



## Young Musician Concerto Competition

### Competition Rules 2025

#### The Competition

The annual WMSO Young Musician Concerto Competition takes place in October. On the basis of videos submitted, up to eight competitors will be chosen to perform live before a panel of adjudicators at the Competition Final on 12 October 2025.

The winner will receive a cash prize of £1,000, a trophy and the opportunity to perform a concerto with the Windsor & Maidenhead Symphony Orchestra during the following season.

The player placed in second position will receive a cash prize of £250.

The Aubrey Thonger Silver Cup will be presented to a further player who showed the most promising talent.

#### Who may apply

1. The competition is open to players of piano, string, woodwind or brass instruments resident or studying in the UK or in one of the twin towns of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.
2. Applicants should have reached the equivalent of Grade 8 standard or higher. All applications must be accompanied by a signature of recommendation from a teacher or professional musician.
3. Applicants should be aged 19 years or under on the date of the Competition Final.

#### The application process

4. Applicants are required to submit the following by Friday 23 May 2025:
  - a) a link to a video of up to 10 minutes of their playing, with live piano accompaniment. An exception is made for pianists: pianists are not required to have a piano accompaniment.
  - b) a summary of their musical background (CV), maximum 100 words.
  - c) a completed application form.
  - d) £75 entry fee. This is non-refundable.
5. A pre-recorded accompaniment is not acceptable.
6. Applicants must be available to play in the Competition Final in October.
7. Applicants will be informed by 31 July whether they are one of the up to eight finalists selected to perform in the Competition Final. Finalists will be told their allotted performance time by mid-September. Applicants will receive a written report on their video performance from one of the Competition adjudicators.

#### Performance in the Final of the Competition

8. A panel of professional musicians will adjudicate the competitors' performances. Their decision is non-negotiable. The award of the prizes will be made on the basis of the competitor's performance in the Final.
9. An extract from a concerto with piano accompaniment (including for pianists) must be performed in the Final. The work may be the same as the video submission, or another work may be performed. The performance must not exceed 12 minutes.
10. Competitors must provide their own accompanist. Pre-recorded accompaniment will not be accepted.
11. Competitors must arrive a minimum of 30 minutes before their allocated performance time and must be in attendance for the announcement of the result of the Competition.
12. Competitors must provide a copy of their music for the use of the adjudicators during their performance.
13. The organisers will take photographs of the competitors to be used on the orchestra's website, publicity and social media. For players under 18, the signature of a parent or guardian is required on the application form, to give consent. For players over 18, signing of the application form includes permission for photographs to be used.
14. For the winner, the date of the performance and choice of concerto will be agreed in discussion with the Conductor of the orchestra after the Final day.
15. Failure to comply with any of these Competition Rules will disqualify the applicant.



## Young Musician Concerto Competition Application Form 2025

Closing date for applications: 23 May 2025

Competition Final: Sunday 12 October 2025 at St Piran's Centre, Maidenhead SL6 7LZ

Family name	
Given name	
Instrument	
Date of birth	
Address	
Mobile	
Email	
Work(s) performed in the video submission ( <i>maximum 10 minutes</i> )	Composer ..... Title ..... Movement(s) if appropriate .....
Concerto extract to be performed at the Competition Final ( <i>maximum 12 minutes</i> )	Composer ..... Title ..... Movement(s) if appropriate .....
Teacher or professional musician providing recommendation	Name ..... Signature .....
Photographic permission for applicants aged under 18	I give permission for photographs of the above named applicant to be taken and used as described in the Competition Rules. Name of parent or guardian ..... Signature .....
Declaration (applicant):	I have read and understand the Rules of the Competition Name (print) ..... Signature .....

- \* A copy of the completed application form and CV should be sent to [ymcc@wmso.org.uk](mailto:ymcc@wmso.org.uk)
- \* A link to the video recording should be sent to [ymcc@wmso.org.uk](mailto:ymcc@wmso.org.uk)
- \* The application fee of £75 is payable by bank transfer to this account, reference YMCC and the competitor's name:

Lloyds Bank  
Windsor and Maidenhead Symphony Orchestra  
30-94-42  
01173384

Application forms will be processed once the fee has arrived in the WMSO account. **All items must arrive by 23 May 2025.**

**Checklist:** Application form  CV  Link to video  Payment

For the WMSO Privacy Notice and compliance with GDPR please see [wmso.org.uk/privacy](http://wmso.org.uk/privacy)  
For any further enquiries, please email to Karin Brown at [ymcc@wmso.org.uk](mailto:ymcc@wmso.org.uk)