

# ESSEX YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Please read the following Conditions of Entry with great care.  
Proceeding with your entry will be taken as your acceptance of them.

1. The competition is open to singers and instrumentalists (not organists due to the lack of a suitable instrument). Only one entry is permitted per person each year.
2. Entrants must have their home address in Essex, attend school or college in Essex, or have been born in Essex. For the purposes of the competition, any town or village that was part of Essex prior to 1965 will be accepted as qualified for this competition. This also includes villages or towns which straddle the Essex border and which have an Essex-based postcode. In case of uncertainty, please contact the administrator. Proof of eligibility is required.
3. Entrants must be 28 or under on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024
4. An entry fee of £45 is payable. This is only refundable in exceptional circumstances.
5. Entrants should be of at least Grade 7–8 standard or equivalent and must submit signed and dated testimonials from two music professionals written specifically for this year's competition. Under-18 applicants may submit one of these from their school's Head Teacher/Head of Music. The references must be sent DIRECTLY to the administrator.
6. The last date for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024. Validated entries will be accepted in order of submission.
7. Previous First Prize winners of the competition are not eligible to enter.
8. Timings and complete descriptions (including opus or catalogue numbers) of all works to be played MUST be fully and accurately stated on the entry form. Individual extracts, movements, arias or songs should clearly show from which work or opera they are taken. The competition reserves the right to request re-submission of a competitor's programme if this requirement is not strictly observed.
9. Strict timekeeping will be enforced in all stages of the competition, and competitors who are not ready to perform at their appointed time in the competition programme may be disqualified.
10. Candidates are expected to dress smartly for all stages of the competition – jeans are not acceptable. Finalists and their accompanying pianist will be required to wear evening dress. If gentlemen do not have access to a dinner suit, they must wear a smart suit/jacket and tie.  
Please ask the administrator should there be any difficulties or doubt as to what this means.
11. Candidates must perform at least one complete piece or movement from memory during the Final Round of the competition.
12. The competition cannot legally allow anyone to perform from photocopies or computer printouts. The administrator will have no option but to disqualify performers if they or their accompanying pianists do so unless, before the performance day, they submit written evidence to the administrator showing that the publisher's agreement has been sought and granted.  
Performances from iPads and other electronic devices will not be allowed in ANY circumstances.
13. Competitors must provide the judges with complete scores of all music to be played – not just an instrumental or vocal line. These should be brought with you. For this purpose only, photocopies can be legally accepted, but these will be retained after the competition and destroyed by the administrator.
14. An official pianist will be available for all rounds, if required. There will be a fee of £35 for the preliminary round which is payable with the entry fee by the competition closing date. This will be requested during your application.  
A fee of £45 will be charged for the Semifinal Round. A fee of £55 is charged for the Final Round. In this event, a preparation fee of £25 is payable ahead of the competition and the balance of £30 will be payable if the candidate proceeds to the final. These fees will be payable within the two days following the competition. In all cases these fees include a brief rehearsal immediately before the performance. If additional rehearsal time is arranged with the official pianist prior to the day of the competition, a fee must be negotiated with and paid directly to the official pianist.
15. The use of recording equipment, either audio or video, during performances is illegal and strictly prohibited. Candidates should ensure that their family and friends in the audience are aware of this.
16. The judges reserve the right to withhold the award of any prizes. In all matters relating to the competition, the decision of the Judging Panel and the competition administrator is final.