

EPTA (UK) Piano Competition—Rules

Aims

To inspire, encourage, motivate and honour high levels of piano playing and piano teaching nationwide, and to promote musical awareness through participation in performing.

Rules of Entry

- The competition has an age limit of 25 and under for **all** graded categories.
- Entrants are allowed to enter one class **only**.

Categories

- **Graded Classes**
 - These are open to all pianists except for principle study pianists at specialist music schools or Junior Conservatoires. Participants from these institutions who are not principal study will need to confirm this on the entry form. The competition organisers reserve the right to contact the institution concerned if in any doubt.
- **Age Range Classes**
 - These are open to all pianists including those at a specialist music school or Junior Conservatoire.
 - If the demand for any Age Range Classe is substantial, the adjudicator retains the right to select in advance part of the programme.

Round 1

- All participants will receive verbal and written adjudications and certificates of entry.
- Round 1 adjudicators and venues will be chosen by local Regional Organisers.
- Certificates of high commendation will be awarded where appropriate by the adjudicator.
- The adjudicator will choose a **maximum of TWO performers from** each class in each category to go forward into the regional final rounds.
- Performances selected for the regional final rounds must be “**Outstanding**” or with “**Distinction**”. It is not necessary or expected that anyone be ranked according to number or place.
 - If more than two performers received “Outstanding” or “Distinction”, only two must go through. **There are no exceptions** and this important rule must always be observed.
 - If numbers are very small in a class, there is no obligation to put students through to the regional finals.
- The preparatory class will have the option of non-competitive entries. All non-competitive entries will receive a certificate of participation. All first rounds must be completed by **19th February 2024**.

Regional Final Rounds

There are to be **two** Regional Final rounds during March and April; venues, dates and times TBC.

All classes will be represented in the Regional Final with 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in every class.

Final

Selected performers from the Regional Finals will be invited to play in the **EPTA UK Final** at the end of April/beginning of May. Venue, date and time TBC.

Prizes

Prizes awarded to each of the two regional final winners of each of the Graded Classes as follows:

Preparatory **£15** Elementary **£20** Intermediate I **£25** Intermediate II **£30**
Advance I **£35** Advance II **£40**

Prizes awarded to each of the two Regional Final winners of each of the Age Classes as follows:

Under 12: **£30** Under 15: **£40** Under 18: **£50**

We hope to give recital opportunities for the winners, and they will be contacted nearer the time.

All Classes

Two or more contrasting pieces should be played in each round. The category entry for Graded Classes is determined by the **piece of the highest grade** in the set, all ages for Age Classes are their age on 31st August 2024.

A [repertoire list](#) (members log-in required) is available to assist teachers in the categorisation of pieces. This is an ongoing list. For enquiries, please contact admin@epta-uk.org. The competition organisers reserve the right to re-allocate a participant to a different class.

Participants may play the same **or** different repertoire in round 1 and the regional final round as long as the grading level remains the same.

Performance Rules

1. No changes to the repertoire are permitted after the final entry date of the competition.
2. Performance time limits must be observed. Time starts on the **first note** and includes the time **in between pieces**. Pianists are not required to announce their pieces; any spoken introductions must be included in the overall performance time.
3. The adjudicator has the right to stop any performance that goes over the time limit. The performer will be adjudicated on the performance heard.
4. The adjudicator(s)'s decision is final.

Categories for participants:

Class	Level	Max. performance time (minutes)	Fee (£) excluding booking fees
Preparatory (non-competitive)	Grade 1 or below	3	6
Preparatory (competitive)	Grade 1 or below	3	6
Elementary	Grades 2-3	5	7

Intermediate I	Grades 4-5	7	9
Intermediate II	Grades 6-7	9	9
Advanced I	Grade 8	10	10
Advanced II	Post-Grade 8	11	12

Class	Repertoire	Max. performance time (minutes)	Fee (£) excluding booking fees
Under 12 on 31 st August 2024	Two or more contrasting pieces	12mins	13
Under 15 on 31 st August 2024	Two or more contrasting pieces	15mins	16
Under 18 on 31 st August 2024	Two or more contrasting pieces	18 mins	19
Over 18 on 31 st August 2024	Two or more contrasting pieces	25 mins	21

All entries must be submitted via the [EPTA UK website form](#) by the closing date set by the organiser of the first rounds. Please check the [competition webpage](#) for updates and contact information.