

MILTON KEYNES FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
FOR DANCE, MUSIC AND DRAMA
MUSIC AND SPEECH AND DRAMA
SYLLABUS FESTIVAL 2024



Sponsored by
Kawai Pianos UK

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All entries must be received by 31 December 2023

Online entry via www.miltonkeynesfestival.org



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MILTON KEYNES FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

for Dance, Music and Drama



Registered charity number 293601

Affiliated to the British and International Federation of Festivals

Welcome to our 2024 Festival – our 56th year

Our 2023 festival was our 55th celebratory event and we were thrilled to have a wonderful number of performers taking part and feedback from parents, teachers and performers was very positive as always.

Following our soloists' weekend seven of our talented music festival performers were invited back to take part in our virtual Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year showcase and we were delighted to welcome Gill Johnston and Martin Wakely to provide constructive feedback and encouragement to what was an impressive programme. The judges were unanimous in their decisions and highly complimentary about each performers' playing. Each performer was presented with a finalists' trophy, a small amount of prize money and certificate and the impressive piano and cello performance of Matias Yung was rewarded with the title of Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year 2023. Second place went to Tham Luanghvisut, saxophonist, and third place went to talented pianist Rebecca Bazlov.

We are so privileged to have the continued sponsorship by Kawai Pianos who donate several of their beautiful concert grand and upright pianos to our music festival for our performers' use and we are grateful to Neil and Tom for their generous support and for also agreeing to extend their patronage to the Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year competition. Without their ongoing support the festival would not be able to accept as many piano entrants as we do (over 400 performances in 2023) so we are ever grateful for their kindness and generosity and to their Milton Keynes retail partner, Bonners Music.

Thanks must also go to the army of friendly and hard-working volunteer stewards, without whom the festival would not happen and it was fantastic to all meet up again at the 2023 festival.

Please help our festival to grow by telling colleagues and friends about it. Junior performers do not necessarily have to be entered by a school or teacher as parents may send in the entry form on their behalf, and we warmly welcome new entrants of all ages and levels of experience from all over the country, not just Milton Keynes. In addition, we would love to see more schools taking part in orchestral, choirs and ensembles sections.

We hope that you will support the festival in the enthusiastic way you always do. We are completely self-funding and fully reliant on audience support to remain sustainable. Do reach out to any of the contacts in this syllabus if you require more information.

Our website is also a good source of information as is our Facebook page.

We look forward to receiving your entries and enjoying your performances.

Best wishes from the Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts Committee

THREE WAYS TO ENTER THE FESTIVAL

Important: If you put an email address on your entry form, you will not receive any entry tickets or details by post, only by email, which is quicker and easier, so do check your email inbox and junk folder regularly.

You can enter the festival in any of these ways:

Online: Go to our website, www.miltonkeynesfestival.org and register online, enter all performers' names and their classes using our online system and then pay the stated amount by PayPal, which confirms your entry.

Using this method, you can amend your entries, check your entries and receive all your performance times by email. If you entered online last year you will only need to enter your new pupils.

By Post: You can complete the entry form enclosed and post it to the address on the form along with a cheque or you can pay by BACS. Please provide an email address, as you will receive all your performance times by email. Please keep a copy of completed form(s) for your own records if entering by post.

Email: You can send your form by email, but if you do so, you must pay your entry free immediately by BACS as entries will not be inputted to the system until we have confirmation of payment.

METHODS OF PAYMENT

Paypal: Via the online system.

Cheque: Made payable to "Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts" and posted to Mrs Pat Haig, 42 High Street, Swinderby, Lincs LN6 9LW / pathaig@me.com / 01522 541132 / 07771 702136

BACS: If you are entering via email or post you can pay via online banking to the following account:

Account name: Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts Sort code:40-52-40

Account number: 00019081

Please use your name as the payment reference and make one payment to cover the full amount on your entry form

Your entry will not be put onto the system until we have received payment

OTHER ENTRY INFORMATION

Which grade to enter (music only):

Performers / parents / teachers are responsible for ensuring the correct grade has been selected when entering a music festival class. (eg if you are a grade 4 performer but playing a grade 5 piece then you should enter the appropriate class for grade 5).

Which age group to enter:

Where a class is divided according to age, please ensure that the age group chosen is in accordance with the entrant's age on 1 February 2024

FESTIVAL SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

www.miltonkeynesfestival.org

www.kawai.co.uk www.bonnersmusic.co.uk



@mkfa2020



@MKFA2020



@mkyoungmusician
@2019mk

New Classes for 2024

Piano:

P18: New Class Chopin class for Intermediate and above - Just for 2024
 P3: Set piece *Old World Melody from The Joy of First Year Piano* by Denes Agay

Instrumental:

Backing tracks may be used for Beginner, Preparatory and Elementary classes in addition to piano. See page 11.
 Duets, trios and quartets will perform as part of the soloists' weekend instead of on Orchestras Day.

Voice:

V2: Set Pieces for Voice – thank you to Cheryl Hawkins for setting these beautiful songs
 V32 and V37: New Classes Just for 2024 - Fauré and Puccini own choice – All ages
 Class V36D Foreign Song of Indian origin for adults aged 19 and over

Speech and Drama:

Class 90: New Class - Non-competitive class for all ages
 Set poems by our author / adjudicator Eleanor McLeod – Just for 2024

2024 Festival Dates, Venues and Adjudicators	
Festival	Adjudicators
Drama Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 February at The Venue, Walton High	Eleanor McLeod Priscilla Morris
Music Soloists and Small Ensembles Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 March at The Venue, Walton High	Piano: Murray McLachlan Nancy Litten Jena Pang Instrumental: Kay Tucker Voice: Sarah Jeffries Elizabeth Emberson
Ensembles, Community Choirs & Barbershop Saturday 16 March at The Venue, Walton High	Tbc
Dance Saturday 17 – Saturday 24 February and Saturday 2 - Sunday 3 March 2024	Tbc
The festival programme is compiled over the Christmas and New Year Holiday period. Entries made or unpaid after 31 December will not be accepted. There is lots more information on our website: www.miltonkeynesfestival.org	

SPEECH AND DRAMA SECTION



Speech and Drama adjudicator: Eleanor McLeod
MA(Ed), DipEd, LLAM(Hons)

Eleanor comes from Swansea in Wales, where she first gained a love of the spoken word through taking LAMDA examinations, later gaining her LAMDA teaching diploma. She is also a qualified teacher with a Masters Degree in Education.

Eleanor has been a professional actress for most of her life, appearing on stage, television, radio and taking Shakespeare to schools all over the world for the British Council.

A member of the LAMDA examinations board, she is also a published author of three books of poetry for children. and three books of short dramatic scenes.



Speech and Drama adjudicator: Priscilla Morris
LGSM, LLCM, LLAM(TD Hons), ALAM, PGCA

Priscilla was a member of the National Youth Theatre before training at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London. In 1972 she founded her own drama school in the Midlands, which she handed over to her daughter in 2013, although she continues to teach youngsters and adults at her home studio.

Priscilla was a LAMDA examiner for 34 years and examined throughout the UK, Eire, Spain, Belgium, Singapore, USA, Malta, Sri Lanka the UAE, China and Vietnam. She has been an adjudicator in Speech & Drama for the British and International Federation of Festivals since 1991 and has adjudicated in Bermuda, Sri Lanka and Hong Kong.

