

Syllabus 2026



Leamington Spa Competitive Festival

MUSIC • DANCE • SPEECH



Promoting the arts
in Leamington Spa
since 1910

www.leadcompfest.co.uk

Registered Charity No 204777

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Leamington Spa Competitive Festival was founded in 1910. The aims of the Festival are “to help, promote and encourage the study and practice of the Arts of Music, Dance and Speech in all their branches”.

Officers

President	The Worshipful The Town Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa	
Chairman	Laurie Grove dlaurie.grove@gmail.com	07779 151947
Vice-Chairman	Kathryn Heathcote kathryn@mediashak.com	07733 361286
Hon. Secretary	Isabelle Matthews isabellematthews@outlook.com	07428 282121
Hon. Treasurer	Laurie Grove treasurer@leancompfest.co.uk	07779 151947

SECTION SECRETARIES

All entries can be made online (www.leancompfest.co.uk) or sent to the appropriate Section Secretary, as indicated.

Pianoforte	Michael Rose pianosec@leancompfest.co.uk	07462955911
Woodwind and Brass	Jordan Kinsey Jennie Robson woodwindandbrass@leancompfest.co.uk	
Harp	Chloe Chousmer-Kerr chloe.chousmerkerr@gmail.com	
Strings	Kathryn Heathcote 14 The Hollies, Newton, Rugby, CV23 0DD kathryn@mediashak.com	07733 361286
Pipe Organ	Adrian Moore 25 Manor Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, CV32 7RJ adrian.moore@leancompfest.co.uk	01926 883615 07941 468457
Vocal	Cate Bower Aspire Music, 29 Waterloo Place, L' Spa CV32 5LA catebower92@gmail.com	07710 615722
Speech and Drama	Helena Duncan Flat 1, 16 St Mary's Crescent, Leamington Spa, CV31 1JL helena4duncan@gmail.com	07770 442826
Classical Guitar	Colleen Billington 2 Chase Cottages, Chase Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 1PR cobblers_bill@hotmail.co.uk	07907 941148
Stage Dancing	Nikki Collins leamingtonstagedancefestival@hotmail.com	07944 736045

DATES AND ADJUDICATORS

Dates	CLASSES	ADJUDICATOR(S)
27 th May	Pipe Organ	Rachel Mahon
7 th June	Woodwind and Brass	Heidi Fardell and Ian Foster
7 th June	Speech & Drama	Yvonne Craven
20 th and 21 st June	Strings	Catherine Yates
13 th and 27 th June	Vocal	Ben Costello
14 th June	Classical Guitar	Amanda Cook
28 th June	Harp	tbc
13 th and 14 th June	Piano	George Rowley and Michael Rose

Online Entries opened at the start of January 2026

The closing date for entries for all but Dance is 1st May 2026

No entries after this date will be accepted, or changes to the repertoire.

Please ensure that your entries reach us as soon as possible.

www.learncompfest.co.uk

WAYS TO ENTER

Online entry via our website – we are aiming for a full online entry system within two years.

Currently, other methods of entry are:

complete the entry form in this syllabus (or download from the website) and either post or scan and email (payments can be made by cheque or BACS)

or if you are a teacher with a large number of entrants, you may contact the section secretary directly to make a block entry and payment.

STAGE DANCE FESTIVAL 2026

This event will run 30th March to 2nd April 2026 at North Leamington School. Please contact the Dance Section directly (contact details on previous page).

WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIRMAN LAURIE GROVE

A very warm welcome to our 2026 syllabus.

Cate Bower stood down as chair at the last AGM. Thank you, Cate, for your commitment to the role over the last two years. I have taken on the role again on an interim basis and we shall be actively seeking a permanent chairman during the course of this year.

Last year was Beth's final year as Woodwind and Brass secretary before embarking on her Ph.D. studies. We owe her a huge debt for her running of the section for the last few years and wish her well in the future. In her place we welcome Jennie Robson and Jordan Kinsey.

The content of the syllabus is very similar to previous years so there is plenty for everyone. Please do study it thoroughly and enter as many classes as possible. Entry fees are unchanged from last year.

The most exciting news is that the Dance section will be returning after a year's absence. Nikki Collins, one of the previous joint secretaries, has offered to return, for which we are very grateful. Even better, two people have responded to our appeal for help with Dance so we now have the makings of a good, long-term team.

ABRSM will again be sponsoring prizes this year, this time in the Strings Section to coincide with the change of their syllabus. As ever, we appreciate their generosity. Also this year there are a number of new prizes in each section, sponsored by the Festival.

We do still need some new committee members. A degree of change is vital to any organisation for it to thrive. If you would be interested in being our next chairperson, next treasurer or very first marketing/admin specialist, please get in touch. My contact details are inside the front cover. You don't need to be a musician (I'm not). The only qualifications are an interest in music and a desire to ensure that the Festival can continue.

I look forward to seeing many familiar faces and loads of new ones this year. Competitive we may be but we are very much about enjoyment – the enjoyment of playing and of listening to the playing of others.

Finally, please, help the secretaries who willingly give up their time to organise the Festival by getting your entries in as early as possible.

With all good wishes,

Laurie

ADJUDICATOR BIOGRAPHIES

Amanda Cook (Guitar)

Dubbed the guitar queen with a silken touch, by the Independent, Amanda has appeared as a soloist in the USA, South America and throughout Europe. In the UK, venues include the South Bank, Wigmore Hall, St Georges Bristol, King's Place and The Sage, Gateshead. Her highly acclaimed performances are always noted for their sensitive musicality, fluid technique and ability to draw the audience into her world.

Amanda's first guitar teacher was Alexander Levtov, who she spent seven years with from the age of 7. She then went on to study with Charles Ramirez at the junior department of the Royal College of Music, as a scholarship student. Amanda then carried on to do her music degree at the RCM, as a foundation scholar, continuing with Mr Ramirez and then with Jacob Lindberg and Gary Ryan. Whilst at the college, Amanda won several prizes for her performances. Outside of College she won the 1995 Admira Young Guitarist of the Year, 1997 Ivor Mairants Guitar Award and the 1998 Carol Evershed Martin Award for solo instrumentalists.

After leaving the RCM, she went on to study in New York with Benjamin Verdery thanks to the support from the Countess of Munster Musical Trust. Amanda has been broadcast on television and radio, both abroad and in the UK. Along with solo work Amanda has always had a passion for chamber music, and she has worked in various duos and ensembles, including the Appassionata Guitar Trio, G Plus Ensemble and more recently with the renowned soprano Bibi Heal and the critically acclaimed Vida Quartet, who regularly tour the USA, Europe and China.

Amanda is a patron of the Federation of Guitar Societies.

Catherine Yates (Strings)

Catherine is Deputy Head of the School of Strings at the Royal Northern College of Music. She began her musical studies with Marion Hillier, before going on to study at Chetham's School of Music and the RNCM. Further training included courses at Yale University and the Britten-Pears School for Advanced Musical Studies in Aldeburgh. In 1989 she became a member of the Sorrel Quartet which was formed at the RNCM under the tutelage of Dr Christopher Rowland and worked regularly with members of the Vermeer, Borodin, Alban Berg and Allegri Quartets.

The Quartet went on to become one of Britain's foremost ensembles, performing extensively both at home and abroad and broadcasting regularly on BBC Radio, and a long association with Chandos Records saw the recording of twelve discs. These include the complete Quartets of Shostakovich, all the major quartet works of Britten and a critically acclaimed disc of the Elgar Quartet and Piano Quintet, with pianist Ian Brown.

