

RICHMOND UPON THAMES PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

www.richmondfestival.org.uk

INSTRUMENTAL SYLLABUS 2027

SECRETARY OF THE INSTRUMENTAL SECTION: JULIA DRÄGER

richmondfestival.instruments@gmail.com

ADJUDICATOR: **ROY ROBINSON**

MA, Dip Perf RCM, ARCM (P), ARCM (T), LTCL (P), LRAM (T), ATCL (P), ALCM (P)



Prize-winning and distinguished viola player and pianist, Roy trained at the Royal College of Music under the tutorage of Frederick Riddle and Angus Morrison; he also studied composition under Philip Cannon. He holds the complete suite of performing and teaching diplomas on viola and piano, plus the former on the violin. He won the highest award for performance on the viola at the RCM, the Leslie Alexander Competition, and holds an MA. He also has a background as an organist, conductor and published composer.

Roy has spent his career combining teaching - largely as Director of Music in independent schools and teaching his instruments to Diploma students and RAM Exhibitioners - and performing as a solo recitalist, orchestral and chamber music player and as an accompanist. He is also a well-travelled international examiner and adjudicator. He has trained countless choirs, orchestras and bands, directed over 50 orchestral and singing courses for children and produced 100s of concerts.

He has worked extensively for ABRSM all over the world on the grade, diploma and jazz panels. He has presented teacher meetings and selected the previous viola syllabus. As a long-standing and very busy adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals, Roy enjoys adjudicating his specialisms and the complete range of classes; he is listed as GEN in the directory which means he is qualified to adjudicate all classes. He brings a wealth of experience to support, inspire and educate.

FESTIVAL DATES, VENUE & PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

Friday 19th March 2027 (6pm–9pm approx.)
Saturday 20th March 2027(10am–6:30pm approx.)
Sunday 21st March 2027 (10am–6pm approx.)

VENUE: St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, Clifden Road, Twickenham, TW1 4LT

The College is a ten-minute walk from Twickenham railway station and the H22, 33, 267, 281, 290 and 490 bus routes. Parking is available on site.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE*:

Friday evening:
Concerto Classes Junior 140, Youth 141, Senior 142

Saturday morning:
Beginner and Intermediate Classes (Junior):
108, 110, 111

Saturday – late morning or early afternoon:
Ensembles 101, 102, 103

Saturday afternoon/evening:
Friends and Family 105,
Junior Recital 160, Junior Advanced 112
Musical Versatility 150

Sunday morning:
Youth Classes 120, 121, 122

Sunday afternoon:
Youth Recital 161,
Senior Beginner 130, Senior Intermediate 131,
Senior Advanced 132, Senior Recital 162

ENTRY INFORMATION – please read carefully!

The Festival has become increasingly popular, and we are very pleased to welcome so many performers. To ensure that classes remain a comfortable length and that there are enough breaks for performers, volunteers and the adjudicator, we are introducing a limit on the number of entries in each class.

Entries are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

- Each class has a maximum number of entries. **A class will close as soon as this number is reached, even if this is before the overall festival closing date.**
- If a class is full before the closing date and Play & Perform doesn't accept any more entries, please email the Festival Secretary with details of the class/es you wish to enter.
- You will be placed on the **waiting list** and contacted if a place becomes available.
- If you need to **withdraw** after entering, please **email the Festival Secretary as soon as possible.** This will allow your place to be offered to someone on the waiting list.
- Withdrawals before the closing date: Entry fees will be refunded on request, or you may consider donating them to the festival.
- Withdrawals after the closing date: Entry fees cannot be refunded.
- We will try to run all classes, but, if sufficient entries are not received for a certain class, we reserve the right to cancel it and return fees paid.
- We also reserve the right to split classes if they become too big.

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2027 (MIDNIGHT),
OR EARLIER IF A CLASS BECOMES FULL before that date.**

We strongly recommend entering as early as possible to secure your place.
(If necessary, you can specify pieces/composers later, by 15 January 2027.)