Since 1998 she has been Voice Advisor to Swim England, for whom she delivers Voice Protection courses for swimming coaches nationwide and she is also a published author on Shakespeare.

Priscilla has directed and acted in over 40 plays, musicals and pantomimes during her performing life. Now, she spends most of her time in the business sector with her company, Loud & Clear voice coaching.

As a professional speaker she appears at conferences and seminars and enjoys entertaining audiences on P&O cruise ships.

We look forward to welcoming Eleanor and Priscilla to our 2024 festival.

FESTIVAL SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Websites

www.miltonkeynesfestival.org

www.kawai.co.uk

www.bonnersmusic.co.uk



@mkfa2020



@MKFA2020



@mkyoungmusician
@2019mk

SOLOS AND DUOLOGUES – ALL AGES

- Every performance will receive a certificate and written feedback and medals are awarded for first, second and third place.
- **All entries must be spoken from memory**, with the exception of Prepared Reading, Sight Reading and Talk classes.

Poetry

Solo Verse – Choose a poem of your own choice to recite:

1	7 & under	1½ mins	£6
2	8 & 9 years	1½ mins	£6
3	10 & 11 years	2 mins	£7
4	12 & 13 years	2 mins	£7
5	14 & 15 years	2 mins	£7
6	16 and over	2 mins	£7

Humorous Verse – Choose a poem of your own choice to recite:

83	7 & under	1½ mins	£6
84	8 & 9 years	1½ mins	£6
85	10 & 11 years	2 mins	£7
86	12 & 13 years	2 mins	£7
87	14 & 15 years	2 mins	£7
88	16 & over	2 mins	£7

Just for 2024:

Many thanks to our adjudicator Eleanor McLeod who has set two of her own poems for each age group for you to choose one from and recite.

These are the book titles, which are available from Amazon or from Eleanor McLeod direct (www.eleanormcleod.co.uk/poetry-and-monologues/)

- **Book 1:** Poems for Children to Enjoy and Teachers Too.
ISBN: 978-1-906628-23-9 Published by Checkpoint Press
- **Book 2:** More Poems for Children to Enjoy and Teachers Too
ISBN:978-1-906628-19-2 Published by Checkpoint Press
- **Book 3:** Even More poems for Children to Enjoy and Teachers Too
ISBN:978-1-80369-115-2 Published by New Generation Publishing

Set Verse – Set Piece

Choose a poem to recite from the choice below within your age range:

91	7 & under	‘Playtime’ from Book 3 OR ‘How Do You Eat Your Easter Egg?’ from Book 1	£6
92	8 & 9 years	‘March’ from Book 2 OR ‘The Magic World of Books’ from Book 3	£6
93	10 & 11 years	‘Pantomime’ from Book 3 OR ‘The Gerbil’s Escape’ from Book 1	£7
94	12 & 13 years	‘A Second Hand World’ from Book 2 OR ‘Pancakes’ from Book 3	£7
95	14 & 15 years	‘What Did They Dream Of?’ from Book 3 OR ‘Granny Says’ from Book 3	£7
96	16 and over	‘All the Same’ from Book 3 OR ‘A Sonnet for Shakespeare’ from Book 3	£7

Write and Recite Your Own Poem

An opportunity to write a poem on any subject and then recite it to the audience.

Please email your poem to pathaig@me.com by 10 January 2024 so that it can be sent to the adjudicator before the festival.

64	7 – 9 years	2 mins	£6
65	10 & 11 years	2 mins	£6
66	12 & 13 years	3 mins	£7
67	14 & 15 years	3 mins	£7
68	16 and over	4 mins	£7

Memorised Verse or Prose for Two Speakers

Choose a poem or prose passage of your choice. Does not need to be spoken in unison.

46	11 and under	4 mins	£6
47	12 and above	5 mins	£6

Prose and Prepared Reading

Spoken Prose – Spoken from memory, not read from the book. Choose a passage according to your age below:

8	7-9 years	Any book by Jill Murphy or Vivian French	1½ mins	£6
9	10-11 years	Any book by Tom Fletcher or Megan Rix	2 mins	£7
10	12-13 years	Own choice	2 mins	£7
11	14-15 years	Own choice	2½ mins	£7
12	16 & over	Own choice	3 mins	£7

Prepared Reading – Please read from an actual copy of the book, not a device such as a Kindle or phone. Choose any passage as follows.

14	7-9 years	Any book by Gill Lewis or Philip Reeve	1½ mins	£6
15	10-11 years	Any book by Philip Pullman	2 mins	£7
16	12-13 years	Any book by Michael Morpurgo	2 mins	£7
17	14-15 years	Any book by Charles Dickens or Kazuo Ishiguro	2½ mins	£7
18	16 & over	Own choice	3 mins	£7

Sight Reading

Passage to be chosen by the adjudicator.

20	9 & under	£5
21	10 & 11 years	£5
22	12 & 13 years	£5
23	14 & 15 years	£5
24	16 & over	£5

English as a Second Language - Prepared Reading - Non-competitive

For those whose normal spoken language is not English, this is an opportunity to read in front of an encouraging audience and receive feedback and a certificate. Choose a passage from a book of your choice.

30	All ages	3 mins	£6
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Non-competitive Speech and Drama class

Own choice. Poetry, drama, prepared reading. Each entrant will receive a full adjudication, certificate and written feedback but no placing. A great way to showcase your talents in a non-competitive setting.

90	All ages	3 mins	£6
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Drama Solos, Duologues and Public Speaking

Solo Drama Own choice – simple costuming and minimal props acceptable.
Choose a passage from a drama piece to enact.

35	9 & under	3 mins	£6
36	10 & 11 years	3 mins	£6
37	12 & 13 years	4 mins	£7
38	14 & 15 years	4 mins	£7
39	16 and over	5 mins	£7

Dramatic Duologue Own choice - simple costuming and minimal props acceptable

41	9 & under	4 mins	£10
42	10 & 11 years	4 mins	£10
43	12 & 13 years	5 mins	£10
44	14 & 15 years	5 mins	£10
45	16 and over	5 mins	£10

Shakespeare Monologue

Your choice of monologue from any play. Simple costuming and minimal props acceptable where appropriate.

69	12 year and over	5 mins	£6
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Talk, with or without Visual Aids

Prepare and present a talk on a subject of your own choice. No Powerpoint presentations or use of other devices please.

74	9 & under	3 mins	£6
75	10 & 11 years	3 mins	£6
76	12 & 13 years	3 mins	£6
77	14 & 15 years	3 mins	£6
78	16 & over	3 mins	£6

GROUP DRAMA

- *Costumes, sound effects and music may be introduced at the teacher's discretion.*
- *As the audiences for these classes may contain very young children we ask that the use of language and appropriate themes be carefully considered.*

Creative Dramatic Performance *Festival trophy for each class*

- Own choice.
- 3 or more characters – time limit to include setting and striking. These classes are designed to enable teachers and students to develop imaginative and structured dramatic scenes with the purpose of communicating original ideas and responses.

57	11 and under	5 mins	£15
58	12 – 14 years	8 mins	£20
59	15 and over	10 mins	£25

Dramatic Scene from a Published Play *Festival trophy for each class*

- Own choice from a published play. 3 or more characters.
- Time limit to include setting and striking.
- Costumes, props, sound effects and music acceptable where appropriate.

