicals, show-cased in the West End and is currently working on a spy-thriller. For television Peter has appeared in several Dr Who episodes with five different Doctors, Blakes Seven, Three of a Kind, Stig of the Dump and The Stanley Baxter Picture Show, Sorry, Play for Today. As a Director Peter has been responsible for many productions, was Artistic Director for Stafford Gatehouse for 8 years, worked for Disney as a Director and Executive Producer and, also worked for Really Useful Theatre Groups and for 2 years as a writer for E.M.I. Peter's passion is working with children, students and young performers, particularly special needs to nurture, encourage, support and develop them with perhaps a career in the industry or just 'Life Skills'.

MUSIC ADJUDICATORS WILL INCLUDE:

Angela Rowley BA(Hons), ARCM, PGCE, MISM

Angela is a graduate in German from University College, London and after a period in teaching, began private singing training with, among others, Paul Hamburger, leading to the ARCM and a successful singing career. Angela has performed throughout the UK and Europe and performs periodically in recital, concert and oratorio. For several years Angela taught singing in a large comprehensive school and later in a Sixth Form College where she formed a choir, assisted in the production of musicals and initiated the development of music in the curriculum for students with both mild and severe learning difficulties. Angela has a private practice, leads residential workshops and masterclasses and is Musical Director of Eccles Community Choir and co-ordinator and MD of Harmony '96 choir. In 2019 Angela was a finalist in the Francesca Hanley 'Inspirational Teacher of the Year' awards sponsored by the Musicians' Union. Angela is a fellow of the Incorporated Society of Musicians and an adjudicator with the British and International Federation of Festivals and is happy to adjudicate online festivals.

Christina Thomson GRSM, LRAM, ARCM, PGCA

Christina studied horn, piano, and singing at the Royal Academy of Music. A career in Bavaria followed, playing and teaching. She returned to London to perform and joined the music departments of Harrow and the Purcell School. In 1991 she moved to Yorkshire where she taught at Ripon Cathedral Choir School, Sedbergh and Ampleforth College, as well as being a player, specialising in chamber music. She had an extensive private teaching practice encompassing the ages of 5 to 85! She was a brass mentor for the Associated Board's professional development course. Now, as well as being an Adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, she is a national and international examiner for the ABRSM. Countries she has worked in include Europe, Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, South Africa, Thailand and the USA.

Luise Horrocks MA(Oxon), ARCM, PGCA, PGCE, HON TCL

After studies at Oxford University and the Royal College of Music, Luise's career as a professional Soprano soloist took her throughout the UK, Europe, America and South Africa. Luise has held teaching positions in both the Junior and Senior departments of Birmingham Conservatoire and as a visiting lecturer at Birmingham University. She runs an extensive private teaching practice and regularly gives masterclasses, choral workshops, presentations and teacher sessions both at home and abroad. She has worked as a mentor on the CT ABRSM panel and as a vocal coach on residential courses for singers. She has also trained and conducted the Wye Forest Young Voices Choir. She has recently taken up an appointment as the singing teacher at Keble College, Oxford and has become a Vocal Health First Aider. Luise is an experienced adjudicating member of the British and International Federation of Festivals.

SPEECH AND DRAMA

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 1st November 2025 at Hazel Grove Methodist Church

SPEECH AND DRAMA SECRETARY - Mrs C Lawrence

In Speech and Drama Classes competitors and teachers are reminded that own choice pieces should be appropriate to the age of entrants. Likewise, out of consideration to the younger members of the audience, material of an unsuitable or offensive nature will not be considered and candidates may be asked to withdraw. See **General Regulation 3. (a-d)** In case of doubt please contact the Speech and Drama Secretary.

Please note that, in a change to the practice of previous years, entry to all Speech & Drama classes is now determined by the competitor's age on **31st October 2025**. A copy of the chosen piece must be given to the Adjudicator at the time of the performance.

