

GENERAL CONDITIONS
PERCUSSION
BASSOON
STRING QUARTET
ORGAN



75TH ARD
INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC
COMPETITION[®]

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GENERAL CONDITIONS

The 75th ARD International Music Competition 2026 is open for the following categories:

Bassoon
Organ
Percussion
String Quartet

The invitation to participate in this competition is extended to young musicians, who are ready to launch an international career.

The competition is open to musicians of all nations
-in the categories bassoon, organ and percussion born between 1997 and 2009
-in the category String Quartet: total age maximum 120;
single members neither younger than 17 nor older than 35.

The competition will be conducted during the period from August 30 to September 18, 2026 (including the prizewinners' concerts).
All auditions are open to the public.

Deadline for registration: March 27, 2026

ORGANIZERS

The 75th ARD International Music Competition 2026 is presented by the Association of Public Broadcasting Corporations in the Federal Republic of Germany (ARD).

Bayerischer Rundfunk – Munich
Hessischer Rundfunk – Frankfurt/Main
Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk – Leipzig
Norddeutscher Rundfunk – Hamburg
Radio Bremen
Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg – Berlin/Potsdam
Saarländischer Rundfunk – Saarbrücken
Südwestrundfunk – Stuttgart/Baden-Baden
Westdeutscher Rundfunk – Cologne
Deutsche Welle – Bonn/Berlin
Deutschlandradio – Berlin/Cologne

Member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions, Geneva

Member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation

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KULTUR-
STIFTUNG

SIEMENS

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PRIZES

Bassoon

First Prize	€ 15,000
Second Prize	€ 10,000
Third Prize	€ 5,000

Organ

First Prize	€ 15,000
Second Prize	€ 10,000
Third Prize	€ 5,000

Percussion

First Prize	€ 15,000
Second Prize	€ 10,000
Third Prize	€ 5,000

String Quartet

First Prize	€ 30,000
Second Prize	€ 24,000
Third Prize	€ 18,000

The Prizewinners will be determined by the jury.

SPECIAL PRIZES

Audience Prizes

Audience Prizes totaling € 8.000, made possible by the Theodor-Rogler-Foundation as well as the Erika-and-Georg-Dietrich-Foundation, will be awarded in the final round as follows:

- ▶ Bassoon in the amount of € 2.000
- ▶ Organ in the amount of € 2.000
- ▶ Percussion in the amount of € 2.000
- ▶ String Quartet in the amount of € 2.000

Special Prizes for the best interpretation of a commissioned composition

Special Prizes totaling € 4.000 for the best interpretation of the commissioned compositions, made possible by the Alice Rosner Foundation, will be awarded in the category:

- ▶ Bassoon for the composition by Nina Šenk in the amount of € 1.000
- ▶ Organ for the composition by Enjott Schneider in the amount of € 1.000
- ▶ Percussion for the composition by Bryce Dessner in the amount of € 1.000
- ▶ String Quartet for the composition by Camille Pépin in the amount of € 1.000

Special Prize of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra

The special prize of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra in the amount of € 4,000, donated and presented by the Association of Friends of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, is awarded by the orchestra members for an outstanding interpretation by a finalist. This is linked to participation in a BRSO project.

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Special Prize of the Munich Chamber Orchestra

The Special Prize from the Munich Chamber Orchestra totaling € 1.000 will be awarded by the members of the Munich Chamber Orchestra for an outstanding interpretation by a semi-finalist in the category bassoon.

Busch Brothers Prize

The Busch Brothers Circle awards the Busch Brothers Prize in the amount of € 4.000 – in collaboration with the South Westphalian Philharmonic – to an outstanding finalist. It is linked to a concert appearance at the Busch Brothers Circle and potential subsequent concerts with the South Westphalian Philharmonic.

Henle Urtext Prize

The publishing house G. Henle Verlag is awarding special prizes in the string quartet category with a total value of € 6.000 in the form of non-cash and cash prizes.

Special Prize GENUIN classics

GENUIN classics awards a Dolby Atmos production with worldwide release to one of the prizewinners – total value 12.000€.

