

VIII INTERNATIONAL WIND AND STRING INSTRUMENT COMPETITION “FINALIS”

Białystok, 26 February – 2 March 2027

REGULATIONS

1. Objectives of the Competition

The objective of the Competition is to promote playing on wind and string instruments in both solo and orchestral contexts, as well as to identify and promote the most talented instrumentalists within individual instruments, across three disciplines: woodwind instruments, brass instruments, and string instruments.

2. Competition Organizer

The organizer of the Competition is the “Centrum Sztuki i Kultury Pro Musica” Foundation, in cooperation with the Instrumental and Pedagogical Faculty, Music Education and Vocal Studies of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music – Białystok Branch, and the Ignacy Jan Paderewski State Music School Complex in Białystok.

3. Competition Process

The Competition is conducted under the supervision of the Competition Committee, consisting of the Organizer (President of the Foundation), the Artistic Director, and the Artistic Adviser.

The Competition will take place from 26 February to 2 March 2027 at the Instrumental and Pedagogical Faculty, Music Education and Vocal Studies of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music – Białystok Branch, and at the Ignacy Jan Paderewski State Music School Complex in Białystok.

All information concerning the Competition will be provided to participants via the website www.promusica.org.pl and the official Competition e-mail address: finalis2027@gmail.com

The deadline for submitting applications and paying the entry fee is 30 November 2026. Applications received after this deadline may be considered only in exceptional cases at the Organizer’s discretion and only if places remain available. In the event of a limited number of available places, applications shall be accepted on a “first come, first served” basis, determined by the date of receipt of a complete application together with the payment of the entry fee.

Competition auditions will be held in three disciplines:

- woodwind instruments: 26 February – 1 March 2027,
- brass instruments: 27–28 February 2027,
- string instruments: 27–28 February 2027.

In the event of a large number of applications in the disciplines of string instruments and brass instruments, the Organizer reserves the right to extend the audition schedule by one additional day.

The final audition schedule will be published after the completion of the participant registration process, on the 28th of January at the latest

Participants will be evaluated by a Jury appointed by the Competition Committee. The Jury of each discipline shall consist of at least three members – distinguished musicians of international reputation.

Competition auditions will be conducted in nine age categories (A–I) within each discipline. The Jury shall award prizes to participants in individual categories.

4. Instruments

In the woodwind discipline, participants may perform on the following instruments: flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon.

In the brass discipline, participants may perform on the following instruments: trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba.

In the string discipline, participants may perform on the following instruments: violin, viola, cello, double bass.

Other contemporary versions of primary instruments are permitted (e.g. piccolo flute, E-flat clarinet, bass clarinet, soprano saxophone, cornet, euphonium, etc.).

5. Categories

A – born in 2018 or later – programme up to 5 minutes, entry fee 60 EUR

B – born in 2017 and 2016 – programme up to 6 minutes, entry fee 65 EUR

C – born in 2015 and 2014 – programme up to 8 minutes, entry fee 70 EUR

D – born in 2013 and 2012 – programme up to 10 minutes, entry fee 76 EUR

E – born in 2011 and 2010 – programme up to 12 minutes, entry fee 83 EUR

F – born in 2009 and 2008 – programme up to 14 minutes, entry fee 90 EUR

G – born in 2007 and 2006 – programme up to 15 minutes, entry fee 95 EUR

H – born in 2005 and 2004 – programme up to 16 minutes, entry fee 100 EUR

I – born in 2003 and earlier – programme up to 16 minutes, entry fee 100 EUR

Performance time is counted from entering to leaving the stage in order to ensure smooth organization and performance quality.

The Jury has the right to interrupt a performance if the permitted programme duration is exceeded.

6. Competition Programme

Participants in categories A, B, C, D present a free programme (solo or with piano accompaniment).

Participants in categories E, F, G, H, and I present a free programme (solo or with piano accompaniment) as well as one or two short orchestral excerpts from the repertoire of wind or symphonic orchestras (characteristic solo or tutti excerpts from the part of the given instrument), without piano accompaniment.

Selected excerpts must be clearly marked in the sheet music.

Breaks between performed excerpts should not exceed 10 seconds.

The orchestral solo may not exceed half of the participant's total competition performance time.

Digital accompaniments played from loudspeakers are not permitted.

7. Sheet Music

The programme may be performed using sheet music.

Participants are required to provide three copies of the sheet music of the performed programme (instrumental part only, without accompaniment) for the Jury.

In categories E–I, selected orchestral excerpts must be clearly marked in the sheet music.

8. Accompaniment and Rehearsals

A rehearsal with the accompanist will be possible on the day of the performance at least half an hour before the performance, in accordance with the schedule sent to participants by e-mail.

The use of digital accompaniment, audio backing tracks, or recordings played from any electroacoustic devices is not permitted.

For an additional fee, participants may perform in the Competition auditions with the official Competition accompanist. The fee is 55 EUR for categories A–C and 77 EUR for categories D–I. This option must be selected in the application form and paid to the account:

FOR EURO:

PL 34 1600 1462 1027 7039 7000 0004, BIC/SWIFT: PPABPLPKXXX

Payment title: OFFICIAL ACCOMPANIST Finalis 2027, participant's full name, instrument, category.