CLASS 100	Verse Speaking, Non-competitive, Age 5 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Each performance will receive a certificate and adjudicator's comments. Time limit: 2 minutes	Fee: £5.00
CLASS 101	Verse Speaking, 6-7 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 102	Verse Speaking, 8-9 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 103	Verse Speaking, 10-11 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 108	Verse Speaking, 12-13 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 3 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 111	Verse Speaking, 14-15 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 3 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 112	Verse Speaking, 16 years & above Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00

**The winner giving the best performance of Classes 108, 111 & 112
will be awarded the Huw Lloyd Rowlands Trophy.**

CLASS 121	<p>Junior Verse Recital, 12-15 years Competitors to introduce and present three poems, one of which must be a sonnet, on a theme of their own choice to show contrasting styles of verse. The time allowed includes brief words of introduction and/or links between the poems. Time limit: 8 minutes</p>	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 122	<p>Verse Recital, 16 years & above Competitors to introduce and present three poems, one of which must be a sonnet, on a theme of their own choice to show contrasting styles of verse. The time allowed includes brief words of introduction and/or links between the poems. Time limit: 10 minutes</p>	Fee: £12.00
CLASS 141	<p>Shakespeare Solo, 15 years & above Own Choice from any play Time limit: 7 minutes</p>	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 145	<p>Performance Poetry Open Perform from memory a piece with physical gestures, emphases, and the intention to engage with the audience as a key feature.</p>	Fee: £12.00
CLASS 146	<p>Write and Speak a Poem, Non-competitive Open Competitors are to write a poem on a subject of their own choice which they will read aloud at the Festival.</p>	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 153	<p>Prose Reading, 7 years & under Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes</p>	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 154	<p>Prose Reading, 8-9 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes</p>	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 155	<p>Prose Reading, 10-11 years Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes</p>	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 156	<p>Prose Reading, 12-13 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 2 minutes</p>	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 158	<p>Prose Reading, 14-15 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 3 minutes</p>	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 159	<p>Prose Reading, 16 years & above Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) Time limit: 3 minutes</p>	Fee: £8.00

CLASSES 170 – 179. Competitors must send a copy of their own choice piece for approval as it will be performed with the entry form. Competitors will be informed if language thresholds are not adhered to, and may be disqualified - please see General Regulation 3. (a-d)

CLASS 170	Solo Drama, 10 years & under Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 3 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 171	Solo Drama, 11-12 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 172	Solo Drama, 13-14 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 173	Solo Drama, 15-16 years Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed – small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 174	Solo Drama, Open (17 years & above) Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed – small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 175	Solo Comedy, 10 years & under Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 3 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £7.00
CLASS 176	Solo Comedy, 11-12 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 177	Solo Comedy, 13-14 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 178	Solo Comedy, 15-16 years Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed – small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 179	Solo Comedy, Open (17 years & above) Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed – small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes (time to include introduction)	Fee: £8.00

CLASS 180	Public Speaking, 15 years & under A short speech about a figure in Theatre or Film or an autobiography of a well-known person. Prompt cards and hand-held visual aids allowed Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 181	Public Speaking, 16 years & above A short speech on the life and works of any great figure in the arts, humanities or science. Prompt cards and hand-held visual aids allowed Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASSES 182 -193. Competitors must send a copy of their own choice piece for approval as it will be performed with the entry form. Competitors will be informed if language thresholds are not adhered to, and may be disqualified - please see General Regulation 3. (a-d)		
CLASS 182	Duologues, 7 years & under Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 183	Duologues, 8-10 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 184	Duologues, 11-14 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 185	Duologues, 15-18 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 186	Duologues, Open (19 years and over) Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Time limit: 8 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 187	Acted Scene, 7 years & under Own Choice - see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Not less than 3 characters Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 188	Acted Scene, 8-10 years Own Choice – see General Regulation 2.(a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Not less than 3 characters Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £25.00