Catherine's career took a sharp change of direction in 2007, with her appointment as Principal Second Violin with the Hallé. She held this position for six years, combining symphony orchestra life with a busy programme of teaching and chamber music, both as violinist and viola player. After leaving the Halle, she took up her current position at the RNCM whilst continuing to perform regularly as Guest Principal with many leading orchestras, including BBC Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia and Welsh National Opera. She continues to fuel her passion for chamber music and is involved with a number of charitable organisations that support young musicians.

Ian Foster (brass)

Ian is a highly accomplished British tuba player, educator, and brass specialist, currently serving as the Director of Brass at Rugby School. A professional musician with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) since 2005, he has performed with prestigious ensembles including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Fine Arts Brass Ensemble, and The London Tuba Quartet.

Ian is a dedicated educator, providing low brass tutoring for the National Youth Wind Orchestra and the CBSO Youth Orchestra. He leads music partnerships and the "Hands on Brass" program at Bilton Grange Preparatory School. He earned his musical foundation at the Birmingham Conservatoire and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. His solo album, *Handel to Valhalla*, showcases his versatility and mastery of the tuba.

Heidi Fardell (woodwind)

Heidi Fardell is a distinguished British recorder player and baroque flautist with a vibrant career as a performer, educator and adjudicator. She regularly appears with leading early and contemporary music ensembles across the UK, has recorded for BBC Radio 3 and been featured on BBC Radio 4, and co-directs the Banbury Early Music Festival. Heidi holds a BMus (Hons) and MMus in performance from Goldsmiths University and a PgCert in Baroque flute from Birmingham Conservatoire, having studied with eminent specialists in recorder and flute.

Passionate about music education, she has taught for over two decades in diverse settings, including a long post at Trinity Laban Conservatoire's Junior Department, and delivers bespoke workshops for venues such as Kensington Palace, Tate Britain and the National Gallery. Heidi is Vice-Chair of the European Recorder Teachers Association (UK) and adjudicates for the British & International Federation of Festivals, bringing insightful, encouraging feedback to performers of all ages.

Michael Rose (Piano)

Michael Rose is a versatile British pianist and répétiteur, a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama's répétiteur course, following a First-Class degree in Piano Performance from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, where he studied with Mikhail Kazakevich. He has cultivated a deep passion for opera, working extensively as a répétiteur, assistant conductor, and music director across the UK. Operatic credits include *Banished*, *Coraline*, *Les Arts Florissants*, *Albert Herring* (RBC); *Dead Man Walking*, *A Star Next to the Moon*, *Alcina*, *Savitri*, *Opera Makers*, (GSMD); *Trouble in Tahiti*, *A Hand of Bridge* (Cumbria Opera); *The Decision*, *Woman.life.song*, *New Year* (Birmingham Opera); *The Quest* (LYO).

Michael also takes interest in the art song repertoire, having received the 2022 Edwards Brooks English Song Accompanist Prize and having performed in lunchtime song recitals at the Royal Opera House, St Martin in the Fields and Lamport Hall. Alongside this, he has performed in an recital as part of the Oxford Lieder 2022 festival whilst also participating as a Young Artist within the Leeds Lieder 2022 festival, both engagements alongside Hannah Morley. Here, he performed in the Howard Assembly Room and in masterclasses led by Joan Rodgers and Amanda Roocroft. Michael enjoys participating in a variety of musical projects and areas but finds a unique feeling of fulfilment

teaching students of all ages, enthusiastic to share his passion and love for music which he does primarily at Greenwich Music School.

George Rowley (Piano)

Described by Musical Opinion Magazine as a "gifted young artist", George Rowley has quickly established himself as a leading figure in classical music. Amongst his most recent projects was the premier release of the piano sonatas of Ivor Gurney on Naxos. As a soloist, George has performed throughout the UK and internationally, appearing at the Winchester Festival, the Holywell Rooms, the SkyArts Salon, and the Liddell Concert Series, among others.

George is a laureate of numerous international competitions including the Brighton Concerto Competition, the Intercollegiate Beethoven Competition and the Ian Stoutzker Prize. In 2018 George was also awarded the Weingarten scholarship resulting in the pursuit of postgraduate studies at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest.

In addition to his performing career, George dedicates part of his life to the education of young pianists, serving as a professor at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire junior department as well as Cheltenham Ladies' College. He combines his teaching with examining and adjudicating both in the UK and overseas.

George's mentors have included Mark Bebbington, Mikhail Kazakevich, James Kirby, László Borbély and he received his musical education at Hannover Hochschule für Musik, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and the Franz Liszt Academy with full scholarship. He has also participated in masterclasses with Natalia Trull, Nikolai Demidenko, Freddy Kempf, Steven Osbourne and Peter Donohoe.

Ben Costello BMus PGDip MA FRSA FISM

Ben is a freelance musical director, adjudicator, singing coach and accompanist, working internationally, and is also Artistic Director and Company Secretary of Thames Concerts. He is a generalist music adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, having joined in 2009. He is also a music examiner for LCME and a consultant on their musical theatre syllabi. A specialist in musical theatre and vocal performance, Ben has been musical director for numerous productions across the UK, and a reflective product of this has been his continuing work at the cutting edge of performing arts training in London, with his portfolio over the years including Arts Ed, Mountview Academy, Trinity Laban, Laine Theatre Arts, Italia Conti, Guildford School of Acting, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, the Royal Academy of Music, Drama Studio London, and the London School of Musical Theatre. Countless of his former singing students enjoy successful careers in the West End and beyond. He also teaches singing at Kingston Grammar School and Tiffin Girls' School.

Born and based in London, Ben trained initially as a flautist before majoring in piano, singing and conducting. He read Music at Kingston University and the London College of Music, subsequently joining the teaching faculty as the College's first resident MD.

Ben remains much sought-after as an accompanist. He is a Liveryman and on the Court of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. He chaired the Company's prestigious annual musical direction scholarship for eight years and is presently Chairman of the Company's Jazz Committee.

Outside music, Ben is a keen motorcyclist.

Rachel Mahon (Pipe Organ)

Rachel Mahon is a renowned concert organist and the Director of Music at Coventry Cathedral. With an international presence, Rachel captivates audiences worldwide with her exceptional musical talent and passion for the organ. Her performances are a blend of technical mastery and emotional depth, leaving a lasting impression on all who experience her music. Rachel's dedication to her craft and innovative approach to classical music make her a standout figure in the music industry. Whether performing solo or collaborating with other artists, Rachel Mahon continues to inspire and enchant music lovers everywhere.

As Director of Music at Coventry Cathedral, Rachel is responsible for training and conducting the Cathedral Choir and running the music programme and since January 2022, she has been Conductor of the Coventry Cathedral Chorus, a concert choir which performs large repertoire including an annual Messiah. Prior to arriving at Coventry Cathedral as Assistant Director of Music in 2018, she was Organ Scholar at St Paul's Cathedral – the first female organist in the cathedral's 1400-year history - and subsequently Assistant Organist at Chester Cathedral.

She combines life as a Cathedral musician with a busy international recital schedule, touring as soloist and as part of Organized Crime Duo. In 2024 she performed in Australia, the UK, Germany, Austria and Canada and in 2025 she'll be performing in the USA, Sweden, Germany and Norway, as well as the UK. Rachel has appeared on radio as performer and presenter, accompanying the BBC Singers in Choral Evensong and presenting Inside Music on BBC Radio 3 and This Is My Music on CBC radio. Funded by a grant awarded by the Canada Council for the Arts, Rachel's debut solo album, featuring all Canadian music on the organ of Coventry Cathedral, was released to excellent reviews - it received five stars in Choir and Organ Magazine and was Gramophone Magazine Editor's Choice in March 2020.

Rachel has won numerous awards and competitions in Canada, including a graduating scholarship from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from the University of Toronto, and has studied with John Tuttle and Henry Fairs.