Participants choosing to perform with the official accompanist are required to submit the accompaniment sheet music by 30 November 2026 via e-mail to: akompaniament.finalis@gmail.com

Please ensure that the submitted sheet music is clearly legible and properly prepared to ensure a professional level of accompaniment.

9. Number of Applications and Waiting List

In the event of a large number of applications, the Competition Committee reserves the right to stop accepting further applications before 30 November 2026 or to reject the last received applications in order to ensure the highest possible organizational quality of the Competition. In such cases, the entry fee will be refunded.

The Organizer may establish a waiting list of participants. Placement on the waiting list does not guarantee participation in the Competition. Final acceptance of a participant from the waiting list occurs only if a place becomes available due to withdrawal of previously qualified participants. If a participant from the waiting list is not admitted, the entry fee will be refunded in full. Admission from the waiting list is determined by the order of received applications with paid entry fees.

10. Registration and Entry Fee

By 30 November 2026, all participants must complete the online application form published on the Foundation's website : www.promusica.org.pl, and pay the entry fee. Only fully completed and paid applications will be registered.

When making the payment, the transfer reference number must be entered in the application form for verification purposes.

The entry fee is non-refundable. Only the entry fee of participants from the waiting list is fully refundable.

The entry fee should be paid to the following account:

“Centrum Sztuki i Kultury Pro Musica” Foundation

Bank BGŻ BNP Paribas S.A.

FOR EURO:

PL 34 1600 1462 1027 7039 7000 0004 BIC/SWIFT: PPABPLPKXXX

Payment title: Finalis 2027, participant’s full name, phone number, e-mail, instrument, category.

11. Schedule

The Competition and accompanist rehearsal schedule will be published no later than 28 January 2027.

12. Registration on the Day of the Competition

On the day of the Competition, participants must present:

- a) a valid photo identification document,
- b) three copies of the sheet music of the performed programme (instrumental part only, without accompaniment). Selected orchestral excerpts in categories E–I must be clearly marked.

Participants must register at least one hour before their performance.

13. Evaluation

The Jury evaluates the performance of the programme, its technical preparation, interpretation of the works, as well as their selection and originality.

The decisions of the Jury are final. The decisions of the Jury are not subject to appeal and do not require written justification.

14. Prizes

The Gold Prize is awarded to participants who obtain a score between 95.00 and 100.00 points.

The Silver Prize is awarded to participants who obtain a score between 90.00 and 94.99 points.

The Bronze Prize is awarded to participants who obtain a score between 85.00 and 89.99 points.

The Gold, Silver, and Bronze Prizes take the form of diplomas. Apart from special prizes announced in advance on the Competition website, the Organizer does not provide any other prizes.

Participants who do not receive a Gold, Silver, or Bronze diploma will receive a certificate of participation in the “Finalis” Competition.

Diplomas and certificates will be awarded no later than one day after the completion of the category in which the participant performs. The detailed schedule of diploma and certificate ceremonies will

be published on the Competition website. Participants performing on the last day of the Competition will receive their diplomas on the same day.

Uncollected diplomas will be available for collection from the Artistic Director of the Competition for a period of one year.

The Organizer does not send prizes or diplomas by post.

15. Nomination to the Final Concert

A maximum of one participant per instrument may be nominated to the Final Concert, selected from among all participants of categories E–I combined, who has obtained the highest number of points for the given instrument and a minimum of 95 points (Gold Diploma threshold).

In the event that more than one participant performing on the same instrument obtains the same number of points, the decision regarding nomination to the Final Concert shall be made exclusively by the Jury and shall be final.

In the event of nomination to perform in the Final Concert, participants will be notified by e-mail and by telephone no later than 1 March.

After the Final Concert, the Organizer will grant special Competition awards. Information about special awards will be published on the Competition website.

Special prizes in the form of a solo performance with an orchestra may be awarded exclusively to participants who have reached the age of 18 no later than on the first day of the Competition.

The prize winner is obliged to contact the prize donor independently. The Organizer is not responsible for the date or method of collection of special prizes.

16. Consent for Publication of Image

During the Finalis Competition, photographs and audio and video recordings featuring the participant's image will be made. These materials may be used without time limitation for promotional and archival purposes by the organizers via platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, etc.

By submitting an application for participation in the Competition, the participant consents to the public presentation of their audio and video recordings and photographs taken during the Competition and agrees to the free-of-charge use of their image.

The participant, or in the case of a minor participant their parent or legal guardian, consents to the publication of personal data (first and last name, category, instrument, repertoire) in printed form in the Competition schedule and in electronic form distributed to participants and published on the website.

By submitting the application, the participant unconditionally accepts the Competition rules and the privacy policy of the "Centrum Sztuki i Kultury Pro Musica" Foundation.

17. Exclusion

If a participant fails to comply with the Competition Regulations, the Committee has the right to exclude the participant from the Competition. The decision of the Committee is final.

18. Disputes

Any disputes shall be resolved by the Competition Committee. Its decisions are final and not subject to appeal or written justification.

19. Final Provisions

In the event of discrepancies or doubts regarding the interpretation of these Regulations, the Polish version shall be considered binding.