60	11 & under	5 mins	£15
61	12 – 14 years	8 mins	£20
62	Open	10 mins	£25

We are Change Makers

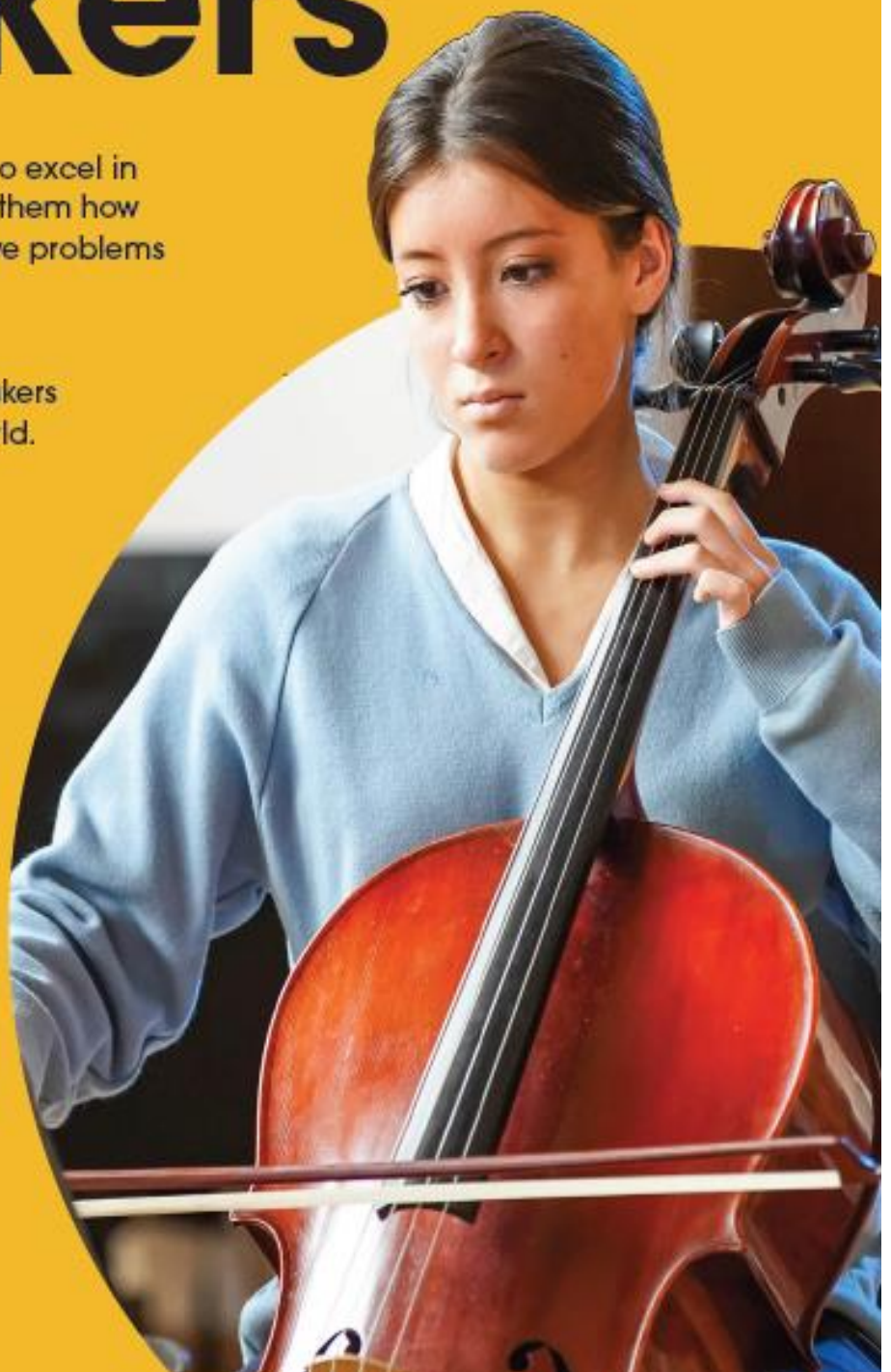
Yes, we teach pupils how to excel in exams, but we also teach them how to collaborate, how to solve problems and how to think critically.

Stowe is educating a generation of Change Makers ready to transform the world.

**Music Scholarships
are available.**

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MUSIC SECTION

Please also read the rules and information at the back of this syllabus

- **A piece must not be repeated across the classes (including your recital).**
- Only one grade per instrument may be entered in all graded classes, and entrants / parents / teachers are responsible for ensuring the correct grade has been selected. If you play a piece recognised by the adjudicator to be above the stated level you may not be placed.
- Standards are indicated either by age, grade, or by experience in tuition. Where a class is divided into grades, the entrant should be able to play to that standard, but not yet have passed a higher grade than that specified. The piece played must reflect the standard entered, ie a piece set for a grade 5 exam should not be played in an Elementary class, it should be played in an Intermediate class.
- Standards for entry for Piano and Instrumental classes are as follows:

Early Beginners	EB	Not yet playing hands together except for last chord. (class P16)
Beginners	B	Of Prep Test standard or moving toward this grade. (class P13)
Preparatory	P	Grades I and II
Elementary	E	Grades III and IV
Intermediate	I	Grades V and VI
Advanced	A	Grade VII and VIII
Diploma	D	Passed Grade VIII more than one year ago or if you are playing a piece above Grade VIII standard

Marking System

- Every performance will receive a certificate and written feedback and medals are awarded for first, second and third place, with cups or prizes awarded where designated.
- The categories awarded will be in accordance with the standards laid down by the British and International Federation of Festivals as follows:

Fair	A performance limited in its communication
Moderate	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication
Merit	A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation / technical ability
Commended	A convincing performance technically and artistically
Distinction	An excellent performance technically and artistically
Outstanding	An exceptional performance both technically and artistically

Non-competitive classes

These are for those solo performers who do not wish to compete, but would enjoy performing to an audience, receiving feedback from the adjudicator and a certificate. The only difference is that the performers will not compete with one another and will not be eligible for a cup/prize.

Accompanists

See www.miltonkeynesfestival.org for a list of pianists or you may use your own. The festival does not have official accompanists, so if you need an accompanist please make sure you make necessary arrangements for a rehearsal and your performance as soon as you have confirmed your entry.

You must expect to pay a fee to your pianist / accompanist for your festival performance and any rehearsals you arrange. Please deal direct with your pianist / accompanist and agree all fees and any rehearsal dates with him / her. If you are unable to attend your festival class, do make sure you inform your accompanist, or you may still be charged with the agreed fee.

Backing Track Accompaniment for Instrumental Classes

Use of Backing Track Accompaniment for Instrumental Classes:

To assist parents and teachers with the cost of entering the festival, instrumental (not voice or piano) performers in classes for grades Beginners, Preparatory and Elementary (grades up to and including grade 4) may choose to use a backing track accompaniment if they wish instead of a live accompaniment.

The track should be provided on either a CD or via a device which can be connected by Bluetooth to our playback machine. We have instigated this new option following feedback from parents and teachers. You can still have live piano accompaniment or no accompaniment at all if you prefer.

