



**2026: GORFFENNAF 7 – 12 JULY**

# **COMPETITION SYLLABUS 2026**



# CROESO! WELCOME!

It is a huge pleasure to introduce our competition syllabus for 2026. Next summer, from Tuesday 7 – Sunday 12 July 2026, we'll be welcoming competitors from around the world to Wales once again, in our unique international celebration of all things music and dance.

The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod is located in the idyllic town of Llangollen in North East Wales, with the majority of the competitions taking place in our magnificent 4,000-seater Pavilion.

In the words of Dylan Thomas, the legendary Welsh poet and writer, "The town sang and danced, as though it were right and proper as the rainbow or the rare sun to celebrate the old bright turning earth and its bullied people. Are you surprised that people still can dance and sing in a world on its head? The only surprising thing about miracles, however small, is that they sometime happen."

We hope you will join us for what will be a truly joyful occasion!

Warm regards,

Dave Danford, **Artistic Director**

# 2026 Adjudicators

## Tori Longdon



Tori Longdon is the Principal Conductor of the Covent Garden Chorus, and the Associate Chorus Director of the London Philharmonic Choir, the choir of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. She is in demand internationally following her work on the King's Coronation Concert in May 2023 when she coached eighteen choirs from around the United Kingdom to perform for the King.

She is the co-founder of WorldChoir, formerly the Stay At Home Choir, an international community of thousands of choral singers which she leads together with Swingles baritone Jamie Wright.

Tori is currently a conductor for Songs Of Praise on BBC1, as well as an adjudicator for Young Choir Of The Year. She appeared on BBC2 as a judge on two series of The Choir with Gareth Malone. She has interviewed some of classical music's most famous names, including Marin Alsop, John Rutter, Sir Karl Jenkins, Sofi Jeannin and Christopher Tin.

She now travels the world leading masterclasses, adjudicating competitions and working with young conductors, most recently in Australia, Germany, and Finland. She has written several articles for ClassicFM's online magazine, and lectured for the Artist Development postgraduate course at the Royal Academy of Music.

## Ken Wakia



Ken Wakia is a distinguished Kenyan conductor, educator, and cultural diplomat. From humble beginnings in Homabay, Kenya, he pursued a Bachelor of Education in Music at Kenyatta University and later earned a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Miami as a Fulbright Scholar.

Ken founded the Nairobi Chamber Chorus to empower young Kenyan musicians and has led the ensemble in performances worldwide, including at Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and the American Choral Directors Association conference. He has conducted internationally with groups such as the World Youth Choir and the Nairobi Orchestra, and was the founding director of the Safaricom Choir.

From 2010 to 2022, Ken served as Cultural and Educational Affairs Specialist at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, overseeing cultural diplomacy programs. He co-founded the AVoice4Peace initiative, promoting peace through choral music.

Ken's contributions have earned him recognition as one of the Top 100 Most Influential Africans in 2024, African Image Maker in 2019, and a Nexus Global Leadership Council Member. His work reflects a deep commitment to using music as a force for global unity and cultural exchange.

## Michel Camatte



Michel Camatte is a professional musician who has been during forty years director of great conservatoires of music in France (Clermont-Ferrand, Tours and Aix en Provence).

During these years, he has been the permanent conductor of many choirs and orchestras in these towns and has been invited many times to conduct professional orchestras, in France and abroad.

He is actually the conductor of a symphony orchestra and a female choir, in the region of Aix en Provence.

He has been invited to adjudicate in great international choral competitions in Europe, especially in Llangollen.

## Dave Danford



Dave Danford has been the Eisteddfod's Artistic Director since 2023, and combines his role with a freelance career as a professional percussionist, conductor, orchestral contractor, arranger, and composer. He performed at the Eisteddfod for the first time in 2010, and has been involved in the production of concerts here since 2012. He was born in Swansea, and studied at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama.





More adjudicators coming soon..

# A – CHORAL

*Closing date for applications: Sunday 7 December 2025*  
*Successful applicants notified by: Thursday 18 December 2025*  
*First day of competitions: Wednesday 8 July 2026*

## A1. MIXED CHOIRS (SATB) (Sunday 12 July 2026)

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £550, **2nd** £350 and **3rd** £200

- Mixed choirs with a minimum of 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 10 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country, and at least one unaccompanied work (original or an arrangement).
- Choirs may combine the native country work and the unaccompanied work.