In 2012, Rachel and fellow organist Sarah Svendsen founded the duo Organized Crime and the two organists aim to entertain audiences with their music and crazy antics. The pair have toured across Canada many times and performed in the opening concert of the Montreal Orga

Yvonne Craven (Speech and Drama)

Yvonne is a Script Supervisor specialising in all types of multi-camera programmes, including music, theatre and live transmissions. She was originally BBC trained and, since becoming freelance she has worked for many different companies and organisations both in the UK and worldwide. She is a regular guest tutor at the National Film and Television School, Beaconsfield where she set up and ran the Script Supervisor Training Course in continuity in film and TV gallery skills for the past five years. Recently Yvonne has been working for the Royal Opera House on a live cinema broadcast, and other broadcast companies specialising in all types of music and theatre. Programmes include BBC Proms, Cardiff Singer of the World, the World Music Awards, Eurovision Choir of the Year, Riverdance, Shakespeare plays, The Railway Children and live streaming for the London Symphony Orchestra. Yvonne is a member of the Board of Examiners at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). She is also a Speech and Drama Teacher teaching privately for LAMDA exams and auditions.

STRING CLASSES

SATURDAY 20TH AND SUNDAY 21ST JUNE – WARWICK PREP SCHOOL HALL

ADJUDICATORS: Catherine Yates GMusRNCM(hons) PPRNCM

ACCOMPANIST: Rosemary Robinson MA (Cantab), LRAM

The LENA WOOD TROPHY will be awarded to the best string player under 18 years.

The CHARLES GRADWELL MEMORIAL TROPHY and £40 Festival prize will be awarded for the best LOWER STRINGS performance classes 210 to 223.

Individual classes cannot be scheduled until entries have closed on 1st May. Every effort will be made to schedule classes for a single competitor on a single day. All ABRSM prizes are £20 Presto Classical Voucher

VIOLIN

Class 201	Beginner violin 11 years and under	The Ruth Monahan Cup and £15 Festival prize Any version of 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' and Own choice of any pre Grade 1 piece	Max. 3 mins
Class 202	8 years and under	The Young Strings Trophy Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 203	11 years and under	The Soroptomist Violin Cup Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 204	Open	The Ethel Overbury Cup and ABRSM Prize Own choice of any piece set for Grade 1 or 2	
Class 205	15 years and under	The D.T. Salver Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 206	Open	The Roberts Cup and ABRSM Prize Own choice of any piece set for Grade 3 or 4	
Class 207	18 years and under	The Anniversary Trophy Own choice	Max. 6 mins
Class 208	Open	The Festival Cup and ABRSM Prize Own choice of any piece set for Grade 5 or 6	
Class 209	Open	The Sinnet Trophy and ABRSM Prize Own choice of any piece set for Grade 7 or 8	

VIOLA

The BARBARA THODAY CUP will be awarded to the most promising Viola player (classes 210 to 212).

Class 210	11 years and under	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 211	15 years and under	ABRSM PRIZE – Presto Classical Voucher for £20 Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 212	18 years and under	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

It is permitted to exceed the time limit if playing a single piece from any current examination list.

'CELLO

The JAMES HEATHCOTE, ANNETTE BALL and SOROPTOMIST Cello Trophies will be awarded in three cello classes.

Class 213	Beginner 'cello 11 years and under	The Young Cellist Trophy and £15 Festival prize Own choice of any two pre Grade 1 pieces.	Max. 3 mins
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Class 214	Open	Own choice of any piece set for Grade 1 or 2 ABRSM PRIZE – Presto Classical Voucher for £20	
Class 215	Open	Own choice of any piece set for Grade 3 or 4 ABRSM PRIZE – Presto Classical Voucher for £20	
Class 216	Open	Own choice of any piece set for Grade 5 or 6 ABRSM PRIZE – Presto Classical Voucher for £20	
Class 217	Open	Own choice of any piece set for Grade 7 or 8 ABRSM PRIZE – Presto Classical Voucher for £20	
Class 218	11 years and under	The Jenn Grove Memorial Trophy & £50 Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 219	15 years and under	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 220	18 years and under	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

DOUBLE BASS

Class 221	11 years and under	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 222	15 years and under	Own choice ABRSM PRIZE	Max. 5 mins
Class 223	18 years and under	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

It is permitted to exceed the time limit if playing a single piece from any current examination list.

STRING RECITAL CLASS

Class 224*	Open	The Gradwell Recital Trophy and £40 Festival prize Own choice programme	Max. 12 mins
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STRING SONATA/CONCERTO CLASS

Class 225	Open	The Gradwell Sonata Cup and £40 Festival prize One movement from any Sonata or Concerto	Max. 10 mins
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STRING GROUP CLASSES

The SIMON RICHARDS AWARD, WISE TROPHY and TWENTYMAN TROPHY will be awarded in the group classes
STRING GROUPS of five or more

Class 226	13 years and under	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 227	18 years and under	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

STRING GROUPS duos, trios and quartets

Class 228	13 years and under	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 229	18 years and under	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

STRING GROUPS adult (or juniors with adults)

Class 230	Open	Own choice	Max. 6 mins
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STRINGS IN CHAMBER CLASSES - At least one string player and one other instrument. Min 3 players.

Class 231	Open	Own choice	Max. 6 mins
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ADULT CLASS all strings. **Non-competitive.** This class will receive an adjudication, but no marks will be given.

Class 232	Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
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SOLO BACH CLASS Violin, viola, 'cello or double bass

Class 233	Open	Own choice programme of unaccompanied Bach	Max. 6 mins
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SOLO STRING CLASS - UNACCOMPANIED Violin, viola, 'cello or double bass

Class 234	Open	Own choice of any piece of unaccompanied string repertoire OTHER THAN Bach	Max. 6 mins
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** Entry for the Recital Class, 224, is £18.*

Planned schedule: Violin grade and age group classes on Sat. Lower strings, and advanced classes on Sunday. Group classes Saturday evening. Mention in your entry (or email strings sec) if you have availability difficulties.

PIPE ORGAN CLASSES**WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY 7PM - HOLY TRINITY CHURCH****ADJUDICATOR: tbc**

These classes will take place in the evening.

The organ will be available for rehearsal time, subject to prior booking with the Section Secretary.

Class 181	Open	Own choice of a Prelude/Toccata and Fugue by a Baroque composer other than JS Bach composed before 1750	Max. 12 mins
Class 182	Open	Own choice of a piece composed between 1750 and 1820	Max. 12 mins
Class 183	Open	Own choice of an 18 th or early 19 th century English Voluntary, composed before 1820	
Class 184	Open	Own choice of a piece from the Romantic repertoire composed between 1820 and 1920	Max. 12 mins
Class 185	Open	Own choice of a piece composed between 1921 and the present day	Max. 12 mins
Class 186	Open	Non-competitive. This class will receive an adjudication, but no marks will be awarded	Max. 10 mins

Bach Classes

Class 190	Open	Own choice of one of the Eight Short Preludes and Fugues BWV 553-560	
Class 191	Open	Own choice of a Prelude/Toccata and Fugue	Max. 15 mins
Class 192	Open	Own choice of a movement from one of the trio sonatas BWV 525-530	Max. 6 mins
Class 193	Open	Own choice of a chorale prelude from the Orgelbüchlein BWV 599-644	
Class 195	Open	Own choice of a chorale prelude BWV 645-668	
Class 196	Open	Own choice of a Bach piece not covered by the above classes	Max. 8 mins

Recital Class

Class 197*	Open	A programme of music of the entrant's choice lasting no longer than 20 minutes.	Max. 20 mins
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The Coventry and Warwickshire Organists' Association is donating a voucher for £30 redeemable at Presto Music (accompanied by a CWOA Certificate) for the best overall performance, to be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.