Your 2024 Music Festival Adjudicators



Piano Adjudicator Murray McLachlan MA(Cantab), LRAM

Murray McLachlan has been adjudicating for nearly 30 years and is based in Manchester. He has made over 40 commercial recordings which have consistently received outstanding reviews, including 'key recording' and 'rosette' status in the Penguin Guide to CDs.

He has performed on all five continents and is Head of Keyboard at Chetham's school of Music, Tutor at the Royal Northern College of Music and Founder/Artistic Director of the Chetham's International Summer school and festival for Pianists, Europe's largest summer school devoted exclusively to the piano.

In 2007, McLachlan launched the first Manchester International Concerto Competition for Young Pianists, an event that was held for the sixth time in 2019. Alongside his work as an Adjudicator for The British and International Federation of Festivals, he is Editor of 'Piano Professional' and 'Piano Journal' magazines, as well as a regular columnist for 'International Piano'. His three Faber Music books on Piano Technique have received wide international acclaim and have been reprinted several times.



Piano Adjudicator Nancy Litten

LRAM(pft), LRAM(vln), ATCL(Voice), FLCM(kbd), CertEd, ProfCertRAM

Nancy entered the Royal Academy of Music at age 16 on an open piano scholarship, winning prizes while there. She also studied violin to a high level, freelanced as an orchestral player, and led a string quartet.

Nancy has co-authored three violin tutors in the Playing with Colour series. She has performed as a soloist, chamber music and orchestral player on both instruments and as a piano accompanist. She has taught in primary, secondary and specialist music schools, privately and on

courses. Her arrangements of favourite piano pieces for piano trio (piano, violin and cello), Classical Vienna and Romantic Vienna are published by Alfred UK. In 2022 'Piano Postcards' a book of original solos for the intermediate pianist, was published by EVC Music.

Nancy has advised ABRSM and Trinity exam boards on electronic keyboard, had a series of keyboard tutors, Keyed Up, published by Alfred UK, and has written many compositions and arrangements for exam syllabuses. She was founder and director of National Electronic Keyboard Courses from 2005-2012. Singing is another string to her bow and she has many years' experience of conducting choirs. Choral and Vocal Warm-ups for Pianists, Choral and Vocal Sight Singing with Keyboard Harmony, and Rounds with Accompaniment have been published by Alfred UK.

Nancy has been an ABRSM examiner since 1998, involving much travel in the UK and abroad. She has been an adjudicator with The British and International Federation of Festivals since 2014 and serves on the Adjudicators' Council as one of the two music representatives.



Piano Adjudicator Jena Pang MA (Oxon), PGDL

Jena Chun-Wah Pang is based in the United Kingdom and has an international reputation for teaching and judging competitions and scholarship awards. His students are based in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Beijing, Malaysia, Geneva, Milan, Vienna, New York and Calgary, regularly compete in international competitions and music festivals around the world and have won several first, second and third prizes at the Clavis International Piano Competition 2018 in St Petersburg Russia; the Amigdala International Piano Competition 2019 and 2021 in Italy; Feurich International Piano Competition 2019 and 2018 Vienna; Costa Festa International Piano Competition 2019 Spain; Canadian Music Competition 2019 (violin); Tadini International Piano Competition 2019 Italy; London Young Musician International Piano Competition 2020 and 2021; Harmonium Plus International Piano Competition Armenia 2020, Music and Stars International Piano Competition 2020; Monegro 88 Keys International Piano Competition 2021 Spain, Carmel Arts International Piano Competition USA 2022, and winners of the finals of the 2020 and 2023 EPTA-UK piano competition.

Several of his students have also won the prestigious Elena Cobb Star Prize Award and have performed at the Royal Albert Hall.

He has appeared on both British and Hong Kong television playing both piano and violin. Recent concert engagements have been collaborations with Dennis Lee, Chee Hung Toh and Graeme Humphrey.

Jena was awarded an instrumental scholarship to study Music at St Peter's College, Oxford University and studied the violin with Lydia Mordkovitch and the piano with Lora Dimitrova and had lessons with Christopher Elton, Ruth Waterman, Keith Pascoe, Brenda Farrow, Shalinee Jayatilaka and Elsie Brown.

He has been teaching the piano and violin for the last 30 years and is in high demand as a teacher and for judging competitions and scholarship awards internationally. He has given many concerts, lessons and masterclasses around the world.

He is currently the Piano Convenor and a trustee of the Southend Festival of Performing Arts (established in 1911), and trustee of the Freda Parry Scholarship Fund Competition, both of which he has been involved with running for the last several years.



Vocal Adjudicator Sarah Jefferies LRAM, ARCM

Sarah is a vocal graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, where she studied with Josephine Veasey and Patricia Clarke. Whilst at the Academy, Sarah was the recipient of many prizes including Early Music, Lieder and English Song. She was an active member of the opera course, singing roles by Britten, Strauss and Mozart.

Upon leaving the Academy, Sarah studied with Margreet Honig and Elly Ameling at the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam. She has sung recitals and oratorios all over the Europe and was a member of the Opera De Lyon, with whom she recorded many works including Schoenberg's 'Moses und Aron' and Orf's 'Carmina Burana'.

Sarah is a visiting teacher of voice at Marlborough College in Wiltshire and has adjudicated all over the UK and the Middle East, as well as at some of the major conservatoires in the U.K.

Sarah has a real fascination for the workings of the human voice and enjoys helping her students of all ages and standards to improve their vocal abilities.

She has a beautiful cocker spaniel, Maisie, who she enjoys walking for miles on the Wiltshire Downs near her home.



Instrumental Adjudicator Kay Tucker

AGSM, ARCM, LTCL, PGCA, PGCE

Kay was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire and began studies on the cello at the age of 12, continuing studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Her portfolio career has combined teaching and adjudicating with performing as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. Since 1998, Kay has been in popular demand as an Adjudicator throughout the UK, having worked at well over 200 festivals including the National Festival of Music for Youth. 'Encouragement' is a key word in all aspects of Kay's work and she has great joy in working alongside musicians of all

ages, particularly the very young.

Kay's passion for teaching led her to develop an early years strings & general musicianship system known as 'Stringbabies'. Since its inception in 2004, 'Stringbabies' has become well established and accepted as a leading approach in strings teaching (surprisingly to all ages!) and is being delivered throughout the UK and abroad in individual teaching practices, schools and music services. In 2016, Musicbabies for Recorder was published, being the first adaptation of Stringbabies for a non-stringed instrument.

Over recent years, Kay worked as a consultant to Trinity Guildhall, selecting and co-selecting repertoire for graded exams and diplomas. Kay was a Trustee and member of the Executive council of the European String Teacher's Association (ESTA).

In 2018 she was presented with the ESTA award for exceptional services, in recognition of her work in initiating the Post Graduate Certificate in string teaching accredited by Chichester University.

Kay became an Adjudicator Member of the British and International Federation of Festivals in 1997 and undertook the Post-graduate Certificate in Adjudication in 1999/2000.



Vocal Adjudicator Elizabeth Emberson AGSM, CT, ABRSM

Soprano soloist, choral conductor and voice teacher, Elizabeth began singing lessons with Betty Middleton when she was eleven years old, and quickly established herself on the festivals circuit in the North of England, winning many prizes in the process. At eighteen she went to the Guildhall School of Music, where she studied with Joyce Newton and Anna Berenska, spending a year on the Opera Course there.

