MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE

2019 Bach Competition Guidelines

The Competition

Now in its tenth year, Melbourne Recital Centre's Bach Competition is dedicated to young musicians passionate about J.S. Bach. The competition repertoire will consist of any works of J.S. Bach not exceeding 10 minutes in total duration. The Performance Final will be held at Melbourne Recital Centre on Sunday 16 June 2019.

Date: Sunday 16 June 2019
Venue: Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre
Time: 3:00 – 5.30pm

The competition winners will be announced, and their prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the Performance Final.

Eligibility

The Melbourne Recital Centre Bach Competition is open to:

- soloists and ensembles of up to five members
- any instrument/s
- permanent residents or citizens of Australia
- 17 years of age and under (at 1 January 2019)
- minimum performance level of AMEB Grade 5 or equivalent is expected

Please note – previous Richard Mills prize-winners of this competition are not eligible to enter.

Key dates

- Applications Closing Date: Wednesday 8 May 2019 at midnight (late applications will not be accepted)
- Announcement of finalists: Friday 17 May 2019
- Performance Final: Sunday 16 June 2019

Prizes

Prizes applicable to all entrants:

- Richard Mills Prize: $2,000
- Encouragement Awards: two prizes of $1,000 each
- Australian Bach Society Award: $500

If you are from rural or regional Victoria and are applying for the Bach Competition, you are also eligible to apply for the *Newsboys Foundation Regional Music Award.* Please ensure that you make this selection to be considered for the Newsboys Award during the Bach Competition application process.

- This award is applicable to entrants who live in, and attend a Victorian Government school in, rural or regional Victoria. This prize is designed to enable such students to benefit from musical tuition and other opportunities that otherwise may be not open to them. It includes: travel and one week's accommodation for the student and a parent/guardian in Melbourne and a daily per diem; lessons with a top teacher on the relevant instrument; complimentary tickets to concerts at the Melbourne Recital Centre during that week; mentoring/shadowing opportunities with Melbourne Recital Centre's artistic and production staff and best endeavours to go 'behind-the-scenes' with direct contact with industry professionals.

Additional prizes may be offered. The Jury reserves the right not to award any prize.

NEWSBOYS FOUNDATION

Applications

Applications consist of completing the online registration and uploading the application items.

Registration

Applicants must complete the on-line registration available on the Melbourne Recital Centre website.

Submission of Application Items

You will be required to submit the following items through the online registration. If you have issues with uploading any of these items, please email bachcompetition@melbournerecital.com.au

- link to unedited video recording(s) of music no longer than 10 minutes duration (acceptable format is YouTube or Vimeo link)
- a copy of the score of the work/s performed on the audio recording in PDF format
- biography – a description of the applicant's musical training, achievements and interests written in the third person (approx. 70 words)
- an image of the applicant in JPEG format
- proof of age in PDF format (scanned copy of passport, birth certificate or other valid ID)

Application Guidelines

- the registration and application must be submitted by persons over 18 years of age i.e. parent / guardian / teacher
- applications must be received by Melbourne Recital Centre no later than Wednesday 8 May 2019 at midnight
- posted, hand-delivered or faxed entries will not be accepted
- late applications will not be accepted
- only one application is permitted per applicant
- no competitor/s will be allowed to compete under any name other than that submitted on the application form
- for the purpose of Newsboys Foundation Regional Music Award, rural and regional Victoria includes areas outside of the Melbourne metropolitan train network

The Jury

The Jury will consist of a panel of music industry figures. The Jury reserves the right to appoint a Co-Adjudicator, or Assistant, or substitute Adjudicator when necessary. Any contestant who makes an attempt or on whose behalf an attempt is made to communicate with any member of the Jury before the completion of the competition may be disqualified. The decisions of the Jury are final and may not be challenged on any grounds.

Audio-Visual Recordings

The video recording you submit must include not more than 10 minutes of musical material. Acceptable formats are You Tube or Vimeo link. No editing of the footage is permitted although stops between movements are OK. Please allow adequate time to upload your footage to YouTube or Vimeo.

Repertoire

Any work or works of J.S. Bach not exceeding 10 minutes in total duration. Please specify on the online registration the exact timings of all repertoire. The jury reserves the right to disqualify contestants who run over time. Repertoire changes by the student are not permitted once an application has been submitted. Applicants who are selected for the Performance Final may be asked to perform a selection from their submitted repertoire.

Accompanists

If required, competitors must provide their own accompanist at their own cost for the final concert held on Sunday 16 June 2019. The jury reserves the right to disqualify any finalist arriving without an accompanist. Please note, your accompanist does not form part of the application and will not be eligible for any prize monies.

Withdrawals

Finalists who do not intend to compete in the Final performance must notify Melbourne Recital Centre to that effect at least 48 hours before the commencement of the Final.

Copyright and Printed Material

The competitor must use original material copies or authorised photocopies for performances (authorised photocopies must be accompanied by a letter from the Publisher or Copyright Holder). Schools may use "AMCOS" stamped photocopies as per AMCOS agreement. Photocopies provided for the Jury are permitted and will be destroyed by Melbourne Recital Centre after use. This rule is in accordance with the directions of the Australian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society and Copyright Agencies Limited, and no variations will be permitted. Melbourne Recital Centre holds APRA & PPCA licences.

Practice, Warm-Up & Rehearsals

A practice / warm-up room will be available at Melbourne Recital Centre on the day of the Final at times to be advised to finalists.

Order of competing

Finalists must perform in the order in which their names appear in the program unless officially authorised or directed otherwise. If not present when called upon, finalists may be disqualified. Finalists are expected to attend for the entire duration of the Final and will not be permitted to leave early for other commitments, including any other performances.

Personal Presentation

The Jury expects the behaviour of competitors and audience to be appropriate to the occasion. Offenders may be removed from the hall. All competitors are requested to dress appropriately in neat and formal performance attire. Recommendations for appropriate performance dress include a minimum sleeve length of cap or short sleeves, and skirt or dress length below the knee or dress jackets or ties, although optional depending on major instrument and performance technique.

Critique

Providing competition feedback to finalists is at the discretion of the adjudicators after the conclusion of the competition. Feedback will not be given for non-finalists.

Insurance

Melbourne Recital Centre requires all finalists to be responsible for insuring their instruments for damage arising out of participation in the Competition.

Cameras, tape recorders, videos, pagers and mobile phones

The use of any of the above by members of the audience during the competitions is strictly prohibited. Pagers and Phones must be turned off while in the performance spaces. Offenders may be removed from the auditorium and film or recording destroyed.

Broadcasting

Melbourne Recital Centre or its agent reserves the right to record, broadcast, telecast or video tape any item of the Competition. Performances will be recorded and webcast on the internet via the Melbourne Recital Centre website. By submitting your application, you have automatically granted permission for audio, video, digital images or photographs to be used for promotional or marketing purposes.

Acknowledgements

The prize winner shall for a period of two (2) years after the date of the receipt of such prize include or cause to be included in their curriculum vitae, biographical notes and performance programs, an acknowledgement of their having been a prize winner in this Competition.

The 2019 Bach Competition is supported by Richard Mills AM, Australian Bach Society, Newsboys Foundation, Melbourne Recital Centre and Vivienne Ritchie.