*Class 197 has an entry fee of £18.00

WOODWIND AND BRASS CLASSES

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE
WARWICK PREPARATORY SCHOOL,
BANBURY ROAD, WARWICK CV34 6PL
ADJUDICATORS: BRASS: IAN FOSTER, WOODWIND: HEIDI FARDELL
ACCOMPANIST: Rosemary Robinson MA (Cantab), LRAM

Woodwind classes include all orchestral instruments, saxophones and recorders. Brass classes include all orchestral and brass band instruments. Entries may be limited due to available time.
Festival prizes to the total value of £100 will be awarded in selected classes.

FLUTE

The WALTER HEARD CHALLENGE CUP for the best flautist in classes 501 to 504

Class 501	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 502	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 503	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 504	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

FLUTE GRADE CLASSES

The ONE MAN BAND TROPHY for the best flautist in classes 505 to 508 ABRSM prize of a Presto Classical Voucher for class 508 of £30

Class 505	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 506	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 507	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 508	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice (ABRSM Prize class)	Max. 6 mins
Class 509	French Composers Open	One or two movements of a work by any French composer	Max. 8 mins
Class 510	J. S. Bach , Open	Two movements from any flute Sonata by J. S. Bach	Max. 8 mins

PICCOLO

Class 511	Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
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CLARINET

The MUSIC HOUSE CUP for the best clarinettist in classes 515 to 518

Class 515	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 516	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 517	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 518	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

The PETER JARVIS TROPHY for the most promising clarinettist in classes 519 to 522. ABRSM prize of a Presto Classical Voucher for class 522 of £30

Class 519	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
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Class 520	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 521	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 522	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice (ABRSM Prize Class)	Max. 6 mins
Class 523	Sonata Open	One or two movements of any Sonata or Sonatina written for the Clarinet.	Max. 8 mins
Class 524	20 th Century and beyond Open	One or two movements of a work written for Clarinet after 1900. This can be of any style – classical, romantic, modern, jazz etc.	Max. 8 mins

RECORDER

The JEAN MARCHANT TROPHY for the most promising recorder player in classes 531 to 534

Class 531	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 532	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 533	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 534	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

The FLAVEL-LEISURE CUP for the best recorder player in classes 535 to 538

ABRSM prize of a Presto Classical Voucher for class 538 of £30

Class 535	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 536	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 537	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 538	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice (ABRSM Prize Class)	Max. 6 mins
Class 539	Handel, Open	Two movements from any recorder Sonata by Handel	Max. 8 mins
Class 540	20 th C and beyond, Open	One or two movements from a work post 1900	Max. 8 mins

BASSOON OR OBOE

The LYNDA HARRISON CUP for the best player in classes 545 to 552

The DOUBLE-REED PRIZE of £50 to the most promising player of 18 years and under in classes 545 to 552. Note that the prize will only be offered if there are two or more individual players across these classes.

ABRSM prize of a Presto Classical Voucher for class 552 of £30

Class 545	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 546	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 547	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 548	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins
Class 549	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 550	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 551	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 552	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice (ABRSM Prize Class)	Max. 6 mins

SAXOPHONE

The JOANNA LANGLEY-BASTERFIELD SALVER for the best saxophonist in classes 561 to 568

Class 561	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 562	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 563	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 564	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins
Class 565	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 566	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 567	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 568	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

BRASS

The FREDERICK NORMAN LEE TROPHY for the best brass player in classes 571 to 574

Class 571	Under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 572	Under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 573	Under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 574	15 years and over	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

The ANNETTE BALL TROPHY for the best brass player in classes 575 to 578

Class 575	Grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 576	Grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 577	Grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 578	Grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

JAZZ GRADE CLASSES

Classes **581 – 584** are open to any woodwind or brass instrument including saxophone.

The BENNY GOODMAN JAZZ TROPHY for the best player in classes 581 – 584

Class 581	Jazz grades 1 – 2, Open	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 582	Jazz grades 3 – 4, Open	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 583	Jazz grades 5 – 6, Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 584	Jazz grades 7 – 8, Open	Own choice	Max. 6 mins

ADULT NON-COMPETITIVE CLASS This class will receive an adjudication, but no marks will be given. Any woodwind or brass instrument.

Class 585	Open	Own choice, with or without accompaniment	Max. 5 mins
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DUET CLASS

Any 2 instruments (woodwind and/or brass) with or without accompaniment.

THE DUET TROPHY for the best duet players

Class 586	Open	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
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ENSEMBLE

Any group of woodwind and/or brass instruments with 3 to 8 players (inclusive).

The ENSEMBLE SHIELD for the best ensemble

Class 587	Open	Own choice	Max. 8 mins
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WIND OR BRASS BAND

Any group of wind and/or brass instruments with 9 or more players.

Class 588	Open	Own choice	Max. 8 mins
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RECITAL CLASS (WOODWIND OR BRASS)

Any woodwind or brass player playing a programme of two or more pieces.

The M^cCREADIE MEMORIAL TROPHY for the best player in classes 591 and 592

Class 591*	Recital - Open	Two or more contrasting pieces – own choice	Max. 12 mins
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Class 592*	Recital	Own choice, one or more piece(s) all to be	Max. 12 mins
	British Composers since 1900	selected from works written by British composers	
	Open	since 1900	

COMPOSITION CLASS

One composition for woodwind and/or brass instrument(s) which may be a solo or ensemble piece and may include a piano accompaniment. The competitor is responsible for the performance. A legible copy must be submitted at least 3 weeks prior to the date of the class for the Adjudicator's perusal. Each competitor will receive a written analysis from the adjudicator which may be included as evidence in a GCSE or A-level course file.

Class 595*	Open	Max. 5 mins
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Solo classes are £12. For group classes see the table at the back of this syllabus or the LSCF website.

Classes 591, 592 and 595 are longer and are charged at £18.

HARP CLASSES

SUNDAY 28TH JUNE 2026
WARWICK PREP SCHOOL HALL
ADJUDICATOR:

*The CLIVE MORLEY CUP will be awarded to the most promising concert harpist.
The PILGRIM CUP will be awarded to the most promising lever harpist.*
Festival prizes to the total value of £70 will be awarded in selected classes.

CLARSACH (LEVER HARP ONLY)

Class 299	Open	Beginners	Charnock Cup	Max.3 mins
	Up to one year's tuition when Own choice, one piece only entering this festival			

HARP STUDY

(Any study by Pozzoli, Damase, Dizi, Godefroid, Zabel or Bochs)

Class 300	Open	Prize TBC	Max. 5 mins.
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HARP SOLO (ANY HARP) BY A LIVING COMPOSER

Must be a piece not performed in any of the other classes.

Class 320	Open	Edward Watson Trophy	Max. 5 mins.
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HARP GRADE CLASSES (ANY HARP)

2025 special ABRSM prize of a Presto Classical Voucher for class 301 – 302 (£20) and 303 – 304 (£30)

Class 301	Under 19. Grade 1&2		Two pieces Max 5mins
Class 302	Under 19. Grade 3&4		Two pieces Max 7mins
Class 303	Under 19. Grade 5&6		Two pieces Max 10mins
Class 304	Under 19. Grade 7&8		Two pieces Max 12mins
Class 305	Adult. Grades 1-4	Non-competitive. Adjudication only, no mark.	Two pieces Max 4 mins.
Class 306	Adult. Grades 5-8	Non-competitive. Adjudication only, no mark.	Two pieces Max 8 mins.

HARP RECITAL (ANY HARP)

Own choice of up to 3 contrasting pieces.

Class 312	11 years and under	Marie Goosens Memorial Cup	Max 8mins
Class 313	14 years and under	Elsa Gibbs Memorial Prize Cash Prize donated by Audrey Douglas	Max 12mins
Class 314	16 years and under	Prize TBC	Max 15mins. .
Class 315	16 to under 19 years	Prize TBC	Max 17mins

HARP COMPOSITION - One piece for solo harp or harp in an ensemble, written and performed by the competitor. A legible copy must be submitted 3 weeks prior to the date of the class for the Adjudicator's perusal. Competitors will receive a written analysis from the adjudicator suitable for a GCSE or A-level course file.