Whilst at the Guildhall she won the English Song Prize, was a semi-finalist in the Susan Longfield Award and gained several scholarships

for further study.

On leaving the Guildhall, she studied with Erich Vertheer and John Kitchener. Using her maiden name (Watson), Elizabeth's singing career took her all over England, France and Eire, before she decided to concentrate on her teaching career. She now teaches at two highly respected girls' schools in Oxford.

FESTIVAL SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

www.miltonkeynesfestival.org

www.kawai.co.uk

www.bonnersmusic.co.uk



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PIANO

Competitive Classes

Please note: A piece must not be repeated across the classes (including your recital)

- Class P16 Early Beginners Piano** (Not yet playing hands together except for last chord). 17 years and under.
Own Choice 2 mins £6.00
- Class P13 Beginners Piano** (Of Prep Test standard or moving toward this grade). 17 years and under. One piece played.
Own Choice 2 mins £6.00
- Class P3 Piano Set Piece Beginners**
Beginners *Old World Melody* from *The Joy of* £6.00
First Year Piano by Denes Agay
- Class P5 Piano Solo – Baroque** Any one movement or piece written between 1650 and 1760, for example Bach, Handel, Scarlatti
- | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| Preparatory | 3 mins | £7.00 |
| Elementary | 4 mins | £7.00 |
| Intermediate | 5 mins | £8.00 |
| Advanced | 6 mins | £8.00 |
| Diploma | 6 mins | £9.00 |
- Class P6 Piano Solo – Classical** Any one movement or piece written between 1750 and 1830, for example Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert
- | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| Preparatory | 3 mins | £7.00 |
| Elementary | 4 mins | £7.00 |
| Intermediate | 5 mins | £8.00 |
| Advanced | 6 mins | £8.00 |
| Diploma | 6 mins | £9.00 |
- Class P7 Piano Solo Sonata** *Prize £20 – Sponsored by Adrian Boynton*
Any one movement from a Sonata.
You must be Grade 6 standard minimum.
Open 8 mins £10.00
- Class P8 Piano Solo – Romantic** Any Romantic piece written in 19th or early 20th century, e.g Brahms, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Schuman, Debussy, Rachmaninoff. (Also see Class P18 for a dedicated Chopin class)
- | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| Preparatory | 3 mins | £7.00 |
| Elementary | 4 mins | £7.00 |
| Intermediate | 5 mins | £8.00 |
| Advanced | 6 mins | £8.00 |
| Diploma | 6 mins | £9.00 |
- Class P9 Piano Solo – 20th / 21st Century**
Any piece not classified as Romantic, but written in a “contemporary”, classical style, for example Bartok, Schoenberg, Webern, Stravinsky (for example “Spectrum”)
- | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| Preparatory | 3 mins | £7.00 |
| Elementary | 4 mins | £7.00 |
| Intermediate | 5 mins | £8.00 |
| Advanced | 6 mins | £8.00 |
| Diploma | 6 mins | £9.00 |

Class P10 Piano Solo – Jazz, Ragtime or Modern Popular / Film / TV Music

Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
Advanced	6 mins	£8.00
Diploma	6 mins	£9.00

Class P11 Piano Duet Two pieces of your own choice.

Elementary & below	5 mins	£6.00
Intermediate	6 mins	£8.00
Advanced & above	8 mins	£8.00

Class P12 Piano Recital *Festival Trophy*

At least Grade VI standard must have been reached and you must enter at least one other piano class. Please note that you should not play a piece which you have already played in other piano classes.

17 years and under	Two contrasting pieces	12 mins	£12.00
18 years & above	Three contrasting pieces	15 mins	£15.00

Class P14 Adults Only (18 and over) Own Choice

Up to Grade 2	One or two pieces	3 mins	£6.00
Grades 3, 4, 5	Two contrasting pieces	6 mins	£7.00

Class P17 Quick Study Performers will each be given 5 minutes at a practice piano before performing our chosen piece (max 2 minutes).

Advanced	£5.00
Diploma	£5.00

Special class for 2024: Guest Composer

To mark the 175th year of Chopin's death: Frédéric François Chopin (born Fryderyk Franciszek Chopin, 1 March 1810 – 17 October 1849) was a Polish composer and virtuoso pianist of the Romantic period, who wrote primarily for solo piano.

Class P18 Any piece by Frédéric Chopin

Intermediate	5 mins	£7.00
Advanced	6 mins	£8.00
Diploma	6 mins	£8.00

KEYBOARD

Class P15 Keyboard Own Choice. Bring your own keyboard and cable. A stand will be provided. Please make sure that your pieces are within the time limits below.

Beginners – Pre-Grade 1	3 mins	£6.00
Preparatory	3 mins	£6.00
Elementary	4 mins	£6.00
Intermediate	5 mins	£7.00
Advanced	5 mins	£7.00

NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO OR KEYBOARD

Each entrant will receive a full adjudication, certificate and written feedback but no placing. A great way to share your music, whatever you play.

Class P1 Non-Competitive Piano or Keyboard Solo

Own choice of up to two pieces.

12 years and under	3 mins	£5.00
13-17 years	4 mins	£5.00
18 and over	5 mins	£5.00



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Milton Keynes  **Young Musician**

At the end of the soloists' weekend up to 8 young musicians will be invited to perform live in the Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year showcase in the Venue Theatre.

Each performer will receive a trophy, special certificate and cash prize.

INSTRUMENTAL CLASSES

Use of Backing Track Accompaniment for Instrumental Classes:

To assist parents and teachers with the cost of entering the festival, instrumental (not voice or piano) performers in classes for grades Beginners, Preparatory and Elementary (grades up to and including grade 4) may choose to use a backing track accompaniment if they wish instead of a live accompaniment.

The track should be provided on either a CD or via a device which can be connected by Bluetooth to our playback machine. We have instigated this new option following feedback from parents and teachers. You can still have live piano accompaniment or no accompaniment at all if you prefer.

WOODWIND AND RECORDERS

Please note: A piece must not be repeated across the classes (including your recital)

Competitive Classes

Class W9	Beginners Own Choice	All ages – any woodwind instrument	
	Pre-Grade 1	2 mins	£6.00
Class W3	Flute Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice.	
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced / Diploma	6 mins	£8.00
Class W4	Reed Instrument Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice.	
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced / Diploma	6 mins	£8.00
Class W6	Descant or Treble Recorder Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice.	
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced / Diploma	6 mins	£8.00
Class W8	Woodwind Recital	<i>Festival Trophy</i>	
	<u>At least two</u> contrasting pieces of own choice. Any woodwind instrument.		
	At least Intermediate standard must have been reached. You must enter at least one other instrumental class. Please note that you should not play a piece which you have already played.		
	17 years and under	12 mins	£12.00
	18 years and over	15 mins	£15.00

NON-COMPETITIVE INSTRUMENTAL (NOT PIANO)

Each entrant will receive a full adjudication, certificate and written feedback but no placing.

