

**RICHMOND UPON THAMES
PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL 2026**

www.richmondfestival.org.uk

Piano Syllabus 2026

SECTION SECRETARY – SUE THORNTON

Richmondfestival.piano@gmail.com

Adjudicators

7 March – Alexis White

13-15 March – Timothy Barratt

ALEXIS WHITE studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School, the Royal Northern College of Music and the Eastman School of Music, New York. The winner of many prestigious prizes and scholarships, most notably first prize in the Seventh Noyers International Piano Competition in France, Alexis has given recitals and concerto performances throughout the U.K. and abroad.

She has collaborated with many distinguished artists including Rafal Zambrzycki-Payne, Akiko Ono, Guy Johnston, Jiafeng Chen, the Sacconi Quartet, the Navarra Quartet, and the Galliard Ensemble. In 2018 she was invited to give a week of masterclasses in China, followed by a recital which was broadcast on Chinese television. Alexis has also broadcast for Scottish Radio, Classic FM, Radio Suisse Romane and featured for several years as a Countess of Munster artist.

Alexis is currently Head of Keyboard at St Paul's Girls' School in London and teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School. She is also an examiner for the ABRSM.

TIMOTHY BARRATT studied on a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, winning many major awards, and completed his studies with Vlado Perlemuter in Paris and Geoffrey Parsons. A performing career throughout the UK and abroad as a soloist, accompanist and chamber music player has spanned more than 30 years, with a particular focus on voice and piano partnership.

Teaching forms a major part of his musical life and he enjoys working with pupils of all ages and levels, from beginner to post-graduate. Timothy was Head of Keyboard at Dulwich College for many years whilst also teaching at the RAM and TCM and now pursues a busy freelance practice.

Formerly a member of the examining, training and review panel for the ABRSM, he now acts as a Piano Syllabus Consultant. He regularly directs masterclasses and residential courses for performers and teachers, and is in demand as a competition and festival adjudicator.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All enquiries to the Section Secretary, Sue Thornton

Email: richmondfestival.piano@gmail.com

Dates:

Saturday 7th March 2026 (all day)

Friday 13th March 2026 (evening)

Saturday 14th March 2026 (all day)

Sunday 15th March 2026 (afternoon and evening)

Venue: St. Augustine's Church, Hospital Bridge Road, Twickenham, TW2 6DE

Closing Date for Entries: Sunday 25 January (Midnight)

Please use the online entry system which can be found by going to our website

www.richmondfestival.org.uk

Fees are payable through the online system via Paypal or BACS

LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

Please note that all the EXAM GRADE CLASSES will be held on Saturday 7th March 2026

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry age as at 1st September 2025

A timetable and programme of classes for the events and efforts will be made to comply with performers' other musical commitments where these are reported to the Section Secretary at time of entry.

Time limits are given and must be observed. A performance may be stopped if time limits are exceeded.

A copy of the music must be provided for the adjudicator. Where there are more than four sheets they must be stapled together. The same piece may not be played in different classes.

If different movements from the same work are to be played, please state on entry form.

We regret that it is not possible for performers to practice on the grand piano before the classes. Adjudicators will be aware of this.

Depending on the number of entries it may be necessary to combine or divide classes. Although we will try to run all classes, if sufficient entries are not received we reserve the right to cancel classes and return fees paid.

Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival will hold data solely for the purpose of running the Festival. Please read this syllabus in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations for the Festival together with the Festival's Safeguarding Policy. Both documents are downloadable from the website.

All awards are made at the adjudicator's discretion.

SPECIAL AWARDS

YOUNG PIANIST OF THE YEAR & EDITH STEINITZ MEMORIAL PRIZE

1st Prize (£100) Sponsored by Margaret Warden & John Steinitz

2nd Prize (£50) Sponsored by Sue Thornton

Pianists entering 3 classes or more will be eligible for consideration these must include a Recital Class and two other solo classical classes. Young Pianist Awards are made at the discretion of the adjudicator and are subject to the winner receiving a mark of Honours, Outstanding or Exceptional.

Performers must be aged between 13 & 18 years and previous First Placed winners of this award are not eligible to enter.

The winner will be invited to perform at the Festival Showcase

The Junior Exam Trophy - this will be awarded to the best performance in Classes 60 – 64. Grades 1-5

The Amy & James Wood Memorial Trophy - This trophy is presented by Pauline & Vanessa Latarche, and will be awarded to the best performance in Classes 65 – 67. Grades 6-8

The Junior Own Choice Cup - This will be awarded to the best performance in Classes 68 – 70.