ARD Klassik Media Prize

The ARD Klassik Media Prize will be awarded to a finalist. A high-quality media production for the ARD Mediathek or the ARD Klassik Social Media channels awaits the winner.

Your choice – Online Prize of the Streaming Audience

The program division BR-KLASSIK of the Bayerischer Rundfunk awards the Your choice prize in the amount of € 1.000 for the winner of the online voting during the final rounds.

Special Prize SWEET SPOT

The Special Prize SWEET SPOT totaling € 2.000, underwritten by the Dr.-Marianne-Kunkel-Fund, will be awarded by the BR-KLASSIK young people's program "SWEET SPOT. Curious about Music" for an outstanding performance by a very young participant.

Alice-Rosner-Prize

The Alice Rosner Foundation awards the Alice-Rosner-Prize in the amount of € 1.000 for the best interpretation of a 20th century work.

Special Prize Schwarzwald Music Festival

The Schwarzwald Music Festival awards a special prize in the amount of € 1.500 to an outstanding finalist. The special prize includes the festival's closing concert on Whit Monday in the Christuskirche in Mitteltal, in collaboration with premium partner Hotel Bareiss, followed by a musical culinary experience.

Special Prize "Podium for young Soloists"

Tegernsee

The Special Prize "Podium for young Soloists", made possible by the "Friends of young Musicians" e. V. Tegernsee, in the amount of € 1.000 goes to a young semifinalist who is not awarded one of the main prizes.

Special Prize Mozart Society Munich

The Mozart Society Munich e. V. is awarding a special prize in the amount of € 1.000 to a semifinalist.

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Special prize GEWA

The GEWA music GmbH awards a special prize to all main prizewinners of the string quartet category in the form of instrument cases.

Special prize Atelier Marillon

The dressmaker's studio Marillon, which is focussed on the fabrication of concert clothes for musicians, is awarding a special prize to a prizewinner for the production of an individual stage outfit in the amount of € 1.300.

Special prize Klangerlebnis „Tölz Winners' Summit“

The Klangerlebnis e. V. association, organizer of the TÖLZ WINNERS' SUMMIT festival, is awarding a special prize in the amount of 1.500 € to the winner of the string quartet category. The special prize includes a concert at the Kurhaus Bad Tölz as part of the TÖLZ WINNERS' SUMMIT festival in January 2027, which is under the patronage of the city of Bad Tölz.

String quartet tour

The first prize winners of the string quartet category will be part of a tour from March 4 to 22, 2027.

String quartets that take part in the competition comply with this engagement in case they win the first prize.

By applying for the competition the quartets state they will be free for the tour organized by Impresariat Simmenauer GmbH – irrespective of the quartet's current or future Management.

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CONCERT INVITATIONS

Prizewinners may be invited to give concerts or make recordings.

BROADCAST APPEARANCE

Prizewinners will receive invitations from ARD broadcasters to perform concerts or make recordings under the usual radio conditions.

FURTHER CONCERT ENGAGEMENTS

Concert engagements may be offered by the following institutions:

Audi Sommerkonzerte
 Auditorium du Louvre
 Bayerisches Kammerorchester
 Bad Brückenau
 Bell'Arte München
 BOZAR MUSIC, Brüssel
 Brunnthaler Konzerte
 Burghofspiele Rheingau
 Camerata Andechs
 Central European Music Festival Žilina
 Chor des Bayerischen Rundfunks
 Ciconia Consort – The Hague String Orchestra
 Classix Kempten
 Collegium Musicum Basel
 Davos Festival
 Euregio Musikfestival
 Februari Festival Den Haag
 Festival Classic Oberfinning
 Festival der Nationen, Bad Wörishofen
 Festival EuroArt Praha
 Festival Internazionale di Musica da Camera di Cervo
 Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
 Folkwang Kammerorchester Essen