Class N1	Non-Competitive Instrumental Solo	Own choice of up to two pieces. Any instrument (except piano) Any grade.	
	12 years and under	3 mins	£5.00
	13 -17 years	4 mins	£5.00
	18 and over	6 mins	£5.00

STRINGS

**All classes in this section are for any bowed, stringed instrument
A piece must not be repeated across the classes (including your recital)**

Competitive Classes

Class S3	Strings Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice.	
	Beginners	2 mins	£6.00
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced	6 mins	£8.00
	Diploma	6 mins	£9.00
Class S2	Strings Duet - Beginners and Preparatory grade only Any two bowed instruments playing two different parts. Beginners/Preparatory 3 mins £6.00		
Class S4	Strings Recital <i>Festival Trophy</i> <u>At least two</u> contrasting pieces of own choice. Any bowed instrument. At least Intermediate standard must have been reached. You must enter at least one other instrumental class. Please note that you should not play a piece which you have already played. 17 years and under 12 mins £12.00 18 years and over 15 mins £15.00		

BRASS

Please note: A piece must not be repeated across the classes (including your recital)

Competitive Classes

Class B3	Brass Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice. Any brass instrument.	
	Beginners	2 mins	£6.00
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced / Diploma	6 mins	£8.00
Class B4	Brass Recital <i>Festival Trophy</i> <u>At least two</u> contrasting pieces of own choice. Any brass instrument. At least Intermediate standard must have been reached. You must enter one additional brass class. Please note that you should not play a piece which you have already played in other brass classes. 17 years and under 12 mins £12.00 18 years and over 15 mins £15.00		

PLUCKED INSTRUMENTS INCLUDING ACOUSTIC GUITAR

Please note: no electric guitar

Competitive Classes

Class G3	Guitar Solo	Up to two pieces of own choice.	
	Beginners	2 mins	£6.00
	Preparatory	3 mins	£7.00
	Elementary	4 mins	£7.00
	Intermediate	5 mins	£8.00
	Advanced / Diploma	6 mins	£8.00

Class G4 Any Other Plucked Instrument – (e.g harp, banjo, mandolin, ukulele)
Up to two pieces of own choice.

Open	5 mins	£6.00
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Class G5 Plucked Instrument Recital *Festival Trophy*

At least two contrasting pieces of own choice. Any plucked instrument.

At least Intermediate standard must have been reached. You must enter at least one other instrumental class. Please note that you should not play a piece which you have already played.

17 years and under	12 mins	£12.00
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18 years and over	15 mins	£15.00
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INSTRUMENTAL DUETS, TRIOS AND QUARTETS

Held as part of the soloists' weekend on 9 and 10 March 2024 at The Venue

Entry may comprise any combination of acoustic instruments, with or without piano, whole ensemble to be adjudicated. Own choice.

An entrant may perform more than once provided they perform in a different ensemble.

Class E1 Instrumental duets, trios and quartets

E1A	18 years and under	6 mins	£10.00
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E1B	Open	10 mins	£15.00
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MIXED ENSEMBLES AND ORCHESTRAS

Held on Saturday 16 March 2024 at The Venue Walton High

- Entry may comprise any combination of acoustic instruments, with or without piano, whole ensemble to be adjudicated.
- An entrant may perform more than once provided they perform in a different ensemble.
- You may bring your own music stands if you prefer.

Class E2 Small Instrumental Ensemble, Band or Orchestra – 5 - 10 performers

Own choice. *Festival Trophy*

E2A	18 years and under	6 mins	£25.00
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E2B	Open	8 mins	£30.00
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Classes E3A and 3B

**Large Instrumental Ensemble, Band, Brass Band or Orchestra –
11 or more performers**

Own choice. *Festival Trophy*

E3A	18 years and under	6 mins	£25.00
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E3B	Open	8 mins	£30.00
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PERCUSSION

Class Pc1 Untuned Percussion – Solo or Duet

All ages and grades. One or two pieces of own choice. Any percussion instrument with or without backing track. Entrants must supply their own accompaniment if needed. A drum kit will be provided but you may wish to bring any additional pieces specific to your own performance.

Beginners to Grade 4	4 mins	£6.00
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Grade 5 and above	6 mins	£7.00
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Class Pc2 Tuned Percussion – Solo or Duet

All ages and grades. One or two pieces of own choice. Any percussion instrument with or without backing track. Entrants must supply their own instruments and accompaniment if needed.

Beginners to Grade 4	4 mins	£6.00
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Grade 5 and above	6 mins	£7.00
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SOLO VOICE AND SMALL VOCAL ENSEMBLES

Please read the following additional information:

Use of backing tracks: Pre-recorded accompaniments / backing tracks are only permitted in class V34. All singing is without microphone.

Accompanists: If you need an accompanist please make sure you make necessary arrangements for a rehearsal and your performance as soon as you have confirmed your entry.

See www.miltonkeynesfestival.org for a list of accompanists or you may use your own.

You must expect to pay a fee to your accompanist for your festival performance and any rehearsals you arrange. Please deal directly with your accompanist and agree all fees and any rehearsal dates with him / her. If you are unable to attend your festival class, do make sure you inform your accompanist, or you may still be charged with the agreed fee.

Competitive Classes - Young Singers

- It is expected that pieces be sung from memory.
- Whilst Young Singers classes are usually held on Sunday, there may be some classes scheduled for the Saturday, and if take up is high, a Friday evening may be introduced.

Class V2 Junior Voice Set Pieces

2A	10 years and under	The Owls by Jenkyns <i>from ABRSM Songbook Book 3</i>	£6.00
2B	11-14 years	Naughty by Minchin <i>from ABRSM Songbook Plus Book 4</i>	£7.00
2C	15-18 years	From the Railway Carriage by Rowley <i>from ABRSM Songbook Book 5</i>	£7.00

Class V3 British Folk Song - Accompanied or Non-Accompanied

3A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
3B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
3C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

Class V5 English Art Song – Art Song composed to an original English text (Composers such as Sullivan / Ireland / Vaughan Williams / Butterworth / Finzi / Howells / Britten)

5A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
5B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
5C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

Class V6 Foreign Art Song – European including Russian

Art Song composed to an original European text and sung in the original language

6A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
6B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
6C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

Class V7 Aria

£10 prize money for each age group sponsored by Mrs Hilary O'Donoghue plus Festival Junior Aria Trophy

10-13 years	6 mins	£7.00
14-18 years	6 mins	£7.00

Class V8 Song from a Musical (not to Backing Track)

8A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
8B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
8C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

Class V9 Classical or Musical Theatre Duet, Trio or Quartet

One voice per part, each having a distinct vocal line and involving singing predominantly in harmony.

18 years and under	6 mins	£12.00
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Class V10 Acting through Song – age 16 and above

Piano accompaniment, not backing track. Singers are to prepare a song from the Musical Theatre repertoire. The emphasis in this class is on the seamless integration of singing and acting skills demonstrated through a range of vocal quality choices and a truthful physical delivery of the song.

10A	16-17 years	5 mins	£8.00
10B	18-19 years	5 mins	£8.00

Class V11 Milton Keynes Young Singer of the Year Recital *Festival Trophy*

You must enter at least one other solo voice class and be aged 14-18 years. You must perform at least two own choice pieces within the time allowed, but at least one must be classical in genre. No backing tracks are allowed. This class will be performed on Sunday 10 March 2024.

