

XXVI International Academic Music Competition "Jurmala 2025"

in Organ Performance

June 10 – 14, Jurmala, Latvia

The XXVI International Academic Music Competition "Jurmala 2025" in organ performance is organized by the Jurmala High School of Music in collaboration with the Education Department of Jurmala City Council.

The International Academic Music Competition "Jurmala" offers the contestants a valuable performance experience, assessed by highly qualified performing arts professionals and teachers, it was established in 1995 as a competition for pianists, but later became an important growth platform for players of other instruments as well - the competition has been held for chamber ensembles, multi-string instruments, woodwind instruments, but in 2022 - for the first time in organ performance. In 2025 the competition will be held in organ performance for the second time in the competition's history.

The XXVI International Academic Music Competition "Jurmala 2025" in organ performance is intended for students of music schools who learn to play the organ between the ages of 7 and 22, provided that the participant is a pupil of a primary or secondary music education institution and is not, and has never been, a student of a higher music education institution (such as university, academy, etc.).

The competition will take place from June 10 to 14, 2025 in Dubulti Concert Hall of Jūrmala Music High School, Strelnieku prospekts 30, k-1 (digital organ - Johannus Ecclesia D – 450) and Dubulti Lutheran church, Baznicas street 13, Jurmala (pipe organ, III manuals, 29 registers, tracker action).

Info about the competition: https://muzikasskola.jurmala.lv/konkurss_2025/

CATEGORIES

The competition "Jurmala 2025" is open for musicians of all nationalities and takes place in three main categories:

Category A

7 - 14 (15*) years old, the category is divided into 2 subgroups:

A1 7 - 12 years old (including), category for the participants, who learn the organ playing for the first year;

A2 7 - 14 (15*) years old (including)

* A 15-year-old participant in the A2 category is allowed, if he or she is a pupil of the first year of training in organ playing, for which a letter of approval from the school is required.

Category B

15 - 17 (18) years old** (including)

** An 18-year-old participant can participate in this category if he or she submits a written confirmation from the school that he or she has been learning the organ for no longer than the second year.

Category C

17 - 22 years old (including), provided that the participant is a student of a secondary music education institution, and is not, and has never been, a student of an institution of higher music education (such as a university, or academy).

The competition is held in person. Categories A and B consist of one round. Category C consists of two rounds.

TIME AND PLACE OF COMPETITION

June 10 Opening Ceremony in the Dubulti Concert Hall of Jūrmala Music High School and competition for a category A, awarding for group A;

June 11 First round of competition for a category C at Dubulti Lutheran Church;

June 12 Competition for a category B in the Dubulti Concert Hall of Jūrmala Music High School;

June 13 Second round of competition for a category C in the Dubulti Concert Hall of Jūrmala Music High School;

June 14 Concluding ceremony - A, B, C categories laureate concert and awarding for categories B and C. Laureates of the competition will perform according to the jury's decision.

Participants in category A perform in alphabetical order in each subgroup separately - A1 and A2.

Participants of category B and C draw the number of the performance rounds on the opening day of the competition, and the order of the group C participant's draw remains in all rounds of the competition.

REPERTOIRE

Category A (A1, A2)

It is a free program, up to 8 minutes long.

There must be at least one piece with a pedal, there can be arrangements.

Category B

1.) One of J.S. Bach's "Eight Little Preludes and Fugues" (BWV 553 - 560) or Prelude and Fugue BWV 533, BWV 549;

2.) One or more compositions of free choice.

The total length of the competition program should be 10-16 minutes long.

All pieces must be from the original organ repertoire (not arrangements), with a pedal, no own compositions can be played.

Category C

1st Round:

German Baroque Choral Prelude in cantus firmus technique (for 2 manuals and pedal)

A piece or part of the cyclic composition in the Romantic style of the 19th Century up to the first part of the 20th Century. (original one, can not be the transcription, at least 7 - 8 minutes long)

The total length of 1st round should not exceed 15 minutes.

2nd Round:

One of the preludes and fugues, fantasies and fugues, or toccatas and fugues by J.S. Bach (except 553-560);

A piece from your country or a piece by a Latvian composer (5 - 9 minutes long).

The total length of 2nd round should not exceed 20 minutes. All pieces of both rounds must be from the original organ repertoire (not arrangements), with a pedal, no own compositions can be played.

JURY

The competition is evaluated by a professionally competent international jury of four organ-playing specialists established by the organizers.

The jury evaluates the participants according to the competition's common evaluation criteria, using a 25-point system.

AWARDING

Each participant receives a diploma of gratitude for participating in the competition.

Category A laureates receive a diploma and a gift – a souvenir.

Category A will be awarded I, II, and III level diplomas, according to the obtained points:

I diploma 23 – 25 points;

II diploma 21 – 22 points;

III diploma 19 – 20 points.