Frankfurter Museums-Gesellschaft
 Freunde der Musik Landshut
 Frühlings-Festival „Spielende Insel“, Rügen
 Gebrüder-Busch-Kreis
 H. E. Steinway-Festival, Wolfshagen
 Heidelberger Frühling
 Hofer Symphoniker
 Inselfestival Hombroich
 InselKonzerte – Kammermusik
 Auf Herrenchiemsee
 International Festival of Young Music
 Competition Laureates Katowice
 Internationales Musikfestival Český Krumlov
 Junges Podium Altrip
 Juventudes musicales de España
 Kaisersaalkonzerte Frankfurt/Main
 Kammermusik-Festival Liesborner Konzerte
 Kammermusik-Gemeinde Hannover
 Kammermusikalische Vereinigung – Städtischer Musikverein Trier
 Kirchbergforum Hessen
 Kissinger Sommer
 Klavier-Festival Ruhr
 Koninklijke Souvenir des Montagnards – Kamermuziek Tilburg
 Konzerte auf Henkellsfeld, Wiesbaden
 Konzerte im Deutschen Elfenbeinmuseum Erbach
 Konzerte im Schloss Illertissen
 Konzertgesellschaft Wuppertal
 KonzertGut Rittergut Lucklum
 Konzerthaus Berlin
 Kulturamt der Stadt Marl
 Kulturdienst Weimar
 Kulturvverein Zorneding-Baldham
 Kunstfreunde Bensheim
 Kurpfälzisches Kammerorchester
 Leitheimer Schlosskonzerte
 Lions Club Schwäbisch Gmünd

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Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele	
Meisterkonzerte im Alten Bahnhof Kettwig	
Meistersolisten im Isartal, Icking	
Meister von morgen, Herdecke	
Mosel Musikfestival	
Mozart-Gesellschaft Dortmund	
Münchener Kammerorchester	
Münchner Konzertdirektion Hörnagel	
Münchner Rundfunkorchester	
Münchner Symphoniker	
Musical Olympus International Festival of St. Petersburg	
Musik und Sprache Hessenbrückenhühn	
Musik & Theater Saar	
Musikverein Bamberg	
Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie	
Nymphenburger Sommer	
Öschberghof Klassik Donaueschingen	
Osnabrücker Symphonieorchester	
Philharmonie Merck, Darmstadt	
Philharmonie Südwestfalen	
Philharmonisches Orchester Freiburg	
Philharmonisches Orchester Kronstadt, Rumänien	
Podium für junge Solisten Schloss Tegernsee	
Rheingau Musik Festival	
Salzburger Kulturvereinigung	
Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival	
Schleswig-Holsteinisches Landestheater und Sinfonieorchester	
Schlosskonzerte Mannheim	
Schlosstheater Fulda	
Schwarzwald Musikfestival	
Schweizer Musikfestwochen	
Schweizerische SWR Festspiele	
Squire Artists	
Steinway Prizewinners Concerts	
Stiftung Mozarteum Salzburg	
Südwestdeutsches Kammerorchester Pforzheim	

Symphonieorchester „Wilde Gungl“ München	
Theaterforum – Klassikforum Gauting	
Ticino Musica, Locarno	
Tiroler Festspiele Erl	
Tonhalle Düsseldorf	
Tonicale Musik & Event, München	
Vaterstettener Rathauskonzerte	
Weilburger Schlosskonzerte	
Weingartner Musiktage Junger Künstler	
Wetzlarer Kulturgemeinschaft	
Wiener KammerOrchester	
Winners & Masters/Kulturtreis Gasteig, München	
Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen	
Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn	
Wurzer Sommerkonzerte	
ZeughausKonzerte Neuss	

Concert managers, concert agencies and representatives of the music industry will be invited to the final rounds and the prizewinners' concerts.

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CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Application deadline: March 27, 2026

For more information about the application's process, please see www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de (from February on).

Application

Online application starting from mid-February at:

www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de

The following documents must be enclosed:

- online application form
- scan of passport or identity card
- artistic curriculum vitae **in continuous text** (ready for publishing)
- high resolution portrait photograph (jpg file) of the applicant, **which will be published** – black & white or color (without copyright).
- in case of students: approval of the teacher
- digital **VIDEO** recording(s):

mp4 or mov file, size max. 900 MB

The music in the video recording may not be edited, may not be processed and may not be older than one year (the works required for the preselection can be found in the repertoire conditions).