## A2. BARBERSHOP CHOIRS (Sunday 12 July 2026)

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £550, **2nd** £350 and **3rd** £200

- Choirs with a minimum of 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 10 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country.



### **A3. FEMALE VOICE CHOIRS (SSAA) (Sunday 12 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £550, **2nd** £350 and **3rd** £200

- Choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 10 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country, and at least one unaccompanied work (original or an arrangement).
- Choirs may combine the native country work and the unaccompanied work.

### **A4. MALE VOICE CHOIRS (TTBB) (Sunday 12 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £550, **2nd** £350 and **3rd** £200

- Choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 10 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country, and at least one unaccompanied work (original or an arrangement).
- Choirs may combine the native country work and the unaccompanied work.

## **A5. OPEN CHOIRS (Saturday 11 or Sunday 12 July 2026 - to be confirmed following selection)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £550, **2nd** £350 and **3rd** £200

- Male, female or mixed choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- No age limits apply in this category.
- Choirs are required to prepare a programme of up to 10 minutes of music.
- One genre only (e.g. a cappella, chamber, classical, glee, gospel, jazz, pop, show, musical theatre) of up to 10 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one unaccompanied work. Choirs may include elements of choreography into their performance.

### **CHOIR OF THE WORLD: PAVAROTTI TROPHY**

The winners of competitions A1 to A5 will compete against each other on the final night of competitions, Sunday 12 July 2026, for the Pavarotti Trophy, the title of Choir of the World, and £3,000. It is, therefore, important that all choirs competing in A1 to A5 to stay until the end of the concert on Sunday 12 July 2026 (concert to finish approximately 10:00pm) For the Choir of the World competition, choirs are encouraged to vary their winning programme from the previous round, but will again be required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 10 minutes of music, which must include at least one unaccompanied work.

The Jayne Davies Conductor's Prize of £200 and an International Medal will be awarded to the most inspirational conductor of the Choir of the World finalists.



## **A6. JUNIOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS (Wednesday 8 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £350, **2nd** £200 and **3rd** £100

- Choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 11 or under on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 6 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country.

## **A7. SENIOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS (Wednesday 8 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £350, **2nd** £200 and **3rd** £100

- Choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged between 12 and 18 on the first day of the competitions.
- Choirs are required to prepare a contrasting programme of up to 6 minutes of music.
- Programme must include at least one work (original or an arrangement) written by a composer from the choir's native country.





## A8. CHILDREN'S OPEN CHOIRS (Wednesday 8 July 2026)

Prizes: 1st International Trophy and £350, 2nd £200 and 3rd £100

- Male, female or mixed children's choirs of no fewer than 16 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or under on the first day of the competitions.
- Programme must not exceed 6 minutes.
- Choirs are required to prepare a programme in one genre only
- (e.g. a cappella, barbershop, classical, glee, gospel, jazz, pop, show, musical theatre).
- Programme must include at least one unaccompanied work.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF THE WORLD

As a way of celebrating the fantastic achievements of the children and young people in the winning choirs, the Eisteddfod has introduced a special International Trophy and an additional £750 for the winner of the Children's Choir of the World. The winners of competitions A6 to A8 will compete against each other in the Wednesday evening concert (8 July). It is, therefore, important that all winning choirs stay until the end of the first half of the concert. For the final, each choir is required to sing the same programme from their winning category.

A Conductor's Prize of £200 for the most inspiring conductor and an International Medal will be awarded to the most inspirational conductor of the Children's Choir of the World finalists.



## **A9. CHILDREN'S FOLK SONG CHOIRS ( Thursday 9 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £250, **2nd** £175 and **3rd** £100

- Choirs of no fewer than 12 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or under on the first day of the competitions.
- Programme must not exceed 7 minutes.
- Choirs are required to prepare a programme of two contrasting choral arrangements of traditional folk songs of the choir's own country.

## **A10. ADULT FOLK SONG CHOIRS ( Friday 10 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £250, **2nd** £175 and **3rd** £100

- Male, female or mixed choirs of no fewer than 12 voices.
- Singers must be aged 18 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Programme must not exceed 7 minutes.
- Choirs are required to prepare a programme of two contrasting performances of traditional folk songs of the choir's own country.



