



Brentwood International Music Competition

Rules and Regulations

Preliminary Round

Online video submission

1. Applicants must perform at least **2 contrasting pieces** with a combined total length of no more than 15 minutes and no less than 8 minutes. The repertoire choices should demonstrate your technical aptitude and musical expressivity.
 - a. Applicants may include **one** unaccompanied piece as part of their entry (excluding pianists, guitarists, harpists and percussionists).
 - b. Breaks between pieces must be kept to a minimum; the total length of submission should not exceed 18 minutes.
 - c. All piano works must be performed from memory, all other instrumentalists must perform from memory with the exception of Sonatas with piano.
2. Submissions must be uploaded to a YouTube channel with the video privacy settings set to unlisted. The link to watch needs to be entered in the corresponding place on the application form. Alternatively, videos can be uploaded to suitable alternative streaming or cloud based platforms.
 - a. Submissions must be one continuous take, filmed from a single camera, with a clear view of both the performer and accompanist.
 - b. Pianists should position their camera so their hands can be clearly seen.
 - c. No video or audio editing of any kind is permitted; the competition committee reserves the right to disqualify applicants who are believed to have digitally manipulated their entry.
 - d. Submissions should begin with a brief spoken introduction by the entrant which includes their name, age, school and country of study, and the names and composers of their pieces.
3. Preliminary round submissions will be judged by members of the panel alongside a review of the entrant's application form. Results will be communicated via email to the applicant's contact listed on their application form no later than 11th April 2024. Any decisions made regarding progressing further in the competition are final. In the case that an applicant does not successfully progress, no feedback will be provided at this stage.
4. Prospective finalists will be invited for an online interview with members of the panel to assess their suitability for enrolment at the School. Details regarding the date, time, and format of this interview will be communicated following the 1st round.
 - a. Any applicants **not** invited to the Grand Finale following their interview will receive written feedback shortly after.

5. As part of their application, entrants may provide a Letter of Recommendation. This should be provided by someone who can speak to their ability as a musician and their suitability for the competition, such as their instrumental tutor or music teacher. Please note that if you are invited to the final you may be contacted and asked to provide a reference if you have not done so as part of your preliminary application.

Pre-screening Round

Online interview

Online interviews will be conducted with any applicants who are successful in reaching the final round and have expressed an interest in studying at Brentwood School on their application form. This process will be used to ascertain each applicant's academic suitability for enrolment at the School.

If you have further questions regarding what this will involve, please contact the committee at specialistmusic@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Final Round

Memorial Hall, Brentwood School

We hope that the finalists will be able to perform in person. However, we understand certain circumstances may prohibit international travel, in which instance the panel will gladly receive an online submission, which will be streamed at the competition. Separate information on this will be provided when the finalists are announced.

1. Applicants must perform a varied recital with a combined total length of no more than 20 minutes in length and no less than 15 minutes. The repertoire choices should demonstrate your technical virtuosity and a considered approach to concert programming.
 - a. Finalists may include **one** piece from their Preliminary Round submission.
 - b. Finalists may include **one** unaccompanied piece as part of their programme (excluding pianists, guitarists, harpists and percussionists).
 - c. All piano works must be performed from memory, all other instrumentalists must perform from memory with the exception of Sonatas with piano.
2. Finalists will be provided with an official competition accompanist, although applicants are permitted to bring their own accompanist if they prefer.
 - a. All finalists will be allocated a one-hour slot in which to rehearse with their accompanist on the school site.
3. Finalists **must** be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian unless prior arrangements have been made with the permission of the School and parent/guardian.
4. The final will be adjudicated by a panel of specialist judges, one of whom will deliver short remarks on each finalist's performance. The decision of the jury is final. Written feedback will be available upon request after the final round.
5. The final round and adjudications will be open to the public and wider school community.
6. The following prizes will be presented by the chair of the committee, Lord Guy Black,

following adjudication:

1st Place: £1000

2nd Place: £500

3rd Place: £300

7. After the final the following prize will also be awarded at the discretion of Brentwood School and the competition committee:

Grand Prize:

- A Brentwood School Headmaster's Award up to the value of a full-boarding bursary (£60.000 per annum)
- A place on Brentwood School's Specialist Music Programme
- Enrolment at the Guildhall School of Music Junior Conservatoire

8. Further to the above prizes, the panel and Brentwood School reserve the right to offer any finalists the Headmaster's Award for musical excellence for entry into Brentwood School. All finalists who are successful in securing a place at Brentwood School following the competition will be enrolled in the Specialist Music Programme.

Preliminary round submissions will be judged by a selection of adjudicators from the panel in conjunction with a review of the entrant's application form. Results will be communicated via email to the applicant's contact listed on their application form no later than 11th April 2024. Any decisions made regarding progressing further in the competition are final. In the case that an applicant does not successfully progress, no feedback will be provided at this stage.