Enquiries regarding late entries/waiting list: email the Instrumental Secretary.

Please use the **online entry system “Play and Perform”** which can be found on our website
www.richmondfestival.org.uk

Fees are payable through the online system via Paypal

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 can be downloaded from the website.

Special Awards

YOUNG INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR 2027:

Award £100 for any orchestral instrumentalist – Strings, Wind or Brass.

2nd place - £50.

- Eligibility: Performers must be of school age, and must enter **two classes, one of which MUST be a recital class.**
- Young Instrumentalist Awards are made at the discretion of the **adjudicator** and are subject to the winner receiving a mark of **Distinction or Outstanding.**
- Previous first placed winners of this award are not eligible.
- The winners will be expected to perform at the **Festival Showcase** in May or June.

THE RICHMOND BOROUGH CUP

This will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator to the outstanding player in the Instrumental Section who **is resident in the borough of Richmond upon Thames or attends school/college or has music lessons within the borough.** All awards are made at the adjudicator's discretion.

Additional Information

***PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE/TIMETABLING:** Provisional class times and days are published in advance to help with planning. **Please note that these are not guaranteed.**

Depending on the actual number of entries for the different classes, it may be necessary to rearrange the order of the classes, to move a class from morning to afternoon, or, occasionally, even to a different day. We will keep any changes to a minimum and only make them where necessary.

NOTIFICATIONS: Notifications will be by email only. Performers will be **given approximately two weeks' notice before the Festival** of the class start time of their competition.

FULL ATTENDANCE OF CLASS ENCOURAGED: Entrants are strongly encouraged to attend their entire class, from start to finish. Doing so not only supports fellow musicians and enhances the shared festival experience. It also allows performers to listen to the adjudication, gaining valuable feedback and insight from each performance.

Entrants may not enter both Junior and Youth classes on the same instrument.

TIME LIMITS: Time limits for each class are given and must be observed. The time limit includes the whole performance. A performance exceeding the time limit will be marked and adjudicated, but will not be eligible for a first prize or trophy. Performances may be stopped if they grossly exceed the time limit.

COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS (PIANO ACCOMPANISTS): Entrants must provide their own pianist (accompanist) if their chosen pieces require piano accompaniment. (No backing tracks).

Teachers or parents who play the piano are welcome to accompany their own pupils or children respectively.

If you do not have a pianist, please contact one of the highly experienced pianists listed below as soon as possible to arrange rehearsals before the Festival.

Jon Booth: 07860 472398 / jonzbooth@gmail.com

Festival availability: Jon is available for Festival classes on Sat 20th/Sun 21st, (not Friday 19th March).

Maria Levandovskaya: 07763 665107 / laveleva@gmail.com

Festival availability: Maria is available on all three Festival days; on Saturday 20th only from 2.30pm onwards. There are not enough warm-up rooms to accommodate rehearsals during the Festival.

It is the responsibility of the performer, their parent(s) or their teacher to contact the pianist directly to make all arrangements regarding

- fees and payment
- rehearsal dates and times
- providing the pianist with the piano part for all pieces
- giving the pianist at least two weeks' notice (ideally more)

Please do not arrive at the Festival without having arranged a pianist in advance. Pianists cannot be expected to accompany performers without prior notice. Exception: If your pianist has to cancel at short notice, please contact the Secretary immediately. We will then try to find another pianist, but this cannot be guaranteed.

SHEET MUSIC: An original copy of the music must be provided for the adjudicator on the day of the competition. A photocopy may be made for the use of the adjudicator provided that the competitor has already purchased their own copy. The photocopy will be retained and destroyed by the Section Secretary immediately after the event. Legally purchased sheet music downloads and legal IMSLP copies are permitted.

SPECIFYING PIECES: You may enter with “TBC” (to be confirmed), if the pieces to be performed are not yet known at the time of entry. However, the **full titles of all pieces, movements and the composers must be confirmed and submitted no later than 15 January 2027**. This is compulsory, so that the Festival organisers can check that the chosen repertoire is suitable for the class entered. You can amend the details on Play& Perform or email the secretary.