## B – VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL SOLOS

*Closing date for all applications: Thursday 12 March 2026*  
*Successful applicants notified by: Thursday 26 March 2026*  
*First day of competitions: Wednesday 8 July 2026*

Soloists may use their own accompanist. Alternatively, we can provide you with our official professional piano accompanist at an additional cost of £40. This includes a rehearsal, in addition to the prelim, semi-final and final (where applicable). Please email [music@llangollen.net](mailto:music@llangollen.net) for further information.

### B1. INTERNATIONAL VOICE OF THE FUTURE

**(Prelim & Semi-final on Friday 10 July 2026 / Final on Sunday 12 July within the evening concert)**

**Prizes: Winner International Voice of the Future trophy and £3,000. Runner-up £1,000.**

- This competition is open to singers aged 18 and over on the first day of the competitions.
- The competition will be held over two days (see above).
- Competitors are required to perform a contrasting programme of up to 7 minutes of music for the preliminary round, semi-final, and the final. Competitors may repeat up to one piece from their preliminary round programme in the final round.
- The programme should include contrasting pieces from Oratorio, Opera, Lieder/Song.
- All music must be sung in the original language.



## **B2. INTERNATIONAL VOICE OF MUSICAL THEATRE**

**(Prelim on Saturday 11 July 2026 and Final on Saturday 11 July within the evening concert July 2026)**

**Prizes: Winner International Medal and £2000. Runner-up £1000.**

- This competition is open to singers aged 18 and over on the first day of the competitions.
- This prestigious prize is intended to advance the career of an amateur musical theatre performer.
- The competition will be held over two days (see above).
- Competitors are required to perform a contrasting programme of up to 7 minutes of music for the preliminary round and the Final.
- The contrasting programme for both rounds must be chosen from the standard musical theatre repertoire.
- All music must be sung in the original language.

## **B3. YOUNG CLASSICAL VOICE OF THE FUTURE**

**(Prelim & Final on Thursday 9 July 2026)**

**Prizes: 1st International Medal and £200, 2nd £150, 3rd £80.**

- This competition is open to singers aged 13 to 17 on the first day of the competitions.
- Competitors are required to perform a programme of up to 6 minutes of music.
- Programme must include contrasting pieces from the classical genre.
- Competitors will perform the same repertoire in both rounds.
- All music must be sung in the original language.

## **B4. YOUNG VOICE OF MUSICAL THEATRE**

**Prelim & Final on Thursday 9 July 2026**

**Prizes: 1st International Medal and £200, 2nd £150, 3rd £80.**

- This competition is open to singers aged 12 to 17 on the first day of the competitions.
- Competitors are required to perform a programme of up to 6 minutes of music.
- Programme must include contrasting pieces from the musical theatre genre
- Competitors will perform the same repertoire in both rounds.
- All music must be sung in the original language.



## **B5. INTERNATIONAL FOLK SOLOIST**

### **(Prelim & Final on Friday 10 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Medal and £150, **2nd** £100, **3rd** £50.

- This competition is open to instrumentalists or singers of all ages.
- Competitors should present an appropriate programme representative of a local or regional tradition.
- Competitors are required to perform a programme of up to 6 minutes of music.
- Competitors will perform the same repertoire in both rounds.

## **B6 INTERNATIONAL MUSICIAN OF THE FUTURE**

### **(Prelim & Final on Friday 10 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Medal and £600. **Runner-up** £300.

- This competition is open to instrumentalists of any age.
- The programme must be up to 7 minutes of music in the preliminary round and in the final.
- Programme must include contrasting classical works.
- Competitors will perform the same repertoire in both rounds.





## C – DANCE

Closing date for all applications: Sunday 22 February 2026

Successful applicants notified by: Thursday 5 March 2026

First day of competitions: Wednesday 8 July 2026

**For competitions C1 – C3 Music performed live on traditional instruments is preferred, but pre-recorded tracks will be accepted. Pre-recorded tracks must be sent to [music@llangollen.net](mailto:music@llangollen.net) by 6th March 2026.**

### **C1. TRADITIONAL GROUP FOLK DANCE (Saturday 11 July 2026)**

**Prizes: 1st International Trophy and £550, 2nd £350, 3rd £200.**

- Groups of at least 4 dancers.
- Up to 8 musicians and 2 flag-bearers are also allowed.
- Groups must perform a programme of up to 6 minutes showcasing the folk dance traditions of the group's culture.
- Dancers must be aged 16 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- The programme must focus on the dance tradition, and not on instrumental numbers or dramatics.
- Groups may choose how many traditional dances to include, and costume changes are allowed at the discretion of the group, as long as the dancing on stage is continuous.
- Staging and transitions must be carefully considered.