-The video recordings must show both the face and hands at the same time—for organists, the face, hands, and feet.

-declaration form signed by the recording studio/engineer (or candidate in case he/she is recording themselves) – form download at www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de

-proof of payment of the registration fee in the amount of € 60. Bank details:

Bank: Hypovereinsbank München (UniCredit)

account holder: Bayerischer Rundfunk

purpose: *candidate's name/IMW 2026/11850040*

BIC (Swift Code): HYVEDEMMXXX

IBAN-Number: DE22 7002 0270 0000 0816 13

Only complete applications will be accepted!

Admission

Once the selection has been made, the decision of the pre-selection jury on admission to the competition will be released by **June 15, 2026** at the latest. Its decisions are final and incontestable. No explanations will be provided.

The chosen competitors will receive written notification of their selection. Competitors from abroad can, if necessary, use this confirmation to apply for an entry visa.

Recognition of Conditions

With the application for the competition the participant acknowledges acceptance of the participation and competition conditions as well as the decision of the pre-selection jury and the competition jury as binding.

There is no right of appeal.

Participation is only possible in one of the competition categories.

Applications that do not meet the requirements of the competition can be rejected.

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Participation Fee

Following receipt of the admission confirmation, the participation fee of € 150 for soloists/€ 300 for string quartets must be transferred “free of bank charges for the recipient” at the latest by July 31, 2026. This participation fee cannot be refunded in case the candidate withdraws from participation.

Jury

The juries will be selected from among personalities with international reputations without regard to ethnic, ideological, political or linguistic considerations. The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.

Student of a Jury Member

If there is a student of a jury member among the participants, this jury member may not take part in the appraisal of this competitor.

Jury members are not allowed to teach their students during the competition itself, otherwise the student, the jury member, or both may be disqualified. To this end, a student is defined as someone who studied with a jury member for a lengthy and continuous period, and such study was completed less than three years before the beginning of the competition. Participation in master classes is not affected if the master class participation did not take place in the current competition year from April 2026.

Competition Rounds

Four competition rounds are mandatory for bassoon, percussion and string quartet; three rounds in the organ category.

The semi-final bassoon will be accompanied by the Munich Chamber Orchestra without conductor. A maximum of six candidates/ensembles in each category will be admitted to

the semifinals. The final rounds bassoon, organ and percussion will be accompanied by the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks led by a conductor. A maximum of three soloists/ensembles will be admitted to the final rounds.

First Audition Date

All participants will receive notification of the scheduled date of their first audition – along with the admission to the competition – by email.

Competition Program

The following repertoire listings and the conditions therein contained are binding for the competition program.

The competition program submitted by the competitors is binding. **Subsequent alterations are not permitted.**

No works in the competition program may be repeated except on the express wish of the jury or if it is explicitly written in the repertoire list in this document. The sequence of performance of the pieces in the first and second round is at the participant's discretion. If possible, original text editions should be performed.

Participants will not be allowed to perform their own compositions. In certain cases, the jury may allow only selections of individual works to be performed in the first two competition rounds or may select works from the submitted repertoire.

Piano Accompanists

Official piano accompanists are available at no charge to the competitors of the bassoon category.

Participants may bring along their personal accompanist at their own expense.

The pianos and orchestra are tuned to A 886 (443 Hz).

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PRESENCE

Each participant must register personally at the central competition office in the Bayerischer Rundfunk at least one day before his/her first audition and show his or her passport, ID card or officially recognized birth certificate. No active participant in the competition should leave Munich without the express approval of the competition management (prize winners may first depart on September 19, 2026). Each participant accepts the obligation to remain free of all professional obligations or concerts throughout the duration of the competition.

