

The Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year 2024

The Competition is sponsored by the Freemasons of Ireland Girls and Boys Fund and supported by RTÉ lyric fm.

Patrons are Séamus Crimmins, Dearbhla Collins, John Keeley, Eamonn Lawlor and John Rowden.

The Competition Semifinals and Final take place in Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin D02 HK50 from 10th-12th October 2024 before a distinguished Jury chaired by Séamus Crimmins.

Competitors selected by their colleges will perform at the Semifinals and four will then be chosen by the Jury to go forward to the Final.

The Semifinal sessions on Thursday, 10th October 2024 and the Final on Saturday, 12th October 2024 are open to the public.

COMPETITION RULES

1. The Competition is open to instrumentalists in the following categories:
 - Keyboard (piano, organ, harpsichord and classical accordion)
 - Strings (violin, viola, cello, double-bass, concert harp, classical guitar)
 - Woodwind (flute, recorder, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon)
 - Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba, euphonium)
 - Percussion. (excluding timpani *and subject to space restrictions*)

(If any Competitor is in doubt as to whether a particular instrument from any of these groups of musical families but not specifically detailed here is acceptable or not, they must contact the Artistic Director, Séamus Crimmins, who will give a ruling on the matter)
2. In addition to a number of prestigious performing engagements for the winner, the Cash Prizes are as follows:
 - *Presented by the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Ireland*
1st Prize: € 8,000, 2nd Prize: € 5,000, 3rd Prize: € 3,000, 4th Prize: € 2,000
 - *Presented by Mrs Geraldine O'Sullivan (in memory of her son, Conrad)*
The Conrad O'Sullivan Memorial Prize: €1,000 for the best performance by a wind or brass player in the Competition.
 - *Presented by Mary Beattie (in memory of her late husband John Vallery)*
The John Vallery Memorial Prize: €1,000 for the best performance by a string player in the Competition.
3. Competitors must be full time students in the academic year 2023-2024, pursuing a degree in music performance at undergraduate, postgraduate or doctoral level, or a post graduate diploma in music performance at the following music institutions in Ireland:
 - Faculty of Music & Sonic Arts, Queen's University, Belfast

- The Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick (MA in Classical String Performance)
- The MTU Cork School of Music
- The TU Dublin Conservatoire
- The Royal Irish Academy of Music

NB. If a registered student of one of the above colleges for the academic year 2023-2024 is attending a college/university outside Ireland for the year on an Erasmus exchange, they are eligible to compete as they remain registered students of their respective colleges. However, visiting students on an Erasmus exchange from countries outside Ireland are not eligible as they remain registered students with their own colleges.

4. Competitors must be under 28 years old on October 1st 2024.

5. The format for the Competition is as follows. At the end of the academic year 2023-2024 each of the above colleges will select students to compete in the Semifinals of the Competition on 10th October 2024. The music colleges (in 3 above) may each enter up to a maximum of four Semifinalists. The criteria and method of choosing students for entry is decided solely by each of the colleges.
6. **The closing date for the submission of the names of the students chosen by the colleges to go forward to the Semifinals of the Competition is 4.00pm on Friday, 28th June 2024. Completed entry forms (with biographies, programme reflections and pictures) must be emailed to the General Administrator (ifym@freemason.ie) by that date and time.**
7. The names and details of each of the students and their proposed programmes must be submitted by the respective college on the Competition Entry Form and this must be electronically signed by each student **and the relevant college authority**
8. In the Semifinal round each recitalist/competitor will present a programme of between 18 to 20 minutes music. The choice of repertoire is open. Programmes should be well balanced and represent a variety of musical styles and sensibilities. Each of the four finalists will present programmes of between 25 and 30 minutes of music. Semifinal programmes may be retained in whole or in part in the Final and supplemented by music which affirms depth of individual musicianship, artistic achievement and potential.
9. There will be penalties for programmes which are unacceptably over time.
10. The Official Pianist for the Competition is Dearbhla Brosnan. Those using the Official Pianist will have a rehearsal with her at Freemasons' Hall and, in addition, a short acoustic rehearsal in the Grand Lodge Room for the Semifinal and the Final.
11. Competitors may choose to bring their own accompanist but they must take responsibility for any fees and expenses due
12. Pianists will have rehearsal time in the Grand Lodge Room on the piano on which they will be performing for the Semifinal and the Final.

13. Competitors not using the Official Pianist, or not needing an accompanist, will be offered a short acoustic rehearsal in the Grand Lodge Room. If they wish to avail of facilities for a private rehearsal as well in Freemasons' Hall for the Semifinal or Final they may request this on their entry form.
14. There is no entry fee for the Competition.
15. The first prize-winner and other prize-winners may be offered concert and/or broadcasting engagements
- 16. We are unable to accept entries from previous First Prize-Winners of the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year Competition. No competitor is eligible to compete more than twice in the Competition.**
17. The final arbiters in respect of any interpretation of these rules shall be the Artistic Director and the General Administrator
18. Rights to any performance in the Competition, whether broadcast, televised, recorded or filmed in any manner whatsoever belong exclusively to The Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Ireland and no fee is, or shall be deemed, payable to the competitor or the college or any other person or firm in respect of these Competition performances or any broadcasts, recordings, transmissions or films and the right to reproduce or licence any broadcasts, recordings, transmissions or films belongs exclusively to the Sponsors

The postal address and other contact details for the Competition are:

Music Competition, Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin D02 HK50

Freemasons Hall Telephone: +353 (0)1 676 1337

Competition Website: www.freemasonmusic.ie

General Administrator direct telephone: David Robinson: +44 (0)7584 259 668

General Administrator direct e-mail: ifym@freemason.ie

Artistic Director direct telephone: Séamus Crimmins: +353 (0)87 249 9715

Artistic Director direct e-mail: seamus.crimmins@gmail.com