DRESS CODE: Whilst the Festival does not have an official dress code, competitors are reminded that dress should be appropriate for a platform or concert performance.

DUPLICATION OF PIECES: The same piece may not be performed in more than one class. However, different movements from the same work may be performed. Please always state the movement clearly on the entry form.

GRADE STANDARDS: Where a grade standard is specified, this refers to the standard of the performer. All music chosen must be appropriate to that standard. Any performer who is clearly in an inappropriate class may be moved to the correct class at the sole discretion of the adjudicator. For the ensemble classes we ask that ensembles follow the spirit of the rules – any questions should be addressed to the Instrumental Secretary.

CUPS: Entrants must compete in at least two classes to be eligible for the major cups, which are awarded across several classes.

Engraving: The recipient is responsible for having the cup engraved, if they wish to do so. The Festival does not arrange or pay for engraving. Please contact an engraver of your choice (search online for local engravers).

Returning cups: Cups won in 2026 must be returned to the Festival by **1 February 2027 at the latest**, clean and polished. Please contact the Festival Secretary for details of how and where to return them.

ENSEMBLES

- Any style of music: classical, jazz, rock etc.
- Ensembles and Friends and Family groups may have an adult/professional piano accompanist and/or a conductor.
- Ensembles (101,102,103) may be any combination of instruments, three or more players. One or more movements (as long as they fit into the time limit).
- Friends and Family (105) is any group which includes at least two members of the same family or close friends. Any instruments, any style, any age (school age, adult amateurs). One piece or movement.
- Names of all performers, instruments and style of music to be stated on the entry form.
- Performers may enter the same class in different groups. Classes may be divided by music style.

Class	Class Title	Standard	Time Limit	Fee	Trophy/award
101	Beginner Ensemble	Grade 3 and below	5 mins	£18 per group	Pringle Cup
102	Intermediate Ensemble	Grade 6 and below	7 mins		Ensemble cup
103	Advanced Ensemble	Grade 7 and above	10 mins		Shield
105	Friends and Family	Any	5 mins	£12	Silver Salver

SOLO CLASSES

- Open to ALL string, wind and brass instruments (including guitar, harp and recorder). (Note: For piano solo you need to enter the separate piano section.)
- Players may enter the same class multiple times on instruments from different categories (string, wind or brass).
- Players **may not** enter any class on multiple instruments in the same category.
- They may, however, enter different classes on different instruments.
- **One piece or one movement ONLY, with or without accompaniment.**
- If the piece does have a piano accompaniment, then it should be performed with it. Performers must provide their own piano accompanist or contact one of the above pianists in good time.
- If time limits are insufficient for the age stated, performers should be entered in the next age group up with the appropriate time limit.
- Entrants may **not** enter both Junior and Youth classes on the same instrument.

ABSOLUTE BEGINNER CLASS

This is for performers of any school age. The performer must not have studied ANY instrument for more than one year to be eligible for this class.

Class	Class Title	Standard	Time Limit	Fee
108	Absolute Beginner		3 mins	£6

JUNIOR SOLO CLASSES

These are for performers in School Year 6 and below.

Class	Class Title	Standard	Time Limit	Fee
110	Beginner	Grade 3 and below	3 mins	£6
111	Intermediate	Grade 5 and below	5 mins	£9
112	Advanced	Grade 6 and above	7 mins	£12

YOUTH SOLO CLASSES

These are for performers in School Year 9 and below.

Class	Class Title	Standard	Time Limit	Fee
120	Beginner	Grade 4 and below	3 mins	£6
121	Intermediate	Grade 6 and below	5 mins	£9
122	Advanced	Grade 7 and above	7 mins	£12

SENIOR SOLO CLASSES

These are for performers in School Year 10 and above.