At least two contrasting pieces	12 mins	£12.00
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Class V34 Any song from a Disney Film or Disney Musical performed to a backing track

Backing track must be provided on a phone / tablet or CD and must be instrumental only, with no additional singing or backing vocals. A sound system will be provided and you will be expected to sing without a microphone.

34A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
34B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
34C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

Class V35 Contemporary Pop performed to backing track

Backing track must be provided on a phone / tablet or CD and must be instrumental only, with no additional singing or backing vocals. A sound system will be provided and you will be expected to sing without a microphone. Your song must be appropriate for a mixed aged audience.

35A	10 years and under	Any pop song of your own choice	4 mins	£6.00
35B	11-14 years	Any song by Olly Murs or Ariana Grande	4 mins	£7.00
35C	15-18 years	Any song by Ed Sheeran or Adele	4 mins	£7.00

Class V36 Foreign Song – Indian

Song of Indian origin composed to an original text and sung in the original language.

36A	10 years and under	3 mins	£6.00
36B	11-13 years	3 mins	£7.00
36C	14-18 years	4 mins	£7.00

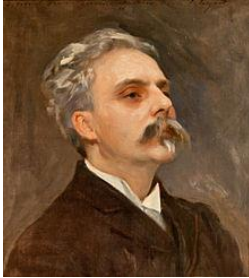
Non-Competitive Voice Classes

Each entrant will receive a full adjudication, certificate and written feedback, but no placing.

Class V1	Solo Song Non-Competitive	Own choice	
	13 years and under	3 mins	£5.00
	14 -18 years	4 mins	£5.00
	Adult	5 mins	£5.00

Open Vocal Classes (Any Age)

Just for 2024: Class V32



Guest composer: Gabriel Fauré - Vocal Class to mark the 100th anniversary of his death

Gabriel Urbain Fauré (12 May 1845 – 4 November 1924) was a French composer, organist, pianist and teacher. In this class you may choose any song composed by Fauré

Own choice 5 mins £7.00

Just for 2024: Class V37



Guest composer: Giacomo Puccini - Vocal Class to mark the 100th anniversary of his death

Giacomo Puccini (22 December 1858 – 29 November 1924) was an Italian composer known primarily for his operas, notably La Boheme, Tosca, Madama Butterfly and Turandot. In this class you may choose any aria composed by Puccini.

Own choice 5 mins £7.00

Competitive Classes - Adult Voice

Please note that adults may use their sheet music as an aide-memoire

Class V2D	Adult Voice Set Piece		
	<i>Prison</i> by Fauré		£7.00
Class V13	Folk Song – Accompanied or Un-Accompanied		
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00
Class V15	Renaissance / Early Baroque Song or Aria	– Written before 1695	
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00
Class V16	Contemporary Art Song or Aria		
	Must be in contemporary classical idiom (ie Berg, Poulenc, Britten, Tippett)		
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00
Class V17	British Art Song	– Art Song composed to an original English text by a composer born or lived mainly in Britain and Ireland	
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00
Class V19	Lieder	Must be in original language	
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00
Class V20	Mélodie	<i>Prize £20 sponsored by Cheryl Hawkins</i>	
	Must be in original language		
	Own choice	4 mins	£7.00

- Class V21 Foreign Art Song (other than French or German - for Indian songs, please see Class V36D)**
Must be in the original language
Own choice 4 mins £7.00
- Class V22 Operetta**
Own choice 5 mins £7.00
- Class V23 Song from a Musical** (performed to piano or backing track accompaniment)
Own choice 5 mins £7.00
- Class V26 Two Related Songs**
Own choice 8 mins £8.00
- Class V27 Opera** Must be in original key, may be in translation
Own choice 6 mins £7.00
- Class V28 Oratorio** Must be in original key, may be in translation. Own choice from a work of oratorio character including Masses, Motets, Sacred Cantatas etc.
Own choice 6 mins £7.00
- Class V30 Adult Voice Recital** *Festival Trophy*
Entrants must have entered at least one other voice class.
One piece from each period: a. Baroque / Classical (1650 – 1830)
b. Romantic / Early 20th century (1831–1950)
c. Late 20th century / Contemporary (1950 -)
Own choice 15 mins £15.00
- Class V31 Classical or Musical Theatre Duet, Trio or Quartet**
One voice per part, each having a distinct vocal line and involving singing predominantly in harmony. Props or costuming is allowed
Own choice 8 mins £12.00
- Class V35 Pop song performed to backing track**
Backing track must be provided on a phone / tablet or CD and must be instrumental only, with no additional singing or backing vocals. A sound system will be provided and you will be expected to sing without a microphone. You can perform a song from any era from 1940s onwards.
35D Own choice 4 mins £7.00
- Class V36D Foreign Song – Indian**
Song of Indian origin composed to an original text and sung in the original language.
36D Adult - 19 years and over 4 mins £7.00

BARBERSHOP

Held at The Venue Walton High on Saturday 16 March 2024

- Class C7 Barbershop Quartet** *Festival Trophy*
Two contrasting pieces of own choice
Open 8 mins £20.00
- Class C8 Barbershop Chorus** *Festival Trophy*
Two contrasting pieces of own choice
Open 8 mins £30.00

COMMUNITY CHOIRS AND BARBERSHOP

Held at The Venue Walton High on Saturday 16 March 2024

Accompanists: Your choir may choose to sing unaccompanied, or there is a list of local accompanists on our website, or you may use your own.

Please book your accompanist well in advance if you need one.

Choir Size: Please enter the number of performers on your entry form so that your choir may be appropriately scheduled. Depending on the number of entries received, the organiser reserves the right to combine classes if necessary.

Class C3 Adult Community, Church or Open Choirs with 20 or fewer performers

Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography and no extended solos) 8 mins £20.00

Class C4 Adult Community, Church or Open Choirs with 21 or more performers

Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography and no extended solos) 8 mins £25.00

Class C5 Junior Community or Church Choirs with 20 or fewer performers

Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography and no extended solos) 8 mins £20.00

Class C6 Junior Community or Church Choirs with 21 or more performers

Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography and no extended solos) 10 mins £25.00

SCHOOL CHOIRS

School choirs will take part at The Venue Walton High on Saturday 16 March 2024

Backing tracks:

Pre-recorded accompaniments are not permitted and we provide a Kawai piano for your use.

Accompanists:

Your choir may choose to sing unaccompanied, or there is a list of local accompanists on our website, or you may use your own. Please book your accompanist well in advance.

Choir Size: Please enter the number of performers on your entry form so that your choir may be appropriately scheduled. Depending on the number of entries received, the organiser reserves the right to combine classes if necessary.

Class C1 School Choirs with 20 or fewer performers

Festival Choirs Trophy to the winner of each class.

Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography, no extended solos)

Year 3 and under	8 mins	£20.00
Year 6 and under	8 mins	£20.00
Years 7-11	10 mins	£20.00
6 th form and under	10 mins	£20.00

Class C2 School Choirs with 21 or more performers

Festival Choirs Trophy to the winner of each class. Two contrasting pieces of own choice (music in 'choral' style, minimal choreography, no extended solos)

Year 3 and under	8 mins	£25.00
Year 6 and under	8 mins	£25.00
Years 7-11	10 mins	£25.00
6 th form and under	10 mins	£25.00

RULES AND INFORMATION

The festival is intended for amateurs

- Professionals may take part as Adjudicators, Accompanists, Conductors and Officials.
- For the purpose of the festival, professionals are those for whom income is, or has been, derived from the branch of the profession in which they wish to compete or perform or who have completed a full-time college course in the specialist subject in which they wish to compete or perform.