Class 316	Under 19 years	Young Composers Prize Prize TBC	Max. 5 mins.
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HARP DUET OR ENSEMBLE (TWO OR MORE HARPS) Own choice. One piece only.

Class 317	Open	Harpz Cup	Max. 6 mins.
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ONE HARP AND ONE OTHER INSTRUMENT S) OR VOICE Own choice. One piece only.

Class 318	Open	Phoenix Duo Trophy	Max. 6 mins.
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The HARPS GALORE SHIELD will be awarded to the most promising ensemble in classes 317 and 318

The entry fee for all solo classes in the harp section is £12 except for classes 317 & 318 which are £14 and 314 and 315 and 316 which are £18.

PIANOFORTE CLASSES

SATURDAY 13TH AND SUNDAY 14TH JUNE 2026
KINGS HIGH AUDITORIUM, KINGS HIGH MUSIC SCHOOL, WARWICK
 ADJUDICATORS: GEORGE ROWLEY, MICHAEL ROSE

PIANOFORTE SOLO

CHILDREN. BEGINNERS for those who have been playing for less than 2 years

Class 101	7 and under	The Aurora Trophy (2016) Any two pieces.	Pre Grade max	3 mins
Class 102	8 to 11	The Elsie Morris Memorial Trophy (2004) Any two pieces.	Pre Grade max	3 mins
Class 103	12 to 18	The Beryl Price Trophy (2009) Any one OR more pieces to fit the time.	Grade 2 max	3 mins

CHILDREN. AGE GROUPS

The LADIES' AUXILIARY TROPHY (1954) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD will be awarded to the most promising pianist.

Class 104	10 and under	The Sutton Cup (2006) Any one piece		3 mins
Class 105	12 and under	The Marion Cup (1983) Any one piece		4 mins
Class 106	14 and under	The Minnie Freeman Memorial Cup (1980) Any one piece		5 mins
Class 107	16 and under	The Ethel May Trophy (1983) Any one piece		6 mins
Class 108	18 and under	The Gladys Hopkins Trophy (1958) Any one piece		6 mins

CHILDREN. GRADE CLASSES. CURRENT EXAM BOARDS SYLLABI ONLY

The CENTENARY TROPHY (2010) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD will be awarded to the most promising pianist.

Class 109	Open	The Henri Shawe Trophy (2004) Any one piece	Grade 1 & 2	
Class 110	Open	The Vienna Trophy (2004) Any one piece	Grade 3 & 4	
Class 111	Open	The Tailby Shield (2009) Any one piece.	Grade 5 & 6	
Class 112	Open	The Orpheus Challenge Cup (1928)	Grade 7 & 8	

Any one piece

CLASSES FOR THOSE AGED 16 AND UNDER

Class 113	Age 16 and under	The Cherry Lloyd Cup (1953) Any Disney Arrangement.	4 mins
Class 114	Age 16 and under	The Sir Edward German Centenary Cup (1962) Any piece by one of the following: Schumann Kinderszenen op. 17, Album für die Jugend op. 68 or Tchaikovsky Album for the Young op. 39	

CLASSES FOR THOSE AGED 18 AND UNDER

Class 118		The Annette Ball Trophy (2012) Any one or more pieces to fit the time in a March or Dance style.	Grade 4 max	3 mins
Class 119		The Frederick Lydiate Memorial Trophy (2008) Any one piece by a composer born in 20th century.	Grade 4 max	3 mins
Class 120		The Sally Anscomb Trophy (2006) Any one piece in a popular style.	Grade 4 max	4 mins
Class 121		The Marina Kuznetsova Trophy (2014) Any one virtuoso piece or study.	Grade 4 max	4 mins

Popular styles including pop, rock, jazz, blues, theme tunes, film music, exam jazz pieces etc.

CLASSES FOR ALL

Class 122	Open	The Paul Baker Trophy (2012) Any one OR more pieces to fit the time in a March or Dance style.	Grades 5 to 8	5 mins
Class 123	Open	The Mary Bullock Trophy (2007) Any piece in Romantic OR Impressionist style	Grades 5 to 8	5 mins
Class 124	Open	The Grace Baker Shield (2004) Any one piece in a popular style.	Grades 5 to 8	5 mins
Class 125	Open	The Gradus ad Parnassum Trophy (2016) Any virtuoso piece or a study.	Grades 5 to 8	5 mins
Class 126	Open	The Gloria Stephenson Memorial Trophy (2015) One piece by any Spanish composer		5 mins
Class 127*	Open	The Gerald Haigh Memorial Trophy (2018) – NEW! Any piece by a British or American composer, including arrangements.		8 mins
Class 128*	Open	The Prelude and Fugue Cup (1972) A Prelude and Fugue by any composer.		10 mins

Class 129*	Open	The Mozart and Haydn Cup (1964) One movement from any Sonata written between 1750 and 1810.		10 mins
Class 130*	Open	The Arthur Alexander Trophy (1981) One movement from any Sonata by Beethoven.		10 mins
Class 131*	Open	The Joan Hall Memorial trophy (2017) One movement from any sonata composed after and including 1800		10 mins
Class 132*	Open	The Dame Myra Hess Trophy (2016) Any one or more pieces to fit the time	Diploma	9 minutes
Class 146	Open	The Susan Olden Cup (2011) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD Accompaniment, any one piece Intermediate and above – only the accompanist to be adjudicated		5 mins
Class 148	Open	The James Barralet Trophy (1998) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD Any own, original composition <i>A legible copy must be submitted 2 weeks prior to the date of the class. All entrants will receive a written analysis, which may be submitted as part of a GCSE course, where relevant.</i>		5 minutes

RECITALS (Minimum of 2 pieces)

Class 150*	Open	The Kingsley Cup (2007) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD Own choice of a balanced programme	Up to Grade 8	Max 10 mins
Class 151*	Open	The Theodore Dodds Memorial Cup (1994) and £20 FESTIVAL AWARD Own choice of a balanced programme	Post Grade 8	Max 15 mins

ADULT SOLO

Class 160	18 and over	The Lily May Malpass Trophy (2004) Own choice of piece	Grade 4 max	4 mins
Class 161	18 and over	The Marina Kuznetsova Trophy (2014) Any one piece or study	Grade 4 max	6 mins

ENSEMBLES

Class 170	12 and under	The Lamar Crowson Trophy (2007) Pianoforte duet. Any one piece. Pupil with teacher. Only the pupil to be adjudicated.		3 mins
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Class 171	12 and under	The Aston Challenge Cup (Junior) (1968) and £10 FESTIVAL AWARD Pianoforte duet. One or two pieces to fit the time. Competitors may opt to change places.	5 mins
Class 173	18 and under	The Ladies Auxiliary Rose Bowl (1954) Pianoforte duet. One or two pieces to fit the time. Competitors may opt to change places.	7 mins
Class 175	18 and over	The Aston Challenge Cup (Senior) (1968) and £10 FESTIVAL AWARD Pianoforte duet. One or two pieces within time limit. Competitors may opt to change places.	6 mins
Class 176		The Rigby Prize - £10 Gift vouchers to the winners. Pianoforte trio. One or two pieces within time limit. Three players at one piano. Competitors may opt to change places.	6 mins
Class 178		The Walter Warren Cup (1937) and £10 FESTIVAL AWARD Two or more members of the same family. Any one or more pieces to fit the time. Any combination of instruments, including piano duet.	6 mins

Recital classes **150 and 151 and all the longer classes marked with an asterisk are £18.*

CLASSICAL GUITAR CLASSES

SUNDAY 14TH JUNE 2026
WARWICK PREP SCHOOL HALL
ADJUDICATOR: AMANDA COOK BMUS (HONS) RCM

A £50 cash prize, kindly donated by Stephen Barrett, will be awarded to the winner of the Regondi Cup.
A £50 cash prize, kindly donated by Stephen Barrett, will be awarded to the winner of the Recital Class263

SOLO

The REGONDI CUP will be awarded to the most promising performer in classes 250 to 254

A £50 cash prize, kindly donated by the festival, to be awarded to the best performance, (in their respective grades), in classes 253 and 254.