Class	Class Title	Standard	Time Limit	Fee
130	Beginner	Grade 4 and below	3 mins	£6
131	Intermediate	Grade 7 and below	5 mins	£9
132	Advanced	Grade 8 and above	7 mins	£12

CONCERTO CLASSES

- **One movement only**, which **must be from a concerto or concertino**, or a standalone **concert piece**.
- Performers must provide their own piano accompanist or contact one of the above pianists in good time.
- **If you're unsure whether a piece is suitable for the concerto class, please contact the Instrumental Secretary by 15th January 2027 at the latest.**

Class	Class Title	Age	Time Limit	Fee
140	Junior	School Year 6 and below	6 mins	£12
141	Youth	School Year 9 and below	8 mins	£15
142	Senior	School Year 10 and above	10 mins	£18

MUSICAL VERSATILITY CLASS

Class	Class Title	Age	Time limit	Fee
150	Musical Versatility*	Any school age	10 minutes total performance time	£9

This class is for performers of any school age. Players to perform on at least two different instruments (wind, brass, strings, voice, piano, guitar, harp, recorder), within the total performance time of 10 minutes. Any style. The same piece may not be performed in a different class or section.

RECITAL CLASSES

Open to all string, wind, brass and percussion instruments including harp and guitar.

- Time limits should be calculated as 'total performance time' including breaks between items.
- Credit will be given for choice of programme, which **must include two or more contrasting pieces**, and **may include sonata, sonatina or suite movements or character pieces**.
- **Note that concertos (any piece with the name concerto, concert piece or concertino in the title) are not permitted in the recital classes.**
- If a piece has a piano accompaniment, then it should be performed with it. Performers must provide their own piano accompanist or contact one of the above pianists in good time.
- **If you're unsure whether pieces are suitable for the recital class, please contact the Instrumental Secretary by 15th January 2027 at the latest**

For **harp entrants**, the Hugo von Sydow Memorial Junior Harp Cup presented by Mrs E Seale and the Daphne Boden Memorial Harp Cup may be awarded.

Class	Class Title	Age	Time Limit	Fee
160	Junior	School Year 6 and below	7 mins	£12
161	Youth	School Year 9 and below	11 mins	£15
162	Senior	School Year 10 and above	15 mins	£18

INSTRUMENTAL CUPS and MEDALS TO BE AWARDED 2027

Mixed Class Cups:

Cup/Award	
1. Young instrumentalist of the Year Winner Cyril Kemplay trophy and Award £100	All Wind & Strings
2. Young instrumentalist 2 nd £50 +cup	All Wind & Strings
3. Richmond Borough Cup	Richmond residents
4. Violin solo: Frazer Cup	110-132
5. Viola Plate: presented by Hilary Sturt	All Viola Performers
6. 'Cello solo: 'Cello Cup	110-132
7. Beginner Strings: Pringle cup	108, 110, 120, 130
8. Youth & Senior Harp: Daphne Boden Memorial Cup Presented by Jiyuan Li	Harp performers (Youth & Seniors)
9. Junior Harp: Hugo von Sydow Junior Cup	Harp performers (Juniors)
10. Wind & Brass Cup Youth: Age 15 & under	120-122
11. Wind & Brass cup Junior: Age 12 & under	110-112

Single Class Cups:

12. Ensemble Junior: Pringle Cup	101
13. Intermediate Ensemble Cup	102
14. Advanced Ensemble: Shield	103
15. Musical Versatility: Bostock Cup	150
16. Family and Friends: Silver Salver	105
17. Junior Solo (Advanced class)	112
18. Youth Solo (Advanced class)	122
19. Senior Concerto Cup	142
20. Youth Concerto Cup	141
21. Junior Concerto Cup	140
22. Senior Recital Cup - £20	162
23. Youth Recital Cup	161
24. Junior Recital Cup	160

Medals:

Absolute Beginners	108
Junior Beginner	110
Junior Intermediate	111
Youth Beginner	120
Youth Intermediate	121
Senior Beginner	130
Senior Intermediate	131
Senior Advanced	132