The winners of categories B and C will receive diplomas, laureate titles, and cash prizes. **The total cash bonus fund is 2,000 euros.**

According to the jury's decision, prize-winning places are awarded in groups B and C. The jury has the right not to award a place or share one place between two participants, not exceeding the six places in both groups.

The decision of the jury is uncontested and cannot be changed.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The competition application form must be submitted electronically by 1 May 2025. The application form is available here:

<https://forms.gle/YxjiFC5JcZx6MRLr6>

A photo of the participant (portrait, resolution not less than 300dpi) has to be sent to e-mail edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv by 1 May 2025.

Sheet music scores for pieces the participant will play in the competition must be sent electronically, except for J.S. Bach's compositions, to the e-mail edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv, by June 1, 2025.

The participation fee has to be transferred till May 1, 2025:

Category A - EUR 30; Category B - EUR 40; Category C - EUR 50

Transfer details:

Jūrmalas Mūzikas vidusskolas atbalsta fonds, number of registration: 40008076850

BANK: Citadele

IBAN: LV23PARX0006437080017

SWIFT: PARXLV22

In the payment order, please write: competition "Jūrmala 2025"; the name, surname, and the category of the participant.

The participation fee is non-refundable.

If the participant needs to issue an invoice, the details must be sent to e-mail edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv by April 29.

By applying to the competition, participants agree that the competition may be filmed or photographed free of charge for publicity purposes and their photos will be used for event publicity.

MASTERCLASS

As part of the competition, the opportunity to participate in a master class led by members of the jury is offered. Its active participants are the laureates of the competition.

June 12 / 10 a.m. – 12. p.m. Dubulti Lutheran Church for category A

June 13 / 12 p.m.– 3 p.m. Dubulti Lutheran Church for category B

June 14 / 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Dubulti Lutheran Church for category C

The organizers of the competition reserve the right to change the times.

ABOUT ORGANS

The Organ of Dubulti Lutheran church (Baznīcas street 13, Jūrmala)

DRIVER & Co, Burnley (England, 1925)

Three manuals - Compass C.C. To C. 61 notes

Pedal – C.C.C. To F. 30 notes

Tracker action for manuals and electric action for the pedal.

Choir (I)	Great (II)	Swell (III)	Pedal
Fifteenth 2' Clarinet 8' Concert Flute 4' Salicet 4' Rohrflute 8'	Trumpet 8' Fifteenth 2' Viola Principal 4' Flauto Traverso 4' Salicional 8'	Oboe 8' Cornopean 8' Mixture (2 2/3) Principal 4' Lieblich Flute 4'	Flute Bass 8' Diapason Bass 8' Subbass 16' Diapason Bass 16'

Orchestral Gamba 8'	Claribel Flute 8' Small Open Diapason 8' Large Open Diapason 8' Contra Gedact 16'	Celeste 8' Vox Angelica 8' Lieblich Gedact 8' Violin Diapason 8' Lieblich Bourdon 16'	
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Couplers: Great to Pedal, Choir to Pedal, Swell to Pedal, Choir to Great (I/II), Swell to Great (III/II), Swell to Choir (III/I), Swell Super Octave.

Dubulti Concert Hall Organ Johannus Ecclesia D – 450

Strelnieku prospekts 30, k-1, Jūrmala

Stoplevel:

Great	Choir	Swell	Pedal
Principal 16'	Principal 8'	Bourdon 16'	Resultant Bass 32'
Principal 8'	Gedackt 8'	Principal 8	Principal 16'
Diapason 8'	Octave 4'	Rohrflute 8	Subbass 16'
Stopped Flute 8'	Rohrflute 4'	Viola di Gamba 8''	Octave 8'
Gamba 8'	Nazard 2 2/3'	Vox Celeste 8'	Gedackt 8'
Octave 4'	Octave 2'	Octave 4'	Choralbass 4'
Open Flute 4'	Flute 2'	Koppelflute 4'	Rauschpfeife IV
Twelfth 2 2/3'	Nineteenth 1 1/3'	Flute Twelfth '2 2/3	Contra
Fifteenth 2'	Sesquialtera II	Octave 2'	Trumpet 16'
Conical Flute 2'	Mixture III	Waldflute 2'	Trumpet 8'
Cornet IV	Krummhorn 8'	Tierce 1 3/5'	Trumpet 4'
Mixture IV	Tremulant	Nazard 1 1/3'	Choir - Pedal
Trumpet 8'	Swell – Choir	Scharff III	Great - Pedal
Trumpet 16'		Fagotto 16'	Swell - Pedal
Clarion 4'		Trompet 8'	
Tremulant		Harmonique 8'	
Vox Humana 8'		Oboe 8'	
Tremulant Vox Humana		Schalmey 4'	
Choir - Great		Tremulant	
Swell Great			

The organ has 4 organ styles: *romantic, symphonic, baroque, and historical.*