CLASS 189	Acted Scene, 11-14 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2. (a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Not less than 3 characters Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 190	Acted Scene, 15-18 years Own Choice - see General Regulation 2. (a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Not less than 3 characters Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 191	Acted Scene, Open (19 years & over) Own Choice - see General Regulation 2. (a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only Not less than 3 characters Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 192	A Duologue from a Musical, Open) which may include the first verse (only) of the song that follows the dialogue Own Choice - see General Regulation 2. (a-f) No costumes allowed - small hand props only If you include a song, you must provide your own accompaniment.	Fee: £11.00

GROUP CREATIVE PERFORMANCE CLASSES

NB: whilst it is unrealistic to request an advance script for Classes 194-198, the adjudicator will stop and disqualify any performance that infringes the language thresholds as stated in General Regulation 3. (a-d). Groups may include music and/or sound effects, but must provide and operate their own sound equipment. The title of the piece must be announced at the beginning, and all members of the group must speak some dialogue.

CLASS 194	Creative Performance, 6 years & under Groups to devise a piece of work on a theme of their own choice. The piece must include one of the following dramatic conventions: narration, monologue, tableaux. Time limit for groups of 10 or fewer: 10 minutes Time limit for groups of 11 or more: 15 minutes	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 195	Creative Performance, 7-10 years Groups to devise a piece of work on a theme of their own choice based on a piece of music. The piece must include two of the following dramatic conventions: prologue and/or epilogue, tableaux, narration, monologue, chorus. Time limit for groups of 10 or fewer: 10 minutes Time limit for groups of 11 or more: 15 minutes	Fee: £25.00

CLASS 196	<p>Creative Performance, 11-14 years</p> <p>Groups to devise a piece of work on a theme derived from a topical issue or newspaper article. The piece must include three of the following dramatic conventions: chorus, epilogue, monologue, narration, prologue, tableaux, physical theatre. Time limit for groups of 10 or fewer: 10 minutes Time limit for groups of 11 or more: 15 minutes</p>	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 197	<p>Creative Performance, 15-17 years</p> <p>Groups to devise a piece of work on a theme derived from a topical issue or newspaper article. The piece must include four of the following dramatic conventions: chorus, epilogue, monologue, narration, prologue, tableaux, physical theatre. Time limit for groups of 10 or fewer: 10 minutes Time limit for groups of 11 or more: 15 minutes</p>	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 198	<p>Creative Performance, Open (18 years & over)</p> <p>Groups to devise a piece of work on a theme derived from a topical issue or newspaper article. The piece must include six of the following dramatic conventions: chorus, epilogue, monologue, narration, prologue, tableaux, physical theatre. Time limit for groups of 10 or fewer: 10 minutes Time limit for groups of 11 or more: 15 minutes</p>	Fee: £25.00

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC — PIANO

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER 2025 at 1, Windsor Road, SK7 4SW

INSTRUMENTAL SECRETARY - Mrs E Rigg

*CLASS 200	Pianoforte Solo, Prep Test Test Piece: One piece from the ABRSM Prep test or piece of similar standard	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 201	Pianoforte Solo, Grades I and II Test Piece: One own choice piece from current Examination Boards' Syllabuses	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 202	Pianoforte Solo, Grades III and IV Test Piece: One own choice piece from current Examination Boards' Syllabuses	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 203	Pianoforte Solo, Grades V and VI Test Piece: One own choice piece from current Examination Boards' Syllabuses	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 204	Pianoforte Solo, Grades VII and VIII Test Piece: One own choice piece from current Examination Boards' Syllabuses	Fee: £9.00

(*) Competitors may only enter one of Classes 200, 201, 202, 203 and 204

CLASS 205	Pianoforte Solo, 8 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 3 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 206	Pianoforte Solo, 10 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 207	Pianoforte Solo, 12 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 208	Pianoforte Solo, 14 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 209	Pianoforte Solo, 16 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 7 minutes	Fee: £9.00

The First Prize-winners of Classes 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, must be prepared to compete for a Championship Trophy; this will be held on the day of the competition