ACCOMMODATION

For the duration of the first round, reasonably priced hotels will be recommended to the participants. All competitors who reach the second round will be provided by the competition management with the accommodation in hotel rooms booked by the competition office and meal vouchers from the first day of the second round on for the duration of their further participation in the audition process (Participants bassoon from 5th, participants organ from 2nd, participants percussion and string quartet from 7th of September). Semifinalists will be guests of the competition until the final rounds, winners until the day after the last prizewinners' concert. This does not apply to piano accompanists or other companions.

PRIZE WINNERS

Prize Winners' Concerts

At the prizewinners' concerts, chamber music works and works for soloists with orchestral accompaniment will be performed. The decisions regarding the program and at which concert specific participants will perform will be made by the competition management in conjunction with the jury and the music department of Bayerischer Rundfunk. Prizewinners will receive no fee for their participation in the prizewinners' concerts.

Awards Ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place after the last prize winners' concert.

Competitors will be expected to receive their certificates in person.

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MEDIA EXPLOITATION

The Competition, including the prize winners' concerts, will be recorded by Bayerischer Rundfunk. These recordings can be used for broadcasting (radio or television, including online) in full and/or in selections, live or at a later time, and also provided for individual access independent of the type of receiver and also be made publicly available. Other broadcasters in Germany and abroad can make use of these recordings simultaneously or at a later time. Further use of our broadcasts and availabilities regardless of time and place (in full, in part or in selections) are possible.

The administration of the Competition reserves the right to use the recordings of the Competition rounds and prize winners' concerts for the production of a CD and/or a DVD to serve as publicity for the prize winners and documentation of the Competition.

The administration of the Competition further reserves the right to release or have released, and/or distribute or have distributed, itself or through third parties, commercially or non-commercially, any and all material from the Competition in audio or audio-visual form, on analogue or digital sound/image/sound-image data carriers including platforms, regardless of format or process.

The declaration of agreement required from the prize winners is regarded as given with the application to the ARD Music Competition; the same applies to the transfer of rights in accordance with the aforementioned stipulations. The prize winners have no claim to additional compensation of any kind.

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BASSOON

Pre-selection

- a) J. S. Bach, Partita BWV 1013 arranged for bassoon solo
- b) Franz Berwald, Concert piece op. 2

Pieces and movements can be recorded separately – maximum 5 file uploads possible.

The works from no. 6 and 9 have to be performed from memory.

First round

1. One of the following works:

Ferdinand David, Concertino B flat major op. 12
Johann Wenzel Kalliwoda, Variations and Rondo op. 57
Conradin Kreutzer, Variations B flat major
Carl Maria von Weber, Andante e Rondo Ungarese op. 35

2. One of the following concertos:

Marcel Bitsch, Concertino
Roger Boutry, Interférences I
Henri Dutilleux, Sarabande et Cortège
Jacqueline Fontyn: Zephyr
Charles Koechlin, Sonata op. 71
Francisco Mignone, Concertino
Kees Olthuis, Toccata
Heitor Villa-Lobos, Ciranda das Sete Notas

Second round

3. One of the following sonatas:

François Devienne, Sonata op. 24 or
Sonata without opus number
Georg Phillip Telemann, Sonata F minor TWV 41:f1
(with cembalo accompaniment)

4. One of the following works:

Camille Saint-Saëns, Sonata op. 168
Robert Schumann, Fantasy Pieces op. 73
Robert Schumann, Five Pieces in Folk Style op. 102
Antonio Torriani, Divertimento on themes from Donizetti's
„Lucia di Lammermoor“

5. One of the following works:

Dai Fujikura, Calling
María de Frutos, Équilibre (scores can be ordered by email to info@afoes.es)
Liza Lim, Axis Mundi
Olga Neuwirth, Torsion
Gotthard Odermatt, Five Miniatures op. 20 (scores can be ordered here: gotthardodermatt.ch)
Andrés Felipe Poveda, Figuras (scores can be ordered by email to: andrespoveda@escuelareinasofia.es)
Johannes Maria Staud, Celluloid
Isang Yun, Monologue

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Semifinal with the Münchener Kammerorchester (without conductor)