### **C2. OPEN GROUP DANCE (Saturday 11 July 2026)**

**Prizes: 1st International Trophy and £550, 2nd £350, 3rd £200.**

- Groups of at least 4 dancers.
- Up to 8 musicians and 2 flag-bearers are also allowed, where applicable
- Groups must perform a programme of up to 6 minutes.
- Dancers must be aged 16 or over on the first day of the competitions.
- Groups are required to present a creative, entertaining programme within their genre including, but not limited to, ballet, contemporary/lyrical, jazz/tap/modern, folk/stylised folk, commercial/hip-hop/street and ballroom/social dancing.
- Groups may choose how many dances to include, and costume changes are allowed at the discretion of the group, as long as the dancing on stage is continuous.
- Originality and inventiveness is encouraged. Creative, innovative staging and transitions must be carefully considered.

## LUCILLE ARMSTRONG DANCE AWARD

The winners of C1 and C2 will compete for this prestigious Lucille Armstrong trophy and £750 on the final night of competitions, Sunday 12 July 2026. It is, therefore, important that all dance groups competing in C1 and C2 stay until the end of the concert on Sunday 12 July 2026 (concert to finish approximately 10:00pm). For this competition, groups are required to present an entertaining programme of dance lasting up to 6 minutes. If a group wins in both categories C1 and C2 it must perform the programme for which it obtained the higher mark, and the second highest scoring group from the other category will then go into the final.



## C3. CHILDREN'S TRADITIONAL GROUP FOLK DANCE (Thursday 9 July 2026)

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £350, **2nd** £175, **3rd** £100.

- Groups of at least 4 dancers under the age of 16 on the first day of the competitions.
- Up to 8 musicians and 2 flag-bearers are also allowed.
- Perform a programme of up to 5 minutes showcasing the folk dance traditions of the group's culture.
- The programme must focus on the dance tradition, and not on instrumental numbers or dramatics.
- Groups may choose how many dances to include, and costume changes are allowed at the discretion of the group, as long as the dancing on stage is continuous.
- Staging and transitions must be carefully considered.

## **C4. DANCING IN THE STREET (Thursday 9 July 2026 at Centenary Square, Llangollen)**

**Prizes: 1st International Trophy and £300.**

- Groups of at least 4 dancers aged 16 or over on the first day of competitions.
- Up to 8 musicians and 2 flag-bearers are also allowed.
- A performance of up to 5 minutes in a traditional or contemporary style. Any genre of dance permitted.
- Entertainment value and engaging the audience is encouraged.
- The audience will be able to indicate their favourite group and this 'vote' will be noted by the official adjudicator.
- Music must be performed live on traditional instruments is preferred, but pre-recorded tracks will be accepted. Pre-recorded tracks must be sent into the music office by 6th March 2026.

## **C5-C14 SOLO and DUET/TRIO DANCE (Saturday 11 July 2026)**

**Prizes: SOLO – 1st International Medal and £100, 2<sup>nd</sup> £75, 3<sup>rd</sup> £50  
DUET/TRIO – 1st International Medal and £125, 2<sup>nd</sup> £100, 3<sup>rd</sup> £75**

In each of the following competitions (C5–C15) the performance must last no longer than 3 minutes, to either a pre-recorded backing track, or piano accompaniment. (accompanist to be provided by competitor) There is no age limit for these competitions, but in the event there is a large number of applications – each competition will be split into the following age range; 8–13yrs and 13yrs+

**C5. Ballet SOLO** (Pointe Work is only accepted for anyone over the age of 13)

**C6. Ballet DUET/TRIO** (Pointe Work is only accepted for anyone over the age of 13)

**C7. Contemporary/Lyrical SOLO**

**C8. Contemporary/ Lyrical DUET/TRIO**

**C9. Jazz/Tap/Modern SOLO**

**C10. Jazz/Tap/Modern DUET/TRIO**

**C11. Commercial/Hiphop/Street SOLO**

**C12. Commercial/Hiphop/Street DUET/TRIO**

**C13. Ballroom/Social Dancing SOLO**

**C14. Ballroom/Social Dancing DUET/TRIO**

## **D – GROUP INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE**

Closing date for applications: Sunday 7 December 2025

Successful applicants notified by: Thursday 18 December 2025

First day of competitions: Wednesday 8 July 2026

### **D1. INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE (Thursday 9 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £300, **2nd** £200, **3rd** £100.