The Arts Richmond Cup - This will be awarded to the best performance in Classes 71 – 73.

Intermediate Recital Cup - This will be awarded to the best performance in Class 86

EXAM GRADE CLASSES

These classes are for exam candidates of any age. Each entry is for one piece from any of the 2025-2026 Exam Syllabuses. Players who wish to play **two** exam pieces may submit multiple entries for the same grade AND SAME YEAR SYLLABUS. (see fees below)

No repeats in the music to be played.

Class 60	Grade 1	£7 (one)	or £9 for two pieces
Class 61	Grade 2	£7 (one)	or £9 for two pieces
Class 62	Grade 3	£9 (one)	or £11 for two pieces
Class 63	Grade 4	£9 (one)	or £11 for two pieces
Class 64	Grade 5	£11 (one)	or £13 for two pieces
Class 65	Grade 6	£11 (one)	or £13 for two pieces
Class 66	Grade 7	£13 (one)	or £15 for two pieces
Class 67	Grade 8	£13 (one)	or £15 for two pieces

OWN CHOICE SOLO CLASSES

Own Choice or a piece from the ABRSM Selected Piano Exam Pieces or Trinity Exam pieces.
One movement or piece only.

Class 68	Own choice Solo	6 years and under	1 min.	£6
Class 69	Own choice Solo	7 – 8 years only	2 mins.	£7
Class 70	Own choice Solo	9 – 10 years only	2 mins	£7
Class 71	Own choice Solo	11- 12 years only	3 mins	£9
Class 72	Own choice Solo	13 –15 years only	3 mins	£9
Class 73	Own choice Solo	16 and over (including adult)	5 mins	£11

JUNIOR SOLOS – AGE 15 YEARS & UNDER

Class 74	Junior Baroque 1600-1750 Solo 15 years & under Any one Baroque piece, or any two related Baroque movements (e.g. Prelude & Fugue, or two sections of a suite). Time limit: 5 mins	£11
Class 75	Junior Haydn, Mozart & Beethoven Solo – 15 years & under One piece or movement by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven Time limit: 5 mins	£11
Class 76	Junior Modern Solo- 15 years & under One piece or movement written during the 20th or 21st Centuries – any style Time limit: 5 mins	£9
Class 77	Junior Challenge Solo – 15 years & under One piece or movement written after 1830 Time limit: 5 mins	£11
Class 78	Non Classical Music Solo – 15 years & under A piano arrangement of pop songs, musical theatre songs and film music. (must be a published piano solo version) Time limit: 4 mins	£9

FOR MORE SENIOR PIANISTS

Class 79	Richmond Residents – 18 years & under Richmond Borough Cup Own choice/style solo, one work. Entrants must be resident in the Borough of Richmond upon Thames or attend school or have piano lessons in the borough. Time limit: 5 mins	£9
Class 80	Modern Solo – Any Age One piece or movement written since 1920 Time limit: 5 mins	£9
Class 81	Chopin Solo – Any Age Any one work by Chopin Time limit: 5 mins	£9
Class 82	Senior Challenge Solo – 16 years & over Own choice of one piece or movement written before 1900 Time limit: 8 mins	£12
Class 83	Open Solo – Any Age Own choice. One piece or movement only. Open to amateur or professional pianists Time limit: 8 mins	£12
Class 84	Senior Bach, Beethoven or Brahms – 16 years & over One piece from any ONE of the above Time limit: 8 mins	£12

PIANO RECITAL SECTION

Please note the following:

Credit will be given for choice of programme which should include **TWO or more** contrasting pieces.

Time limits should be calculated as total performance time including the breaks between items.

Class 85	Junior Recital 11 years & under Time limit: 7 mins	Prize £10	£9
Class 86	Intermediate Recital 15 years & under Time limit: 10 mins	Cup and Richmond Festival Prize of £15	£12
Class 87	Senior Recital 16 years & over Time limit: 15 mins	Festival Prize £20	£15
Class 88	Adult Amateurs - for amateur pianists aged 20 years or over for whom playing the piano is a serious hobby but not an occupation. Time limit: 15 mins	Cup and Richmond Festival prize of £20	£15

PIANO DUETS (at one piano)

Own choice. Performers may enter a class more than once to play with different partners.

A Challenge Cup is awarded for the best performance in Classes 90 – 92 at the discretion of the adjudicator.

Class 90	Junior Duet/Trio Time limit: 3 mins	10 years and under	£4 each
Class 91	Intermediate Duet/Trio Time limit: 4 mins	13 years and under	£5 each
Class 92	Senior duet/Trio Time limit: 5 mins	16 years and under	£6 each