STRING INSTRUMENTS - to include
Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass and Classical Guitar

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER 2025 at Hazel Grove Methodist Church

NB ALL CLASSES: A copy of the music must be sent for the accompanists by Monday, 14th July 2025.
Regulation I. (d)

INSTRUMENTAL SECRETARY - Mrs E Rigg

CLASS 240	String Instrument Solo, 9 years and under (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 241	String Instrument Solo, 11 years and under (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 242	String Instrument Solo, 14 years and under (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 244	String Instrument Solo, Open (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 246	String Instrument Duet, Open (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £11.00
CLASS 252	Classical Guitar Solo, Open One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 253	String Instrument Solo, Grades I and II (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece from current Examination Boards' syllabuses See Regulation 4.(a-g)	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 254	String Instrument Solo, Grades III and IV (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece from current Examination Boards' syllabuses See Regulation 4.(a-g)	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 255	String Instrument Solo, Grades V and VI (Excluding Classical Guitar) One Own Choice Piece from current Examination Boards' syllabuses See Regulation 4.(a-g)	Fee: £9.00

(*) Competitors may enter only one of Classes 253, 254, 255 and 256.

***CLASS 256** **String Instrument Solo, Grades VII and VIII** **Fee: £9.00**
 (Excluding Classical Guitar)
 One Own Choice Piece from current Examination Boards' syllabuses
 See Regulation 4.(a-g)

(* Competitors may enter only one of Classes 253, 254, 255 and 256.

RECORDERS

**NB ALL CLASSES: A copy of the music must be sent for the accompanists by Monday, 14th July 2025
 Regulation 1. (d)**

CLASS 260 **Recorder Solo (Any Recorder) 9 years and under** **Fee: £8.00**
 One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 3 minutes

CLASS 261 **Recorder Solo (Any Recorder) 11 years and under** **Fee: £8.00**
 One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 5 minutes

CLASS 262 **Recorder Solo, (Any Recorder) 14 years and under** **Fee: £8.00**
 One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 5 minutes

CLASS 266 **Recorder Solo (Any Recorder) 16 years and under** **Fee: £9.00**
 One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 7 minutes

CLASS 267 **Solo Recorder, (Any recorder) Open** **Fee: £9.00**
 One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 10 minutes

CLASS 268 **Recorder Duet (Any two recorders),** **Fee: £10.00**
 11 years and under
 One Own Choice Piece – see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 4 minutes

CLASS 269 **Recorder Duet (Any two recorders), Open** **Fee: £11.00**
 One Own Choice Piece – see Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)
 Time limit: 10 minutes

WIND INSTRUMENTS - any Woodwind or Brass Instrument (excluding Recorders)

**NB ALL CLASSES: A copy of the music must be sent for the accompanists by Monday, 14th July 2025.
Regulation 1. (d)**

INSTRUMENTAL SECRETARY - Mrs E Rigg.

CLASS 270	Wind Instrument Solo, 11 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 3 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 272	Wind Instrument Solo, 14 years and under One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 276	Wind Instrument Solo, Open (Woodwind or Brass) One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 277	Wind Instrument Duet, 11 years and under Any combination One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 278	Wind Instrument Duet, Open Any combination One Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £11.00

ANY INSTRUMENTS

CLASS 281	Ensemble, Open (3-12 players) (Any combination of instruments excluding electronic keyboard) A programme of one or more pieces. – see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 15 minutes	Fee: £25.00
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2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC — PIANO

PIANO CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON BOTH SATURDAY 1st November 2025
AND SUNDAY 2nd November 2025 at 1, Windsor Road, Hazel Grove SK7 4SW