- Instrumental ensembles of at least 3 members of any age.
- Ensembles are required to present a programme of at least two contrasting pieces in any style or genre lasting up to 8 minutes in total.
- Ensembles can comprise any combination of instruments, including trios, quartets and larger ensembles.
- Ensembles are expected to undertake an additional public performance on either our outside stages on the Eisteddfod field or at other local venues.

### **D2. COMMUNITY BANDS (Saturday 11 July 2026)**

Prizes: **1st** International Trophy and £300, **2nd** £200, **3rd** £100.

- Community bands including Brass, Wind and Concert Bands.
- There is no upper or lower age limit for this group.
- Performance no longer than 12 minutes in total.
- Programme should include at least two contrasting pieces, one of which must be a piece by a composer from your native country.

## **E - NON-COMPETITIVE PARTICIPATION**

### **(E1, E2, E3 & E4)**

*Closing date for all group applications: Sunday 7 December 2025*  
*Successful group applicants notified by: Thursday 18 December 2025*  
*Closing date for solo applications: Sunday 22 February 2026*  
*Successful solo applicants notified by: Thursday 5 March 2026*  
*First day of the competitions: Wednesday 8 July 2026*  
*Late applications will be considered*

#### **E1 Choirs**

#### **E2 Dance Groups**

#### **E3 Ensembles**

#### **E4 Solo Performance**

The Eisteddfod welcomes non-competitive participation, and can offer the following range of activities to visiting non-competitive choirs, dance groups, instrumental ensembles and soloists:

- Informal public performances on our outside stages, and at various locations throughout North East Wales.
- The possibility of participating in choral, dance or instrumental workshops.
- The possibility of performing on the main Pavilion stage.
- The possibility to receive non-competitive assessment by a panel of adjudicators.





## **CATEGORY A - CHORAL**

*Each choir is required to forward the following by Sunday 7 December 2025:*

- Completed application form.
- A recent recording (less than 6 months old). See application form for details.
- A short English and/or Welsh -language biography of the choir and conductor (maximum 300 words in total).
- Entry fee of £100 per group (non-refundable).
- A recent photograph in JPEG format.

## **CATEGORY B - VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL SOLO**

*Each soloist is required to forward the following by Thursday 12 March 2026:*

- Completed application form.
- A recent recording (less than 6 months old), which is suitable for the competition for which you are applying.
- Proof of age (passport / birth certificate / driving license). Scans can be uploaded to the online form.
- Entry fee of £50 per competitor for B1, B2 and B6, or £30 for B3, B4, and B5 (non-refundable).

## **CATEGORY C - DANCE**

*Each dance group is required to forward the following by Sunday 7 December 2025:*

- Completed application form.
- A recent recording (less than 6 months old). See application form for details.
- A short English and/or Welsh language biography of the choir and leader (maximum 300 words in total).
- Entry fee of £100 per group for C1, C2, C3 and C4, or £30 for C5, C6, C7, C8, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13 and C14 (non-refundable).
- A recent photograph in JPEG format.

## **CATEGORY D - GROUP INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE**

*Each group is required to forward the following by Sunday 7 December 2025:*

- Completed application form.
- A recent recording (less than 6 months old). See application form for details.
- A short English and/or Welsh -language biography of the group and conductor/leader (maximum 300 words in total).
- Entry fee of £60 per group (non-refundable).
- A recent photograph in JPEG format.

## **CATEGORY E – NON-COMPETITIVE (E1, E2, E3, E4)**

*Each group is required to forward the following by Sunday 7 December 2025:*

- Completed application form.
- A recent recording (less than 6 months old). See application form for details.
- A short English and/or Welsh-language biography of the group and conductor/leader (maximum 300 words in total).
- Entry fee of £100 per group for E1, E2 and E3, or £30 per soloist for E4 (non-refundable).
- A recent photograph in JPEG format.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Participants are encouraged to apply for more than one competition, provided that they comply with the different conditions relating to each individual competition. Furthermore, choir, dance group and ensemble members are encouraged to enter the solo competitions. It is useful for the Eisteddfod to have an indication from groups with their applications as to whether they may be putting forward soloists for solo competitions.

2. The Entry Fee is NON-REFUNDABLE and the fee is payable only ONCE per group/ solo, NOT per competition. This can be paid by credit card, debit card or online at [www.llangollen.net/fees](http://www.llangollen.net/fees) . This must be paid by the appropriate application date and is payable only once per group / soloist. You will be taken to the payment page after completing the online application form. Please call the office on 01978 862000 if you prefer to pay over the phone.