Class 250	Open, Preliminary – Grade 1	The Doris Rigby Trophy a) Own choice from current examination syllabus b) Own choice contrasting piece	Max. 3 mins
Class 251	Open, Grade 2 – 3	The Preston Memorial Challenge Cup a) Own choice from current examination syllabus b) Own choice contrasting piece	Max. 4 mins
Class 252	Open, Grade 4 – 5	The J. Srason Mvc Cup a) Own choice from current examination syllabus b) Own choice contrasting piece	Max. 7 mins
Class 253	Open, Grade 6 – 7	The Frederick Norman Lee Memorial Cup a) Own choice from current examination syllabus b) Own choice contrasting piece	Max. 8 mins
Class 254	Open, Grade 8	Leamington Festival Plate a) Own choice from current examination syllabus b) Own choice contrasting piece	Max 8 mins

LARGE ENSEMBLE Five players or more

The KAREN KNOTT CUP will be awarded to the best large junior ensemble performance (classes 255)

The GILBERT BIBERIAN CUP will be awarded to the best large senior ensemble performance (class 256, 257)

Class 255	11 years and under	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 6 mins
Class 256	12 – 16 years	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 8 mins
Class 257	Open	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 8 mins

SMALL ENSEMBLE Duet, trio, and quartet

The JUNIOR SMALL ENSEMBLE CUP will be awarded to the best performance in class 258 and 261

The SENIOR SMALL ENSEMBLE CUP will be awarded to the best performance in class 259, 260, 261.

Class 258	11 years and under	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 6 mins
Class 259	12 – 16 years	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 8 mins
Class 260	Open	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 8 mins
Class 261 (can be junior or senior)	Mixed Small Guitar ensemble which includes other instrument or Instruments.	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces	Max. 8 mins

STEEL STRING GUITARS

Class 262	Open	Any combination of solo/ voice/ duet/ own composition.	Max. 8 mins
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THE COLLEEN BILLINGTON CUP Stephen Barrett £50 cash prize

Class 263*	Open	Guitar Recital. Own choice, of up to 3 contrasting pieces	Max 15 mins
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BRIAN PENNY CUP

Class 264	Open	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces, one to have been composed in the last 20 years.	Max 8 mins
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FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE CLASS *Non-competitive. An adjudication will be given, but no marks awarded*

Class 268	Open	Own choice. Two contrasting pieces.	Max. 8 mins
Class 269	Open	Small or large ensemble	Max 8 mins
Class 270*	Open	Guitar Recital. Own choice, of up to 3 contrasting pieces	Max 15mins

The Festival Performance Class

The Festival has changed the description of the last class to make it clear that people who earn an income from playing the guitar (teachers or professional players) are welcome to perform in this class, but not any other competitive numbered class.

**Classes 263 and 270 are £18.*

VOCAL CLASSES

13TH & 27TH JUNE 2026, LEAMINGTON SPA BAPTIST CHURCH

ADJUDICATOR: Ben Costello BMus PGDip MA FRSA FISM

ACCOMPANIST: Rosemary Robinson MA (Cantab) LRAM

SPONSORS: Martin Ranzen, Gaynor Keeble, Aspire Music, Jane Rigby and Stuart Smith.

**All dates shown are provisional and may be subject to change.
Class timings will be sent out after the entry closing date.**

JUNIOR SONG – Saturday 13th June

The RANTZEN AWARD TO YOUNG SINGERS will be awarded to the most outstanding performance in any of classes 3, 8 and 11

The GAYNOR KEEBLE AWARD FOR BEST PERFORMANCE will be awarded to the adjudicator's favourite performance of the day

SOLO Musical theatre and pop songs NOT acceptable.

Class 1	12 years and under	Leamington Male Voice Choir Cup	Max. 3 mins.
Class 2	15 years and under	Mrs M Thompson Cup	Max. 3 mins.
Class 3	18 years and under	Madrigal Cup	Max. 3 mins.

TRADITIONAL FOLK SONG SOLO Own choice. Unaccompanied.

Class 4	13 years and under	Cynthia Morey Cup	Max. 3 mins.
Class 5	14 years and over	Hayle Cup	Max. 3 mins.

MUSICAL THEATRE Own choice song written to be performed within a show. *See vocal rule 18 at the back of this syllabus.*

Class 6	12 years and under	Sale Cup	Max. 4 mins.
Class 7	15 years and under	Percy B Ries Cup	Max. 4 mins.
Class 8	18 years and under	Charter Trustees Trophy	Max. 4 mins.

SONG FROM A FILM Own choice song from live action or animated film. Pop songs are permissible in this class but can only be performed with piano accompaniment and without microphone.

See vocal rule 18 at the back of this syllabus.

Class 9	12 years and under	Linden Cup	Max. 4 mins.
Class 10	15 years and under	John Wynne Porter Trophy	Max. 4 mins.
Class 11	18 years and under	Gregson Cup	Max. 4 mins.

VOCAL DUET Own choice. Two voices in harmony

Class 12	13 years and under	William Griffiths Cup	Max.3 mins.
Class 13	14 years and over	Janne Kent Cup	Max 3 mins.

RECITAL Own choice programme. Time limit **includes introductions and pauses between items.**

Class 14	15 – 18 years	Aspire Cup and £50 prize	Max. 12 mins.
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ADULT SONG – Saturday 27th June

All own choice and, unless otherwise stated, entrants must be aged 18 years or over.

The winners of classes 20, 21, 22 and 23 will sing again for the COURIER CHALLENGE CUP.

SOLO Own choice of a **single** song.

Class 15	Female Composers	Ida Gould Cup	Max. 4 mins.
Class 16	Musical Theatre	The “Wyken” Bowl	Max. 5 mins.
Class 17	Over 55 years	Brian Cook Memorial Trophy	Max. 4 mins.
Class 18	17-21 Years	Mike Rigby Trophy and £50 Prize	Max. 4 mins.
Class 19	Novice Cup	M Moore Cup Participants must have never won a trophy in the Vocal section of the LSCF.	Max. 4 mins.
Class 20	Lieder	Victor Rogers Cup	Max. 4 mins.
Class 21	Mélodie	Winifred Brockbank Salver	Max. 4 mins.
Class 22	British Composers – Songs from Great Britain	Enid Barley Cup <u>Excluding</u> selections from opera, operetta, stage musicals and film.	Max. 4 mins.
Class 23	Art Song from the Rest of the World	The Stuart Smith Trophy and £50 Prize Songs sung in this genre cannot have been covered in any other class.	Max. 4 mins.
Class 24	Oratorio, Cantata or Sacred Song	Bennett Cup	Max. 5 mins.
Class 25	Operetta	Lake City Cup	Max. 5 mins.
Class 26	Operatic Aria	E Burton Cup and £50 FESTIVAL AWARD	Max. 5 mins.

DUET OR ENSEMBLE Maximum of four voices in harmony. Own choice.

Class 27	18 years or over	John Farndon Cup	Max. 5 mins.
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SONG RECITAL Own choice programme. Time limit **includes introductions and pauses between items.**

Class 28	18 years or over	Elizabeth Moore Memorial Cup	Max. 15 mins.
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SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026
LEAMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH, CV32 4RN

Adjudicator: YVONNE CRAVEN

VERSE AND PROSE SPEAKING Competitors to present from memory.