INSTRUMENTAL SECRETARY - Mrs E Rigg

CLASS 230	Pianoforte Solo J.S.BACH, SCARLATTI Open Own Choice Piece by one of the stated Composers – See Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 231	Pianoforte Solo HAYDN, MOZART Open Own Choice Piece by one of the stated Composers see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 232	Pianoforte Solo BEETHOVEN, SCHUBERT Open Own Choice Piece by one of the stated Composers see Regulation 2. (a-f)	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 233	Pianoforte Solo BRAHMS, SCHUMANN, Open Own Choice Piece by one of the stated Composers see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 234	Pianoforte Solo CHOPIN, LISZT, Open Own Choice Piece by one of the stated Composers see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 235	Pianoforte Solo FRENCH COMPOSER, Open Own Choice Piece by a French Composer see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 236	Pianoforte Solo RUSSIAN COMPOSER, Open Own Choice Piece by a Russian Composer see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 237	Pianoforte Solo OWN CHOICE COMPOSER, Open Own Choice Piece by any Composer see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £10.00

**The First Prize Winners of the above classes must be prepared to compete for
The CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY and JOHN STIMPFIG AWARD £100
to be held on the day of the competition**

CLASS 238	Pianoforte Duet OWN CHOICE COMPSEER, Open Own Choice Duet by any Composer - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Time limit: 10 minutes	Fee: £12.00:
CLASS 239	Piano Concerto First Prize £50, John Stimpfig Award One or more movements from any piano concerto or work for piano and orchestra Time limit: 25 minutes	Fee: £25.00

ALL COMPETITORS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

NB. The number of entries for this class may be limited

VOCAL MUSIC

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 31st October 2025 at Hazel Grove Methodist Church

NB ALL CLASSES: A copy of the music must be sent for the accompanists by **Monday, 14th July 2025.**
Regulation 1. (d)

VOCAL SECRETARY: Ms M Parr

*CLASSES 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311: Songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop are excluded from these classes.

*CLASS 301	British Composers, 11 years and under Any solo song by a British Composer (See note above) See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 303	British Composers, 14 years and under Any solo song by a British Composer (See note above) See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 304	British Composers, 18 years and under Any solo song by a British Composer (See note above) See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 307	Vocal Solo, 11 years and under Own Choice Piece (See note above) See Regulations 1(h) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00
*CLASS 309	Vocal Solo, 14 years and under Own Choice Piece (See note above) See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
*CLASS 310	Vocal Solo, 18 years and under Own Choice Piece (See note above) See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 314	Musical Shows (any voice), 11 years and under Solo from any Musical Show, Film, Light Opera or Gilbert and Sullivan Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £8.00
CLASS 316	Musical Shows (any voice), 14 years and under Solo from any Musical Show, Film, Light Opera or Gilbert and Sullivan Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 317	Musical Shows (any voice), 18 years and under Solo from any Musical Show, Film, Light Opera or Gilbert and Sullivan Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00

CLASS 318	Traditional Folk Song (any voice), 18 years and under Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Must be sung unaccompanied Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £9.00
CLASS 319	Vocal Duet 18 years and under Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 4 minutes	Fee: £10.00

VOCAL MUSIC

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 1st November 2025 at Hazel Grove Methodist Church

**NB ALL CLASSES: A copy of the music must be sent for the accompanists by Monday, 14th July 2025.
Regulation 1. (d)**

VOCAL SECRETARY: Ms M Parr

CLASS 350	VOCAL RECITAL The Margaret Lane Award, £50 and a special certificate This Award is presented in memory of a lifetime's support for singers, notably in the North West of England, by Miss Margaret Lane, Singer, Teacher and Adjudicator for The British Federation of Festivals. Competitors must have entered at least one other class in the festival. A programme of three pieces showing contrasting styles See Regulations 2.(a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 15 minutes Note. This class is for more experienced singers and will be limited to 12 competitors	Fee: £25.00
CLASS 351*	SOPRANO SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 352*	MEZZO SOPRANO SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 353*	CONTRALTO SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 1(h) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 354*	TENOR SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 355*	BARITONE SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 356*	BASS SOLO, Open One Own Choice piece excluding songs from Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan and Pop See regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00

***NB – The First Prize winners of Classes 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356 must be prepared to compete for a Vocal Championship Trophy; this will be held on the day of the competition.**

N.B. CLASSES 357 – 371 will be limited to 20 competitors in each class.