6. One of the following concertos by Antonio Vivaldi:
Nr. 1 RV 501, B flat major (La Notte)
Nr. 2 RV 498, A minor
Nr. 5 RV 481, D minor
Nr. 11 RV 496, G minor
Nr. 18 RV 467, C major
Nr. 19 RV 488, F major
Nr. 21 RV 475, C major
Nr. 27 RV 483, E flat major
Nr. 29 RV 492, G major
Nr. 32 RV 490, F major
7. Jean Françaix, Concert (Ed. Schott)
8. Nina Šenk, Composition commissioned by
ARD International Music Competition 2026
(World premiere)
*The sheet music will be supplied along with the admission
to the competition. The commissioned piece may not be
publicly performed prior to the competition.*

Final with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks

9. One of the following works:

W. A. Mozart Konzert B-Dur KV 191 (Ed. Bärenreiter)
Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Konzert F-Dur (Ed. Vita Musica)
Carl Maria von Weber, Konzert F-Dur op. 75 (Ed. Breitkopf)

Jury Bassoon

Gustavo Núñez, Uruguay, Chairman
Sophie Dervaux, France
Krisztina Faludy, Austria
Andrea Merenzon, Argentina
Maria José Rielo Blanco, Spain
Johannes Schwarz, Germany
Eyal Streett, Israel

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ORGAN

Pre-selection

- a) Joh. Seb. Bach, Toccata, Adagio und Fuge C-Dur, BWV 564
- b) W. A. Mozart, Adagio und Allegro für ein Orgelwerk in einer Uhr f-Moll, KV 594

Pieces and movements can be recorded as separate tracks.
Up to 5 file uploads are possible.

First round

a) On the West Organ of the music academy (maximum 25 minutes)

- 1. One of the following works:
Dietrich Buxtehude, Toccata for organ D minor,
BuxWV 155
Dietrich Buxtehude, Toccata for organ F major,
BuxWV 156
Nicolaus Bruhns, Prelude for organ E minor (big)
Nicolaus Bruhns, Prelude for organ G major

- 2. One of the following works:
Francois Couperin, Tierce en Taille aus Livres
d'orgue:
I: Messe à l'usage ordinaire des paroisses pour les
festes solennelles

or

- II: Messe pour les convents de religieux et de
religieuses
Nicolas de Grigny, Récit de tierce en taille
aus Livre d'orgue

- 3. Johann Sebastian Bach,

A slow and a fast movement from:
Trio sonata for organ nr. 5 C major, BWV 529
or
Trio sonata for organ nr. 6 G major, BWV 530

b) On the Kuhn Organ of the music academy (maximum 25 minutes)

- 4. Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Variations serieuses
D minor, op. 54
- 5. A work of your choice composed after 1970

Semifinal

c) On the Rieger Organ of church St. Michael (approximately 40 minutes)

- 6. One or more freely chosen work(s) (no
improvisation!); duration 30 minutes
- 7. Enjott Schneider, Composition commissioned by
ARD International Music Competition 2026 (World
premiere)
*The sheet music will be supplied along with the admission
to the competition. The commissioned piece may not be
publicly performed prior to the competition.*

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Final with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks

8. Francis Poulenc, Concert for organ, strings and timpani in G minor, FP 93 (ed. Salabert)

9. A romantic or contemporary piece or arrangement for organ solo, no longer than 15 minutes

For details on the organs, see separate document at
www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de

Jury Organ

*Andres Uibo, Estonia, Chairman
Sophie-Véronique Cauchefier-Choplin, France
Thierry Escaich, France
Zuzana Ferjencikova, Slovakia
Peter Kofler, Germany/Italy
Gianluca Libertucci, Italy
Kimberly Marshall, USA*

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PERCUSSION

Pre-selection

- a) Johann Sebastian Bach/Johannes Brahms, Chaconne from: Partita for violin in D minor, BWV 1004 for the left hand (marimba solo); only first part up to bar 133 (beginning of the D major part).
- b) A piece of your choice (not for mallet!) that may not be repeated in the competition

The pieces can be recorded separately.
2 file uploads are possible.