Class 401	5 and under 7 years	Barbara Brooks Salver a) Own choice poem <i>and</i> b) A selection from any book	Max. 2 mins
Class 402	7 and under 9 years	a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 2 mins
Class 403	9 and under 11 years	Leamington Spa Challenge Cup a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 3 mins
Class 404	11 and under 13 years	The Muriel Kilding Cup a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 3 mins
Class 405	13 and under 15 years	a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 4 mins
Class 406	15 and under 18 years	a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 5 mins
Class 407	18 years and over	a) Own choice poem and b) A selection from any book	Max. 5 mins

VERSE SPEAKING Competitors to present from memory.

Class 408	Under 5 years	Own choice	Max. 1 mins
Class 409	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
Class 410	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
Class 411	9 and under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 412	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 413	13 and under 15 years	Leamington Spa Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 414	15 and under 18 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 415	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 4 mins

NARRATIVE VERSE Competitors to present from memory.

Class 416	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
Class 417	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins

Class 418	9 and under 11 years	The Sun Alliance Shield Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 419	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 420	13 and under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 421	15 and under 18 years	The Leamington Elocution Cup Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 422	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 4 mins

HUMOROUS VERSE Competitors to present from memory.

Class 423	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
Class 424	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 425	9 and under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 426	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 427	13 and under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 428	15 and under 18 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 429	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 5 mins

SPEAKING SKILLS Competitors choose their own topic, to be delivered with or without visual aids.

The **CALVERT CUP** and **£15 FESTIVAL AWARD** to be awarded to a speaker chosen by the adjudicator from classes 437 – 440.

Class 434	5 and under 7 years	Own Choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 435	7 and under 9 years	Own Choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 436	9 and under 11 years	Own Choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 437	11 and under 13 years	Leamington Spa Challenge Cup Own Choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 438	13 and under 15 years	Kirkaldi Shield Own Choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 439	15 and under 18 years	Contributors Cup Own Choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 440	18 years and over	Own Choice	Max. 5 mins

SONNETS Competitors to present from memory.

Class 441	11 and under 13 years	Two contrasting sonnets	Max. 5 mins
Class 442	13 and under 15 years	Two contrasting sonnets	Max. 5 mins
Class 443	15 and under 18 years	The Sonnet Cup Two contrasting sonnets	Max. 5 mins
Class 444	18 years and over	Two contrasting sonnets	Max. 5 mins

PREPARED READING Competitors to read from the book. **£15 FESTIVAL AWARD**

Class 445	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
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Class 446	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 447	9 and under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 448	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 449	13 and under 15 years	Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 450	15 and under 18 years	The Contributors Cup (II) Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 451	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 5 mins

SACRED TEXT READING Competitors may read from any generally accepted version of the Bible regularly in use in worship, or a religious text from the competitor's own religion (e.g. the Koran). English versions to be used. Selections **MUST** be specified on the entry form.

Class 452	9 and under 11 years	Max. 2 mins
Class 453	11 and under 13 years	Max. 3 mins
Class 454	13 and under 15 years	Max. 3 mins
Class 455	15 and under 18 years	Max. 4 mins
Class 456	18 years and over	Max. 4 mins

The RANTZEN AWARD for the most outstanding performance is awarded to ONE competitor chosen by the Adjudicator from the winners of classes 460, 461, 462, 464, 465 and 466.

SOLO ACTING Competitors to present from memory. A selection from any play or novel.

Class 457	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 458	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 459	9 and under 11 years	The Lady Bird Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 460	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 461	13 and under 15 years	The Arden Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 462	15 and under 18 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 463	18 years and over	The Leamington Literary Society Cup Own choice	Max. 4 mins

SHAKESPEARE Competitors to present from memory. Solo acting from any piece of Shakespeare. Suitability of character will be taken into consideration.

Class 464	11 and under 13 years	The Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 465	13 and under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 466	15 and under 18 years	The Naomi Sansom Challenge Cup Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 467	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 5 mins

DUOLOGUES Competitors to present from memory. A selection from any play or novel.

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Class 468	5 and under 7 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 469	7 and under 9 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 470	9 and under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 471	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 4 mins
Class 472	13 and under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 473	15 and under 18 years	Own choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 474	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 5 mins

RECITAL A themed programme should be presented from memory and contain any THREE of the following: poetry, prose, drama, mime.

Class 475	11 and under 13 years	Own Choice	Max. 10 mins
Class 476	13 and under 15 years	Own Choice	Max. 10 mins
Class 477	15 and under 18 years	Own Choice	Max. 10 mins
Class 478	18 years and over	Own Choice	Max. 10 mins

GROUP ACTING (not more than 7 players) Players to present an extract from any play or novel.

Class 479	7 and under 11 years	Own Choice	Max. 5 mins
Class 480	11 and under 15 years	Own Choice	Max. 6 mins
Class 481	15 and under 18 years	Own Choice	Max. 8 mins
Class 482	18 years and over	Own Choice	Max. 10 mins

MIME CLASS The title to be announced at the start. Music can be used.

Class 483	9 and under 11 years	Own choice	Max. 2 mins
Class 484	11 and under 13 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 485	13 and under 15 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 486	15 and under 18 years	Own choice	Max. 3 mins
Class 487	18 years and over	Own choice	Max. 3 mins

MIME CHALLENGE CLASS Groups – individual adjudication and medals

Class 488	Open	Own choice - Mime for Two	Max. 3 mins
Class 489	Open	Own choice – Mime groups of 3 - 7	Max. 4 mins

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Principles

The following principles guide this policy:

- ✧ the safety of children and vulnerable adults is paramount and all, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse;
- ✧ all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately; and
- ✧ all the Festival's trustees and volunteers have a responsibility to report concerns.

Purpose and Function of the Festival

The Leamington Spa Competitive Festival was established to advance, promote and encourage the study and practice of the arts of Music, Dancing, Elocution, Literature and Acting in all their branches. The Festival Movement provides a platform for amateur performance combined with an educational element from professional artists.

The Festival Environment

The Festival is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers. There is a Management Committee who act as Trustees. There are a number of Section Secretaries who sit on this committee and who are each responsible for organising just one part of our festival. The contact details of all Officers and Section Secretaries are published annually in the Festival syllabus and programme and on our web site.

The festival is held in the town of Royal Leamington Spa. Each Section Secretary chooses a venue based on the suitability of its performance space for their particular branch of the arts. If the venue has more than one performance space or public area, the other spaces or areas may be in use by people not connected with the festival. More than one Section may be run on the same day. If a participant has entered classes in more than one Section, and those classes are held on the same day, then they should expect to have to move between different venues within the town.

The Festival will inform and involve parents / guardians / carers and teachers so as to act in partnership with them to ensure, as far as is reasonably practical, a safe environment for the enjoyment of the arts.

Applicability of this Policy

This policy relates to children under the age of 18 years and also to those vulnerable adults (of any age) who are identified to the organisers prior to their arrival at the festival. This should be done by contacting the relevant Section Secretary, the names and contact details for whom may be found in the Festival syllabus and on our web site. In recognising the needs of children from all ethnic groups and children who are disabled, the Festival actively seeks to meet needs notified to the Festival by parents / guardians / carers and/or teachers.

Festival Volunteers

The Management Committee is elected each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Festival. Volunteer helpers will not be taken on unless they are known personally to a Committee member or *two* trusted people have both confirmed that they are a suitable person. If any doubts are raised about someone the Trustees will consider using the *Protection of Children Act List* process to confirm their suitability, but this process will not otherwise be used.

