RICHMOND UPON THAMES
PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL 2027

Piano Syllabus 2027

www.richmondfestival.org.uk

SECTION SECRETARY – SUE THORNTON

richmondfestival.piano@gmail.com

Susan Clark Adjudicator

SUSAN CLARK MA(Cantab),MA(OU),ARCM,PgDip(RCM), CT ABRSM,LRSM



Susan started playing the piano at the age of four and attended the Trinity College of Music Junior Department for ten years, studying piano, flute, violin and musicianship. She continued her studies at Cambridge University, gaining a degree in classics, and while there performed extensively both as a soloist and accompanist. After graduating, Susan successfully completed a Postgraduate Diploma in performance at the Royal College of Music and was awarded an MA in musicology by the Open University.

She has appeared as a soloist or accompanist at most of the major London concert venues, including the South Bank, St. John's, Smith Square, Southwark Cathedral and St. Martin in the Fields. She has also played at the Edinburgh and the Aldeburgh Fringe Festivals and various music clubs in the south east and has performed at the Martinu Hall in Prague. In 2003 she performed a Mozart piano concerto with Trinity Orchestra, Harrow and in 2009 appeared with the Lincolnshire Symphony Orchestra playing Chopin's first piano concerto.

Susan has had three articles about teaching techniques published in the Music Teacher magazine and in 2018 wrote and published the book 'Speedy Music Theory'.

She has taught at Harrow School, Eagle House School, Latymer Saturday Music Centre, the Royal Masonic School for Girls and Wellington College. Susan currently holds posts as a visiting teacher of piano at Merchant Taylor's School and Latymer Upper. She examines for the ABRSM in the UK and has completed many examining tours in the Far East including Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and China. She is also an adjudicator member of BIFF and regularly adjudicates at music festivals around the UK.

In her spare time Susan enjoys playing with her Ragdoll cats and is attempting to learn to play the harp.

ENTRY INFORMATION

All enquiries to the Section Secretary, Sue Thornton
Email: **richmondfestival.piano@gmail.com**

Dates:

Friday	26th February (evening)
Saturday	27th February (all day and evening)
Sunday	28th February (afternoon and evening)
Saturday	6th March (all day and evening)

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

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: FRIDAY 15 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 27th February 2027

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry age as at 1st September 2026

A timetable and programme of classes will be produced and every effort 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 piece of music must be provided for the adjudicator. 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. The Adjudicator is 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)

Pianists entering 3 classes or more will be eligible for consideration, these must include a Recital Class and two other 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 - Is awarded to the best performance in Classes 60 – 64. Grades 1-5

The Amy & James Wood Memorial Trophy - Is awarded to the best performance in Classes 65 – 67. Grades 6-8

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

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

Intermediate Recital Cup - Is 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 2026-2027 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** **£11**
Any one Baroque piece, or any two related Baroque movements (e.g. Prelude & Fugue, or two sections of a suite).
Time limit: 5 mins

Class 75 **Junior Haydn, Mozart & Beethoven Solo – 15 years & under** **£11**
One piece or movement by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven
Time limit: 5 mins

Class76 **Junior Modern Solo- 15 years & under** **£9**
One piece or movement written during the 20th or 21st Centuries – any style
Time limit: 5 mins

Class 77 **Junior Challenge Solo – 15 years & under** **£11**
One piece or movement written after 1830
Time limit: 5 mins

Class 78 **Non Classical Music Solo – 15 years & under** **£9**
A piano arrangement of pop songs, musical theatre songs and film music. (must be a published piano solo version)
Time limit: 4 mins

FOR MORE SENIOR PIANISTS

Class 79 **Richmond Residents – 18 years & under Richmond Borough Cup** **£9**

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

Class 80 **Modern Solo – Any Age** **£9**
One piece or movement written since 1920
Time limit: 5 mins

Class 81 **Chopin Solo – Any Age** **£9**
Any one work by Chopin
Time limit: 6 mins

Class 82 **Senior Challenge Solo – 16 years & over** **£12**
Own choice of one piece or movement written before 1900
Time limit: 8 mins

Class 83 **Open Solo – Any Age** **£12**
Own choice. One piece or movement only.
Open to amateur or professional pianists
Time limit: 8 mins

Class 84 **Senior Bach, Beethoven or Brahms – 16 years & over** **£12**
One piece from any ONE of the above
Time limit: 8 mins

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 and will be adhered to.

Class 85	**Junior Recital** **Time limit: 7 mins**	**11 years & under**	**Prize £10**	**£9**
Class 86	**Intermediate Recital** **Time limit: 10 mins**	**15 years & under** **Cup and Richmond Festival Prize of £15**		**£12**
Class 87	**Senior Recital** **Time limit: 15 mins**	**16 years & over**	**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: 10 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**