

REGULATIONS

XXVII International Academic Music Competition “Jūrmala 2026” in Piano

June 2. - 7. 2026

Dubulti Concert Hall, Jūrmala, Strelnieku pr. 30

Jūrmala, Latvia.

I. General provisions, objectives and tasks of the competition

1. The rules of the XXVII International Academic Music Competition "Jūrmala 2026" in piano (hereinafter referred to as the competition) define the objectives and tasks of the competition, the participants, the time and place of the competition, the application procedure, participation fees, competition evaluation criteria, award procedure, liability, safety and other rules related to the competition.
2. The competition is organized and run by Jūrmala Music Secondary School in cooperation with Jūrmala Education Board and Jūrmala Music Secondary School Support Fund (hereinafter referred to as the organizers).
3. The competition is open to primary and secondary school music students aged 7 to 20 (inclusive).
4. Aims of the competition:
 - 4.1. To promote the improvement of the professional skills of piano students and to develop their concert performance skills.
 - 4.2. To motivate teachers and students in the Latvian music education system to achieve higher results and strive for more impressive professional growth.
5. Competition tasks:
 - 5.1. To promote the professional growth of piano students.
 - 5.2. to allow the best competition participants to perform with an orchestra;
 - 5.3. To popularize piano playing.
 - 5.4. to continue an important tradition in Jūrmala – the organization and promotion of an international academic music competition.

II. Competition participants

6. Participants in the competition are divided into four main groups:

Groups A1 and A2 – participants up to 10 years of age (inclusive); Group B – participants aged up to 13 (inclusive); Group C – participants aged up to 16 (inclusive); Group D – participants aged up to 20 years (inclusive), provided that the participant is a student of a secondary music education institution and is not, and has not been, a student of a higher music education institution.
7. The participant's age must correspond to the group specified in these regulations as of June 7, 2026

III. Competition rules, time, place and procedure

8. Participants in groups A, B, C, and D shall play a repertoire in accordance with the requirements specified for each group. A detailed description of the repertoire requirements can be found in Appendix 2 to the regulations.
9. The competition will be held in person. Group A1 will compete in one round, while the groups A2, B, C, and D will compete in two rounds.
10. Participants in each group will perform in alphabetical order.

11. The competition will take place from June 2, 2026, to June 7, 2026, at the Dubulti Concert Hall of the Jūrmala Music Secondary School, Strēlnieku prospekts 30 k-1, Jūrmala, according to the following schedule:

June 2 – opening ceremony, competition for groups A1 and A2, and awards ceremony for group A1;
June 3 – 1st round for groups B and C;
June 4 – Group D Round 1; rehearsals with the orchestra (Groups A2 and C);
June 5 – Round 2 for groups A2 and C; rehearsals with the orchestra (groups B and D);
June 6 – Round 2 for groups B and D with orchestra;
June 7 – final concert at the Dubulti Concert Hall and awards ceremony.

IV. Applying for the competition

12. Educational institutions must send the completed application form in *Word doc.* format to edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv by May 1, 2026.
13. A photograph of the participant (portrait, resolution not less than 300 dpi) must be sent to the e-mail address: edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv by May 1, 2026.
14. Scanned sheet music for the free-choice pieces that the participant will perform in the competition (except for J.S. Bach's pieces and sonatas) must be sent to the email address: rita.eliasa@edu.jurmala.lv by May 15, 2026.
15. By applying to the competition, the educational institution confirms that, based on Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council (April 27, 2016) on the protection of natural persons concerning the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, the students or parents of underage students have been Informed and agree that students may be photographed and/or filmed during the competition.
16. Photographs and/or video materials submitted to the competition and obtained during the competition may be used to promote the competition without compensation.

V. Participation fee

17. Participation fee for competition participants:
 - Group A1 – EUR 35;
 - Group A2 – EUR 40;
 - Group B – EUR 50;
 - Group C – EUR 60;
 - Group D – EUR 70.
18. The participation fee must be paid by May 1, 2026, indicating the name of the competition “Jūrmala 2026”, the participant's name, surname, and group, to the following bank details:
 - 18.1. Jūrmala Music Secondary School Support Fund
No. 40008076850
Bank Citadele
IBAN: LV23PARX0006437080017
SWIFT: PARXLV22;
 - 18.2. If an invoice needs to be issued, the payer's details must be sent to the following e-mail address before payment: edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv
 - 18.3. The participation fee is non-refundable.