The committee reserves the right to:

- accept or reject any proposed entry.
- sub-divide or combine classes with a large or limited number of entries.
- appoint replacement or additional adjudicators and to alter, modify or cancel any of the arrangements detailed in the syllabus.

Entries

- The entries should be sent to Entry Secretary by the date specified.

Age Limit

- In all sections the operative day for determining age is 1 February.

Standards

- Standards are indicated either by age, grade, or by experience in tuition. Where a class is divided into grades, the entrant should be able to play to that standard, but not yet have passed a higher grade than that specified.
- The piece played must reflect the standard entered, ie a piece set for a grade 5 exam should not be played in an Elementary (grade 4) class. Only one grade may be entered in all graded classes, and entrants and/or teachers are responsible for ensuring the correct grade has been selected.

Multiple Entries

- **(Music Classes only)** Entrants may perform once only in each class, except in duet, trio or ensemble classes where an entrant may perform more than once provided a different part is performed. Entrants who are members of more than one choir or ensemble are permitted to perform as a member of each choir or ensemble to which they belong.
- **(Speech Classes only):** A performer may only enter a class once. When performing in a duologue or group class a second entry is permitted provided a different part with a different partner/group is performed.

Own Choice Pieces

- The festival is under a legal obligation to supply the Performing Rights Society with details of all items to be performed.
- Own choice titles and composers must be given on the entry form for all sections.
- A copy of each Own Choice piece must be handed to the adjudicator's steward at the time of the performance.

- Photocopies are acceptable provided an original is used for the performance. The photocopy will be retained and destroyed after the adjudication of the class.

Speech & Drama Section

- Entrants do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items performed, to a time limit of 10 minutes.
- Duologues and group dramatic activity are not covered by this agreement, and copyright for these items should be sought by performers at the time of entry.
- Solo dramatic items must be announced with title and author at the time of performance to qualify for copyright indemnity, and the performer must not change the words or gender of the character.

Time Limits

- The time limit for each class is shown in the syllabus and this must be strictly adhered to.
- Any performance in which there is an excessive overrun of the time limit will be stopped by the adjudicator or adjudicator’s clerk.
- Where the performance is obviously ending as the time limit is reached, the adjudicator’s steward will allow the performance to conclude, but will inform the adjudicator when the time limit is reached, and his/her category and remarks will not cover material performed after the time limit is exceeded.
- Although time limits are specified you are required to time your piece/s and enter this under “Performance Time” as accurately as possible on the Entry Form.

Photocopying of Music

The festival cannot legally allow anyone to play/perform from photocopied music and has no choice but to disqualify performers who do so, unless before their class starts, they can produce evidence showing that the publisher’s agreement has been sought and given.

The only photocopies the festival can allow in law are:

- Copies for the adjudicator’s use, which will be destroyed at the end of each class.
- For an awkward page-turn which may hinder a performance.

Accompanists

- Entrants are advised that the festival does not engage official accompanists. There are suggestions on the festival website or you may bring your own.

Notification of time, date and venue of performers’ classes

Performers will be notified as to the time, date and venue of their class/es as soon as possible after closing date for entries, and not later than 21 days before the commencement of their section. This information will be emailed to you if an email address has been provided.

Certificates

- All entrants will be issued with a certificate and an adjudication, providing the Festival rules have been complied with.
- The categories awarded will be in accordance with the standards laid down by the British and International Federation of Festivals as follows:

Fair	A performance limited in its communication
Moderate	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication
Merit	A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability
Commended	A convincing performance technically and artistically
Distinction	An excellent performance technically and artistically
Outstanding	An exceptional performance both technically and artistically

- The winners of each class will be announced. Further placings will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator. (Please see sections for specific arrangements.)

Adjudicators

- Only festival officials directly concerned with the section may approach the adjudicator while the session is in progress.
- The adjudicator may stop any performance when his or her judgement has been formed. The adjudicator's decision in all cases is final.

Photography and Recording

- No photography, videotaping or audio recording is permitted of any live performance at any festival event by anyone, other than official photographers authorised by the organisers, in any circumstances. Please respect this rule and do not attempt to photograph any performer.
- Photographs of trophy/medal presentations will only be permitted with the express consent of the adjudicator, organiser and parents of the children concerned.
- In order to assist in promotion of the festival, the press, television and radio may be invited to attend and the festival may engage an official photographer. All photographs, video or film recording will be limited to the performance area, in the presence of festival officials.
- Parents or teachers entering children individually or in groups will be asked to indicate on entries those children who are not to be photographed, video-taped or filmed.

Child Protection

- The Festival's Child Protection Policy and approach to Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone is published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and Website. By completing and signing the entry form (or online entry system) all parents / guardians / carers and teachers of entrants under 18 (or vulnerable adults of any age) confirm that they give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the entrants to take part in the Festival. Without consent the entry to the festival cannot be accepted.

Any decision of the Committee in all matters arising out of,
or not specifically covered in these rules, is final.

Child Protection Policy **Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts for Music, Dance and Drama**

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech works for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for children and young people each year.

The Federation, and our member Festivals, are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The purpose of the policy:

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members. to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and safe working practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- The Federation will review this policy each year in November in line with any changes in legislation or guidance.

Child Licensing Regulations regarding Child Performances (children aged 16 or under)

The children involved in the festival will be authorised by a Body of Persons Approval organised by the festival with Milton Keynes Council.

Body of Persons Approval (BOPA)

- A BOPA removes the need to apply for individual licences for child performers and it is granted to the organisation that is responsible for the performances, ie Milton Keynes Festival. It is therefore the organisation that is approved as a suitable group. It can apply to one performance, or a series of performances so covers our whole festival. The dance section of the festival will organise its own BOPA.

The festival performances must meet at least one of the following to require a BOPA:

- A charge was made in connection with the performance (e.g an admission fee)
- It took place on licensed premises for alcohol supply
- It was broadcast performance
- It was recorded to be broadcast
- Performances organised and produced by your child's school are exempt.

In order to satisfy the local authority that our festival is a suitable organisation to be granted a BOPA, the local authority needs to see evidence of the following:

- Clear and robust safeguarding policies
- Designated Safeguarding Officer
- A regularly updated Child Protection Policy in place
- Evidence of any safeguarding training undertaken by festival team
- DBS checking of volunteers
- The supervision of children from sign-in to sign-out, including provision for supervision backstage if applicable.

Our festival satisfies all the above requirements. Your help and assistance with this is greatly appreciated and if you have any queries or concerns please do let me know.

Pat Haig, Festival Organiser and Joint Chair 07771 702136 pathaig@me.com



BONNERS

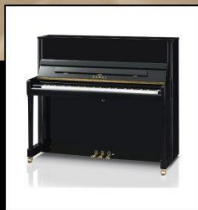
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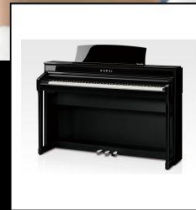
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