CLASS 357	Folk Song (any voice), Open Own Choice Piece - see Regulation 2. (a-f) Must be sung unaccompanied Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 358	Operatic Solo (any voice), Open Aria from any standard opera - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) May be sung in the original language Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 359	Light Opera or Modern Musical Show (any voice), Open including Gilbert & Sullivan Solo (any voice), Solo from any Gilbert & Sullivan Opera – See Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 361	Vocal Solo (any voice), Age 60 years & over Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 362	Vocal Duet (any two voices), Open Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) May be sung in the original language Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £12.00
CLASS 363	British Composer Solo (any voice), Open Any song by a British Composer (excluding Musical Shows, Films, Light Opera and Gilbert & Sullivan) see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 365	Lieder, Open Own choice from the works of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Mahler, Mendelssohn, Wolf or Strauss see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 366	Solo song in any living language except English, or German To be sung in the original language Time limit: 5 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 367	Oratorio Solo (any voice) Open Own choice Piece from any Oratorio or Sacred Work - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 368	Victorian or Edwardian Ballad (any voice), Open Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 5 minute	Fee: £10.00
CLASS 369	Vocal Solo Any competitor over 21 years who has never won a vocal class in any festival Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g) Time limit: 6 minutes	Fee: £10.00

CLASS 370

Humour in Song, Open

Any humorous song or aria

Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g)

Time limit: 5 minutes

Fee: £10.00

CLASS 371

Jazz or Swing Solo, Open

Any song in a Jazz or Swing style

Own Choice Piece - see Regulations 2. (a-f) and 4.(a-g)

Fee: £10.00

CHORAL MUSIC

CLASSES TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 8th November 2025 at Hazel Grove Methodist Church

NB The conductor of a choral group IS NOT ALLOWED to sing with his or her choir during competitions.

CHORAL SECRETARY: Ms K Atherton

CLASS 400 **Junior Choirs & Ensembles, 8 years and under** **Fee: £25.00**
To perform two pieces of their own choice to show
a contrast of styles
See Regulation 2. (a-f)
Time limit: 6 minutes
ALL CHOIRS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

CLASS 401 **Junior Choirs & Ensembles, 12 years and under** **Fee: £25.00**
To perform two pieces of their own choice to show
a contrast of styles
See Regulation 2. (a-f)
Time limit: 10 minutes
ALL CHOIRS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

CLASS 402 **Youth Choirs & Ensembles, 21 years and under** **Fee: £25.00**
To perform two pieces of their own choice to show
a contrast of styles
See Regulation 2. (a-f)
Time limit: 10 minutes
ALL CHOIRS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

In Classes 400, 401 & 402 one or both pieces may be Christmas related if preferred.

CLASS 403 **Vocal Ensemble, Open** **Fee: £25.00**
3-12 voices only
To perform two pieces of their own choice to show a contrast of styles
See Regulation 2. (a-f)
Time limit: 10 minutes
ALL ENSEMBLES MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

CLASS 405 **CHORAL RECITAL (Excluding Barbershop)** **Fee: £50.00**
First Prize: £100 Second Prize £50
16 - 45 voices
Open to Ladies' Choirs, Male Voice Choirs and Mixed
Voice Choirs (including Church and Chapel Choirs)
Choirs to perform a programme of three contrasting pieces
See Regulation 1(h)
Time limit: 15 minutes

ALL CHOIRS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ACCOMPANIST

NB. The Committee reserves the right to close the entries to a class when the seating capacity of the venue has been reached.