3. Please do not send music scores of own choice items with the application forms.

4. Applications submitted in accordance with the regulations (see How to Apply) will be examined at our selection day in late 2025 for Choirs and Groups, and spring 2026 for Solos. Any incomplete applications on this day will be automatically disqualified. After selection a confirmation email will be sent out to each applicant. Successful applicants will receive additional information and forms to be completed.

5. You must apply using the official Eisteddfod Online Application Forms. Choirs, Dance Groups, Ensembles and Non-Competitor Groups must use the Group Application Forms; soloists (including non-competitor soloists must use the Solo Application Form. Forms are available online [www.eisteddfodcompetitions.co.uk](http://www.eisteddfodcompetitions.co.uk)

6. Please note that Groups and Soloists must submit a recent recording (video/audio as appropriate) from the last 6 months with their application form. This should be no more than 5 minutes in duration. The recorded music need not include your competition pieces, but must reflect the genre of each competition applied for. For applications in Competitions A1 to A5, at least one piece on the recording must be unaccompanied. Applications will not be considered unless the application form, fee and the recording are received by the deadline. Groups and Soloists must submit a recording relevant to each competition for which they are applying. Please note that pieces may not be repeated in different competitions (except for Choir of the World).

7. All Application Forms should be submitted as soon as possible, but participants should await notification of acceptance before making final personal and/or travel arrangements. The Eisteddfod Office will inform all groups by 18 December 2025 as to whether their application to compete has been successful. Applicants for solo competitions will be similarly notified by 6 March 2026.

8. No soloist or group is allowed to make two separate entries in one competition (as an example, soloists may only enter with one instrument in any one instrumental solo competition).

9. All participants, except choir and band conductors, dance group leaders and accompanists, must be of amateur status, i.e. people who do not earn their principal livelihood from music or dance performance as appropriate.

10. For the purpose of deciding nationality for residents of the UK, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are considered as four separate countries.



# GENERAL INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS FOR ENTRANTS AFTER ACCEPTANCE

**1. Group and Solo Repertoire:** Once selected, choirs, soloists and ensembles should give full details of their intended competition repertoire items on the online form provided. These must be returned, along with either a physical original copy, or a PDF sent via email of each piece to be performed by **6 March 2026** for Choirs and Ensembles and **3 May 2026** for soloists. NB: any music scores received after this will incur a late administration fee.

**Due to Copyright regulations we cannot accept electronic scores without proof of purchase or ownership. We will not accept music without this.**

Please send your music to our postal address below, or email to [music@llangollen.net](mailto:music@llangollen.net). Make sure each score is clearly marked with your group name and competition number. Any changes in order of competition pieces should be advised to the Music Office by 6 March 2026 for Choirs and Ensembles and 3 May 2026 for soloists at the very latest.

Copyright and license checks have to be made by our team before any performances can be shown on television or streamed online. Choirs who fail to submit their full repertoire lists by the deadline may not be allowed to compete.

FAO: Music Office

Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

Royal International Pavilion

Abbey Road

Llangollen LL20 8SW

**2. Bursary Awards:** The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod believes that fees/cost must not be a disincentive for groups to consider applying. With this in mind, we are offering a range of small grants from our bursary fund to support groups from every background. If you are accepted at the selection process, we want to make sure that you have the best opportunity to take part in the Eisteddfod regardless of your financial circumstances. Bursary information and application forms are available online [www.eisteddfodcompetition.co.uk](http://www.eisteddfodcompetition.co.uk)



### 3. Competition Time Limits:

Participants can expect to be penalised if stipulated time limits are exceeded in their performance.

### 4. Group and Solo Accompaniment:

Choirs and Groups may use their own accompanists, but if an official Eisteddfod accompanist is required, this will be at the charge of £40.

Please notify the Music Office on [music@llangollen.net](mailto:music@llangollen.net) as soon as possible. This must be booked in and paid for before 6 March 2026 for groups and 2 April 2026 for soloists..