First round (maximum 25 minutes)

1. Iannis Xenakis, Rebonds b*
2. Eines der folgenden Werke für Marimba Solo:
Kalevi Aho, Solo XV
Michael Jarrell, Entlehnungen
Bruno Mantovani, Moi, jeu
Joseph Schwantner, Velocities
Andrew Thomas, Merlin
3. Eines der folgenden Werke für Snare Drum Solo:
Casey Cangelosi, Meditation Nr. 2
Michael Colgrass, Six Unaccompanied Solos for Snare Drum
(Auswahl einzelner Sätze)
Alexej Gerassimez, Asventuras
Dan Heslink, Theme and Variations
Askell Masson, Prim

Second round (45 minutes maximum)

4. Pit Dahm, Exorcism for timpani solo (scores can be ordered by email to pitdahmmusic@gmail.com)
5. One of the following works for vibraphon:
Franco Donatoni, Omar
Bruce Hamilton, Interzones
Philippe Manoury, Le livre des claviers IV
Arnold Marinissen, Le Temps Inhabitable
6. One of the following works for „Theatrical Percussion“:
Georges Aperghis, Graffitis
Georges Aperghis, Le Corps a Corps
Peter Eötvös, Memoriam Frank Zappa new Psalm 151
(Selection of movements)
Vinko Globokar, Toucher
Vinko Globokar, Corporel
Compagnie Kahlua, Ceci n'est pas une balle
Francois Sarhan, Homework
7. Bryce Dessner, Composition commissioned by ARD International Music Competition 2026 (World premiere)
The sheet music will be supplied along with the admission to the competition. The commissioned piece may not be publicly performed prior to the competition.

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Semifinal (30 minutes maximum)

8. One of the following works for set-up:
Brian Ferneyhough, Bone Alphabet
Maki Ishii, Thirteen Drums
Helmut Lachenmann, Interieur
David Lang, The Anvil Chorus
Kevin Volans, She Who sleeps with a small blanket
Iannis Xenakis, Psappha

9. Béla Bartók, Sonata for 2 pianos and percussion,
Sz 110 - Marimba Part (scores will be sent to
applicants).
Piano: NN
Marimba 1: Candidat
Marimba 2: NN
Drum set: NN
Timpani: NN

Final with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks

10. Friedrich Cerha, Concerto for percussion and
orchestra*

11. A freely chosen piece for a single instrument;
duration 3 minutes maximum

* Setups and instruments see separate document at
www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de

Jury Percussion

*Martin Grubinger, Austria, Chairman
Camille Baslé, Frankreich
Johannes Fischer, Germany
Sanja Fister, Croatia
Timothy Genis, USA
Marta Klimasara, Germany/Poland
Vassilena Serafimova, Bulgaria*

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STRING QUARTET

Pre-selection

- a) The first movement from one of the 6 string quartets op. 18 by Ludwig van Beethoven
- b) Two contrasting movements from a string quartet of your choice, or an entire piece from another stylistic period than in a) if no individual movements are available (duration 10 to max. 25 minutes)

Movements/ pieces can be recorded separately.
Up to 3 file uploads are possible.

First round (maximum 40 minutes)

1. One of the following string quartets:

Joseph Haydn, op. 20, op. 33, op. 50, op. 64 (except no. 1 and no. 3), op. 74, op. 76 (except no. 3)
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, KV 80, KV 158, KV 168, KV 169, KV 171, KV 387, KV 421, KV 428, KV 458, KV 464, KV 465, KV 499, KV 575, KV 589, KV 590

2. One of the following works:

Amy Beach, string quartet in one movement, op. 89
Benjamin Britten, no. 1 op. 25
Rebecca Clarke, Two movements for string quartet
Henri Dutilleux, Ainsi la nuit
Alberto Ginastera, no. 2, op. 26
Paul Hindemith, op. 22
Leoš Janáček, no. 1 (Kreutzer Sonata)
or no. 2 (Intimate Letters)
Dmitrij Schostakowitsch, no. 4 or no. 6 or no. 9 or no. 10 or no. 11 or no. 13
Karol Szymanowski, no. 1 op. 37 or no. 2 op. 56
Anton Webern, op. 5 or op. 9 or op. 28