General Regulations

1. Competition Entries

- a. The closing date for entries is **Monday, 14th July 2025**. The Committee reserves the right to restrict entries or to close classes before the closing date for entries if the Festival is over-subscribed.
- b. The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.
- c. All entries must be made on official forms, which may be photocopied for each section. The forms must be completed in full, i.e. including the Declaration and Photo Consent sections signed as appropriate, and reach the Competitors' Secretaries together with full remittance of entry fees by the closing date as detailed above.
- d. Own choice music for the accompanist must be sent to the Competitors' Secretary by the closing date of 14th July 2025 (above). All photocopied music must be clear and in a fit state for the accompanist. An original copy must be available on the day of the Festival (see notes on copyright and photocopying below).
- e. All entrants/teachers must sign their acceptance of the Festival's policies as shown on the Festival's website **www.hazeltgrovemusicalfestival.org.uk**. Paper copies of the following policies are available from the General Secretary.

*General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Privacy Notice
Child Protection Policy
Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone*

- f. Where there are fewer than four (4) entrants in a Class, the Competitors' Secretary may offer the performer an alternative or Performance Class as appropriate.
- g. Competitors will receive a ticket allowing them to perform in their designated class(es); audience tickets must be purchased for all other performances.

2. Own Choice Classes

- a. Entries will not be accepted without full details being shown on the entry form.
- b. A competitor will not be allowed to change an "own choice" piece once the entry form has been received by the Competitors' Secretary.
- c. Competitors must not choose Test Pieces specified for other classes.
- d. For Speech & Drama classes a copy of the own choice piece should be handed to the Adjudicator's Clerk at the beginning of the class
- e. For Music classes, an original copy of the piece must be made available for the adjudicator at the time of Competition.
- f. Time limits where specified must be strictly adhered to, otherwise penalties will be imposed, which may result in either disqualification or deduction of marks.

3. Unacceptable language thresholds

- a. The Festival aims to celebrate the best and highest forms of literature and language, and therefore reserves the right to refuse entries that are made up of continuously bad language and/or gratuitous expletives.
- b. It is understood that pieces routinely performed for public examinations (e.g. the works of August Strindberg and Tennessee Williams) often explore adult themes and contain strong language, and the Festival accepts such classic works. However, care should be taken when choosing or devising more contemporary pieces. We ask that you present your work in a manner that respects the 'family-orientated' nature of the Festival, and avoid the unnecessary exposure of younger children to inappropriate themes and language.
- c. Therefore all competitors of Classes 172 – 193 must send a copy of the piece as you intend to perform it to the Speech & Drama Competitors' Secretary with your entry form.

d. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any entry that it considers unacceptable. Four-letter words (e.g. f****) **MUST** be replaced by milder expletives, and such expletives used only sparingly.

4. **Use of Official Accompanist**

a. From 2020 the Festival reverted to the rule that the official accompanist is used, except where otherwise stated.

b. Where the official accompanist is required, the Competitors' Secretary must receive a copy of the piece with the entry form by **Monday, 14th July 2025**.

c. To assist our accompanists in their preparation and in giving their best support to all performers, we ask competitors to co-operate with the following -

Preparation of Photocopied Music

An original copy must be available for the adjudicator on the day of the Festival

d) The print must be clear and show both ends of the stave.

e) The pages must be taped together, edge on, in page order. No staples! Scotch Magic Tape or Sellotape (invisible) is preferable. If more than 3 pages, tape in book format, so accompanist can easily turn the pages.

f) The copies must be marked "Accompanist Copy. Destroy after use."

g) Please put your name and class number clearly on the front of the music.

The Committee will not take responsibility for infringement of copyright and, accordingly, photocopies of pieces will not be accepted unless authorisation from the publisher is provided (see Section 5 *Copyright and Photocopying* below)

5. **Competition Eligibility**

a. All competitions shall be open to amateurs only. For this purpose "amateur" is defined as – Any person whose principal means of livelihood is NOT obtained from musical or dramatic work, even if he or she, from time to time, accepts a fee, stipend or honorarium for musical or dramatic services rendered.

b. In all children's classes where an age limit is stipulated, each competitor must be within the age limit specified at the date of the competition. **Age on 31st October 2025** if under 21 must be stated on the entry form.

c. The number of singers in Choral Classes 403 and 405 must not exceed the stated limits.

d. Boy sopranos are not eligible to enter female vocal classes.

e. Competitors may not be substituted on the day of the competition.

