

# ISA Young Musician Competition

Wednesday 5 February 2025  
JdP Music Building, University of Oxford



Open to KS1-5.  
Online qualification round  
followed with live final.  
Competition open to  
ISA Members' schools only.

Visit the ISA website for  
more information.

**Deadline**  
Wednesday 4 December

The ISA Young Musician Competition is our annual celebration of musical talent. Pupils at ISA Members' schools are invited to demonstrate their music performance skills in front of a live audience and expert judges.

### Eligibility

This competition is open to ISA Members' Schools only. Open to all ages. Each school may enter three pupils per age category.

*At ISA, we are committed to making our opportunities accessible, we welcome applications from all pupils, including those with learning difficulties or disabilities. Alternative formats of these guidelines are available on request. Please notify us at the earliest opportunity so we can provide the document accordingly, if required.*

### Competition Categories

- Junior (Year 1 to Year 6)
- Middle (Year 7 to Year 9)
- Senior (Year 10 to year 13)

### How to enter

Entries must be submitted via the online form on the ISA website [here](#) by **Wednesday 4 December** at the latest.

- Schools are invited to record a video of their entry(ies) and submit it/them via the online form on the ISA website, following the guidelines below.
- A working URL link must be given for the video (e.g., to YouTube or Vimeo). ISA won't accept any file to download, WeTransfer links, or broken links.
- Please make sure that your videos are accessible to view by anyone with the link. YouTube videos will need to be unlisted, Vimeo videos will need to be unlisted and age rated, Google Drive will need to be set to 'Anyone with the link' and OneDrive needs to be set with 'share link' to 'anyone'.
- The maximum duration for each online entry is three minutes.
- ISA suggests running a competition in-house and submitting your best entries.

### Competition Format

#### **1. Online Qualification Round**

The first stage of this competition consists of an online qualification round.

Late cancellations cause considerable inconvenience to the organisers and prevent other schools from taking part. All entries received will be regarded as a definite commitment to attend the final on **Wednesday 5 February** at JdP Music Building, University of Oxford.

## 2. The Final

Finalists will be invited to JdP Music Building, University of Oxford on **Wednesday 5 February** for the final. Schools will be asked to email the following information by Wednesday 15 January to

[isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk)

- Name of piece and music sheet for the performance.
- Full names of audience attending including staff.

### Judging criteria

- Pitch
- Time
- Tone
- Shape
- Performance

### Rules and General Information

- This competition does not include vocal entries.
- Pupils can play either from memory or with music.
- Pupils may have a piano to accompany them if needed. (No other accompaniment is allowed)
- You must provide your own accompanist and page turners if required.
- No backing tracks allowed.
- The video for the first round can last no longer than 3 minutes.
- Please note the instrument of choice must be acoustic. Guitarists must play classical guitar.
- Groups cannot enter the competition, single instrument only.
- Finalists do not have to play the same piece as the first round.
- Pupils may not compose their own piece of music.
- The piece of music for the final can last no longer than 5 minutes.
- A piano will be provided for pianists and accompanists as well as music stands if required.
- Dress code: smart or school uniform.
- We understand that travel is a factor, but we encourage teachers, family and friends to come along for the whole day to support the musicians and watch the performances.
- There is no parking available at the venue, alternative parking instructions will follow in communications to the schools participating.

If you have any questions, please contact [isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk)

We look forward to receiving your entries.