Time Over-run	Penalty
Up to 30 seconds	Nil
30 seconds – 1 minute	1 Mark
1 minute – 1.5 minutes	2 Marks
1.5 minutes – 2 minutes	4 Marks
2,5 minutes – 3 minutes	6 Marks
3 minutes – 4 minutes	8 Marks
Over 4 minutes	10 Marks

**5. Preliminary Tests:** these will be held in all solo competitions and in any other competition in which it is considered necessary. Details of any group competition Preliminary Tests will be given in your Official Acceptance email. These generally take place on the morning of the Final of that competition, or on the previous day. If there are a large number of applications for some group competitions, a preliminary test will be held at the Music Office's discretion

**7. Additional Performances:** We aim to give groups the opportunity to undertake an additional public performance on either our outside stages on the Eisteddfod field or at other local venues. NB: we may not be able to offer this opportunity to all groups; the arrangements are made at the discretion of the Music Office.

**8. Overseas Participants** are asked not to make private arrangements to perform at other venues during the festival without prior consultation with the Music Office.

**9. Solo Vocal Rehearsals:** These will be arranged by the Music Office for all competitions if you are using the Official Eisteddfod Accompanist.

**10. Group Vocal Rehearsals:** Each choir will be allocated a rehearsal time for each competition for which they have been selected, at a time that fits with the performance schedule. Each group will only be given a 20–30 minute rehearsal for each competition they enter.

**11.** All pianos are tuned Diapason Normal Pitch (A–440)

**12. Procedure for Competitions:** All choir/group leaders will receive full guidance regarding backstage arrangements via email.

**13. Staging:** The Eisteddfod is held in the Royal International Pavilion, which seats 4,000 people. The stage measures 29 x 9 meters. Tiered staging for choirs is available for up to 80 singers. Further details regarding the Eisteddfod Field outside stage dimensions will be available to accepted participants as appropriate.

**14. International Evening Concerts:** Groups/Choirs may be invited, at the Music Office's discretion, to perform in the evening concerts.

**15. International Costume:** In order to bring truly international colour to our festival, choirs/ groups who wear national/stage costume are asked to remain in costume throughout their time at the Eisteddfod 2025. We urge all groups that are in Llangollen on Friday 10 July 2026 to take part in our Parade of Nations through the town, and to provide representatives for the flag parade at the start of the evening concert. This is a part of the Eisteddfod experience that shouldn't be missed!

**16. Social Gatherings and Impromptu Performances:** We encourage all of our competitors and non-competitors to take part in social gatherings and impromptu performances with others. Specific opportunities are provided in the Friends' Area and Competitors' Club.

**17. Photography Consent:** In applying to take part in the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod all applicants consent to photographs being taken of their performances at any part of the event and grant Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod the right to use the photograph(s) resulting from the event and any reproductions or adaptations of the photograph(s) for all general purposes in relation to Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod's work including, without limitation, the right to use them in any publicity materials, websites, newspapers and magazine articles whenever Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod wishes to do so.

**18. Copyright:** The consent required by the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988, as amended, is hereby given to the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod Ltd and its assigns to make recordings and/or broadcasts in sound and/or vision of all performances given at any time during the Eisteddfod for any purpose. Additionally, all property rights subsisting in any such performance are, on coming into being, hereby assigned in totality to the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod Ltd and each competitor hereby waives such moral rights to which they are now or may in the future be entitled pursuant to Sections 77–84 of the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988.

In applying to compete at the Eisteddfod, each competitor certifies that no other assignment or agreement to assign, in respect of these rights, has been or shall be entered into by the competitor or by representatives on his/her behalf.

Unpublished works: Please ensure the correct permissions have been obtained to use any unpublished works.

Published works: Please ensure that if you intend to perform any published works that you secure written permissions from the publishers to perform such works at the Eisteddfod.

**19. Selections and Adjudications:** The decision of the Management Team of the International Eisteddfod, or the Adjudicators acting on its behalf in any matter concerning the competition, is final and binding upon all parties, and this is an agreed condition of application in all competitions. Any complaints must be made in writing to the Music Office.

**20. Age Restrictions for Groups:** Groups competing may allow for up to 10% of the group to be below or above the competition age range. For example, if the competition specifically asks for age range of 12–18, a proportion of the group can be either under 12 or over 18, but not greater than 10% of the group. Groups should meet the backstage copyright team on the day of their competition to confirm the ages within their group.

**21. Prizes:** In the event that only 3 groups/soloists are in one competition. The Eisteddfod, management team and adjudicators will only award 1st and 2nd place prizes



EISTEDDFOD  
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**LLANGOLLEN**  
INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL  
EISTEDDFOD

**2026 : GORFFENNAF 7 - 12 JULY**



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