6. **Competition Conduct**

a. Video/audio recording or photography IS NOT ALLOWED during competitions.

b. Practice is not allowed on festival pianos; these may ONLY be played by competitors whilst competing.

c. The use of electronic equipment for sound amplification IS NOT ALLOWED.

d. No-one, other than the adjudicator, is allowed to prompt or otherwise assist the performance during competitions.

e. The conductor of a choral group IS NOT ALLOWED to sing with his or her Choir during competitions.

7. **Competition Adjudication**

a. Adjudicators' decisions will be regarded as final.

b. Adjudicator's notes will be available to competitors at the end of each Class or from the Festival office.

c. The Festival uses the marks system for grading performances, and the general descriptors are –

Marking Band	Mark	Descriptor
DEVELOPING	65-69	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency and artistry
PROGRESSING	70-74	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.
MERIT	75-79	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability
COMMENDED	80-84	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills
HONOURS	85-89	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
OUTSTANDING	90-94	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.
EXCEPTIONAL	95+	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.

d. All certificates, medals, trophies and plaques are awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator and the Festival Committee.

e. First, Second and Third Prize certificates will be awarded in all Music and Speech & Drama classes where sufficient merit is shown.

f. In junior classes a keepsake medal will be awarded to winners in the younger age groups, and a First Prize Certificate will be awarded in the older age groups. In adult classes a Certificate will be awarded to the winner of the class.

g. A Trophy/Shield may be awarded to certain Adult Championship classes featuring Pianoforte, Vocal and Choral performances. The First Prize Winners of classes leading to a Championship award must be prepared to compete in the final. The Trophy/Shield award will be for a period of one year; the winner will bear the cost of any engraving, and must ensure the return of the trophy/shield to the Trophy Secretary prior to the next Festival.

8. Copyright and photocopying

a. The Music Publishers' Association Code of Practice on Photocopying Copyright Works make the following concession for copying own choice pieces from volumes only for the use of the adjudicator at a festival provided that the entrant or participant has already purchased his/her own copy and that the copy made is retained and destroyed by the Administrator of the festival immediately after the event. Competitors are advised that permission applies only to copyright holders who are members of the Music Publishers' Association (listed at the back of the Code of Practice leaflet, obtainable from the Association at 103 Kingsway, London WC2B 6QX or online at <http://www.mpaonline.org.uk/associatedcompanies>).

b. It is the competitor's own responsibility to ensure that they seek permission to copy direct from any copyright holder whose name does not appear in the M.P.A. list. Single copies of items may not be photocopied without the prior permission of the copyright holder.

c. There is no longer an agreement between the Federation of Festivals and the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society for copyright permission for the photocopying of any poetry or solo dramatic items (*) performed. The previous agreement did not cover duologues and group dramatic activity, and performers were asked to seek copyright for these items at the time of entry. It is now the responsibility of all performers to seek copyright agreement at the time of entry.

(*) Solo dramatic items must be announced at the time of performance with title and author to qualify for copyright indemnity, and the performer must not change the words or gender of the character.

9. Communications

a. All enquiries, complaints or representations must be made in writing to the Hon General Secretary.

b. Communications (other than those appropriate to Competitors' Secretaries) should be addressed to the Hon General Secretary and a stamped, addressed envelope enclosed if a reply is required.

c. The decision of the Committee in all questions and disputes arising out of, or not provided for in, these regulations shall be final.

Could your company or organisation support this year's Festival by advertising in the programme or on our website?

Charges start from £30 upwards for advertisements in the programme and from £80 on the new Festival website.