VI. Competition evaluation criteria

19. Competition participants will be evaluated by an international jury of four professionally competent piano specialists appointed by the competition organizers, who will award a certain number of points according to the following criteria:
 - 19.1. technical precision of performance;
 - 19.2. artistic performance;
 - 19.3. overall impression.
20. Each member of the competition jury individually evaluates a specific criterion, awarding it a certain number of points, which are recorded on the evaluation form:

- 20.1. for the evaluation criteria mentioned in sub-clauses 19.1 and 19.2 of these regulations: 10 points (excellent), 9 points (very good), 8 points (good), 7 points (fair), 6 points (almost fair), 5 points (average), 4 points (almost average), 3 points (poor), 2 points (very poor), 1 point (very, very poor), 0 points (criterion cannot be assessed);
- 20.2. for the evaluation criterion referred to in sub-clause 19.3 of these regulations: 5 points (excellent), 4 points (good), 3 points (average), 1-2 points (poor or very poor), 0 points (criterion cannot be evaluated);
- 20.3. the maximum number of points that a single committee member may award to a contestant is 25 points.

VII. Awards

- 21. After the competition and the results have been summarized, the places in each age group are determined separately. Each participant receives a letter of appreciation for participating in the competition.
- 22. The award ceremony for the winners of group A1 will take place at the end of the group A competition day. The jury will select representatives of the winners of group A1 to perform at the Final Concert. The winners of group A1 will receive a diploma and a gift - a souvenir.
- 23. The award ceremony for the winners of groups A2, B, C, and D will take place at the Final Concert on June 7 at the Dubulti Concert Hall, Strēlnieku prospekts 30 k-1. The winners of the competition will perform at the concert according to the jury's decision.
- 24. The winners of groups A2, B, C and D will receive diplomas, winner titles and individual cash prizes, as decided by the jury.
- 25. The jury will independently determine and distribute the prize fund in accordance with the results achieved by the competition participants and within the budget approved by the Jūrmala Education Board for the competition prize fund.
- 26. The prize fund is made up of funds from the Jūrmala Education Board's budget.

VIII. Responsibility and safety regulations

- 27. All competition participants are bound by the requirements of the organizers and these regulations during the competition.
- 28. The person responsible for the preparation of the competition is Edīte Dekšne, Deputy Director of Jūrmala Music Secondary School in the field of project implementation, e-mail: edite.deksne@edu.jurmala.lv.
- 29. The person responsible for the competition is Gunta Liepiņa, Director of Jūrmala Music Secondary School, e-mail: gunta.liepina@jurmala.lv.
- 30. All travel and accommodation expenses shall be covered by the competition participants or the institution representing the participants.
- 31. Each competition participant and visitor is responsible for the cleanliness and order of the surrounding environment at the competition venue.
- 32. Each participant and accompanying person is responsible for their health during the competition participants at the competition venue, as well as for getting to and from the competition venue.

IX. Other provisions

- 33. The organizers shall ensure compliance with the requirements set out in Cabinet Regulation No. 474 of August 22, 2023, "Procedures for ensuring preventive health care, first aid, and safety for students in educational institutions and at events organized by them".
- 34. The organizers have the right to disqualify a participant in the competition in the event of a violation of these rules.

“XXVII International Academic Music Competition “Jūrmala 2026” in the piano specialty”

Repertoire

Group	Round 1	Round
A1 Up to 10 years	Upto 10 min. 1) J. S. Bach’s composition 2) Classical sonata or sonatina, 1st movement <i>Allegro</i> 3) One or more pieces of your choice	-
A2 Up to 10 years	Up to 10 min. 1) J. S. Bach’s composition 2) Classical sonata or sonatina, 1st movement <i>Allegro</i> 3) One or more pieces of your choice	W. A. Mozart 1st movement from Concerto No. 8 in C major, K. 246
B up to 13 years	Up to 15 min. 1) J. S. Bach’s composition 2) J. Haydn, W. A. Mozart, or L. Beethoven sonata or sonatina, 1st movement <i>Allegro</i> 3) One or more pieces of your choice	W. A. Mozart, 1st movement from Concerto No. 8 in C major, K. 246 or W. A. Mozart, movements 2 and 3 from Concerto No. 8 in C major, K. 246
C Up to 16 years	Up to 20 min. 1) J. S. Bach’s composition 2) J. Haydn, W. A. Mozart or L. Beethoven sonata, 1st movement <i>Allegro</i> 3) One or more pieces of your choice	W. A. Mozart, 1st movement from Concerto No. 23 in A major K. 488 or W. A. Mozart, movements 2 and 3 from Concerto No. 23 in A major K. 488
D up to 20 years old* (* must not be a university or academy student)	Up to 25 min 1) J. S. Bach composition 2) J. Haydn, W. A. Mozart or L. Beethoven sonata, 1st movement <i>Allegro</i> 3) One or more pieces of your choice	W. A. Mozart, 1st movement from Concerto No. 21 in C major, K.467 or W. A. Mozart, movements 2 and 3 from Concerto No. 21 in C major, K. 467