All Committee Members and volunteers wear a conspicuous badge. Volunteers' badges simply indicate that they are Stewards. Committee Members' badges contain additional information. If a problem arises, all those who wear a badge will do their utmost to help. All problems will be taken seriously and will be documented and dated.

Preparation for Attendance at the Festival

Where parents / guardians / carers are not personally attending with their children, this Policy requires them to be satisfied that their children will be accompanied to the festival and adequately supervised by responsible adults acting on their behalf.

Performance, Changing and Practice Areas

When there is a need for many competitors to change clothes, for example in the Dance Section, separate male and female changing rooms will be provided and clearly marked. Participants will not be allowed to change in public areas, although these may be used for the application of make-up and such-like. The Festival will not supervise toilets or changing areas, although dance schools may choose to supervise an area which has been allocated to them. In other situations, specific changing rooms will not be made available.

Where practice rooms have been made available, these will not be supervised by the Festival (and the Festival will not take responsibility for items left in those rooms).

Photography, Recording and the Press

Photography, video and audio recording in any form and by any means is prohibited during any performance and this will be strictly enforced.

The Festival actively seeks publicity and photographs may be taken for this purpose. Where parents / guardians / carers do not wish their children to be photographed then the responsible adult attending with those children should ensure that they are not included in any such photograph.

The Legislation that Supports and Guides this Policy

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, The Children Act 1989, The Children Act 1989, The Police Act 1997, The Data Protection Act 1998, The Human Rights Act 1998, The Protection of Children Act 1999, The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, The Children Act 2004.

Reviewing this Policy

This Policy was last updated on 22 April 2009. The Festival will continue to review this Policy and revise and enhance it as necessary. In so doing, the Committee will look to the British and International Federation of Festivals for support. That body, in turn, will look to other agencies for good practice, most notably the NSPCC and Arts Council of England policy guidelines.

MEMBERSHIP

Parents, teachers and supporters are invited to become MEMBERS of our Festival. Membership is just £15 per year (£25 for two people sharing the same address).

We also offer life membership for £150 (£200 joint).

Members are admitted FREE OF CHARGE to the audience at all Festival venues and are invited to attend the AGM where they can learn about and ask questions on the running of the Festival.

For full details please contact the Chairman.

Section A About yourself.

1. Name		2. Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	
3. Address (including postcode)	4. email address		
	5. Telephone number		

Section B About your teacher.

1. Name		2. School (if any)	
3. Address (including postcode)	4. email address		
	5. Telephone number		

Section C What will you perform?

1. Class	2. Accompanist?	3. Title	4. Composer/Author	5. Grade/Board

Section D Who will perform with you? (Ignore if you are performing Solo)

1. Class	2. Name(s) (for choirs and large groups give the name, and number of performers)

Section E Sign this form to say that you have read the Rules and everyone will abide by them.
You must be at least 18, otherwise a parent or guardian must sign for you.

1. Amount to pay	2. Signature

Put an X in the box if you **DO NOT** consent to photographs being taken for use on website or advertising

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FESTIVAL RULES

These rules cover all sections apart from Stage Dancing which has a separate list of regulations.

1. The competitive classes are limited to non-professionals, except where otherwise stated. For this purpose, professionals are deemed to be those who receive their main income from that branch of the Arts for which they are proposing to enter.
2. In all Solo Classes competitors must state their name in full upon entry.
3. The closing date for entries is **1st May in the year of the Festival**.
4. The Committee reserves the right to cancel or combine classes, refuse any entry and to decide any matter not provided for in the rules.
5. If it is necessary to limit the size of a class, entries will be considered in the order of receipt. Under no circumstances is the Committee obliged to refund fees.
6. All age-limited class Competitors must be within the prescribed limit on **the first day of May in the year of the Festival**. (The exception is Stage Dancing where the age limit is your age on 1st Jan in the festival year). The signature to the declaration at the foot of the entry form or submission of online entry will be accepted as a guarantee in this respect. In duets or groups, competitors should enter in the class appropriate to the oldest member of the group. The Committee reserves the right to request production of Birth Certificates.
7. Choice of repertoire should be listed upon entry. A copy of own choice repertoire must be handed to the adjudicator's steward before the commencement of the class. Competitors **may not** select repertoire which appears as a set piece in this year's syllabus. No piece may be used in more than one class, or two years in a row, by the same competitor. Players who change to repertoire that differs to the piece appearing in the printed programme may be allowed to perform at the discretion of the section secretary, but this will be on an 'adjudication only' basis (no mark will be given).
8. Time limits must be strictly observed. Exceeding the time limit may, at the adjudicator's discretion, result in the deduction of marks or the stopping of the performance with adjudication to the point reached. No more than two minutes is allowed for tuning in instrumental classes. Time limits in the Speech and Drama section **include** set up times, which should be minimal (and no third party may remain with the competitors in the wings).
9. The adjudicator's decision is final.
10. A minimum standard of Commended (84 marks) is generally necessary for the award of a Prize or Trophy. No Certificate will be awarded unless a satisfactory standard is reached. Winners of trophies will hold them for one year. **They will be responsible for engraving where appropriate and for their care and safe custody. Trophies should be returned to the Section Organiser before 1st May of the year following the Festival.**
11. Photography, filming, video or sound recording is prohibited during any performance.
12. Competitors are responsible for collecting mark sheets, certificates and music at the end of each class.
13. **Grade classes:** Pieces are to be chosen from the current examination syllabus from either the ABRSM, Trinity or LCM and must be stated in full upon entry. Competitors must enter the class most appropriate to their grade. They should not yet have passed a grade higher than the standard of the class.

14. **Accompanist:** Competitors requiring an **accompanist** are welcome to use the Official Accompanist free of charge. Application should be made upon entry. Music for the Official Accompanist must be sent at least three weeks before the date of the performance. Having engaged the Official Accompanist, the competitor is obliged to use this service for the particular class. This service is not available for choirs.
15. No repeats are required in instrumental performances, except D.S. or D.C. Exceptions are where repeats are required by an exam board or when repeated sections are short and are important for the structure of the piece.
16. In all reading classes (Speech and Drama), extracts must be **read from the book** and not from papers.
17. **Choirs:** In classes for choirs the conductor is not considered to be a member of the choir. The conductor may act as accompanist but may not sing with the choir. Choirs' performances may be accompanied by any instrument or backing track or unaccompanied. A piano is available. An official accompanist will not be available.
18. **Copyright:** copyright permission is required for duologues and group dramatic activity and for songs from current shows where costume and movement are used (permission is not required for songs sung without costume and movement). The festival committee accepts these entries on the basis that the appropriate copyright permission has been sought. **Copyright permission must be obtained by the entrants.**

NOTE

Please note the following extract from the Music Publishers Association Code of Fair Practice:

"10. Adjudicator or Examiner Copy: A person performing a work in front of an examiner or adjudicator may make one copy per examiner/adjudicator provided that the participant or candidate has already purchased his/her own copy and that the copy/copies made is/are retained and destroyed by the adjudicator(s) or examiner(s) immediately after the event. Each copy must be marked with the following: 'Adjudicator/examiner copy. Destroy after use.'"

Rule 2 of the code also states that copies are permitted to facilitate page turns and help with other technical problems, provided the participant has purchased and has a copy of the original music.

All photocopies of music will be retained by the Festival and destroyed.

ENTRY FEES

Solo classes (except for classes listed below and FREE classes this year 250 and 403)	£12.00
Duets/Duologues & Trios All Schools classes	£14.00
Group classes – four or more players	£24.00
Composition classes – 180, 316, 385 and 595 Recital or longer classes -14, 27, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 150, 151, 197, 224, 263, 267, 270, 314, 315, 383, 384, 475-478, 591, 592	£18.00

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www.learncompfest.co.uk
and for all up to date information

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