Second round (approximately 50 minutes)

3. One of the following works:

Johannes Brahms, no. 1 or no. 2 or no. 3
Antonin Dvorak, op. 96 or op. 105 or op. 106
Edvard Grieg, G minor, op. 27
Fanny Hensel, E flat major
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, op. 12 or op. 13 or op. 44 or op. 80
Robert Schumann, no. 1 or no. 2 or no. 3
Bedrich Smetana, no. 1 (From my life) or no. 2 D minor

4. One of the following works:

Luciano Berio, Notturno
Elliott Carter, no. 2 or no. 3 or no. 4 or no. 5
Franco Donatoni, La souris sans sourire
Pascal Dusapin, String quartet no. 3 or no. 4 or no. 5
Sofia Gubaidulina: String quartet no. 3
Konstantia Gourzi, Anajikon. The Angel in the blue garden, op. 61
Hans Werner Henze, String quartet no. 1 or no. 2 or no. 3 or no. 5
György Kurtág, Officium breve
Helmut Lachenmann, String quartet no. 3
Wolfgang Rihm, no. 4 or no. 9
Jörg Widmann, String quartet no. 1 or no. 2 or no. 3 or no. 4
Julia Wolfe, Dig Deep

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Semifinal (approximately 50 minutes)

5. Franz Schubert, String Quartet in C minor, D 703
6. Pēteris Vasks, one of the 6 String Quartets
7. Camille Pépin, Composition commissioned by ARD International Music Competition 2026 (World premiere)
The sheet music will be supplied along with the admission to the competition. The commissioned piece may not be publicly performed prior to the competition.

Final

8. One of the following works:
Ludwig van Beethoven, op. 59 or op. 127 or op. 130 or op. 131
or op. 132
- Franz Schubert, no. 13 A minor D 804, or no. 14 D minor D 810, or no. 15 G major D 887
9. A string quartet by Béla Bartók

Jury String Quartet

Vineta Sareika, Germany/Latvia, Chairwoman
Pierre Colombe, France
Veronika Hagen, Austria
François Kieffer, France
Asbjørn Nørgaard, Denmark
Arnau Tomàs Realp, Spain
Pawel Zalejski, Poland

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SCHEDULE 2026

Bassoon

Wednesday, September 2: beginning of the 1st round
Saturday, September 5: beginning of the 2nd round
Tuesday, September 8: Semifinal
Friday, September 11: Final

Organ

Sunday, August 30: beginning of the 1st round
Friday, September 4 and Saturday, September 5: Semifinal
Wednesday, September 9: Final

Percussion

Friday, September 4: beginning of the 1st round
Monday, September 7: beginning of the 2nd round
Thursday, September 10: Semifinal
Sunday, September 13: Final

String Quartet

Friday, September 4: beginning of the 1st round
Monday, September 7: beginning of the 2nd round
Thursday, September 10: Semifinal
Saturday, September 12: Final

PRIZE WINNERS' CONCERTS

Chamber Concert

Wednesday, September 16, 8 p.m.

Concert with the Münchener Kammerorchester

Thursday, September 17, 8 p.m.

Concert with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks

Friday, September 18, 8 p.m.

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HONORARY COMMITTEE

Markus Blume	Bavarian State Minister of Science and the Arts
Brigitte Fassbaender	Singer and Director
Dr. Thomas Goppel	Honorary President of the Bavarian Music Council
Dr. Winrich Hopp	Artistic Director of "musica viva" at Bayerischer Rundfunk
Antje Valentin	Secretary General of the German Music Council
Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert	Former President of the German Bundestag
Zubin Mehta	Conductor
Kent Nagano	Conductor
Sir Simon Rattle	Chief conductor of the Symphonieorchester und Chor des Bayerischen Rundfunks
Dieter Reiter	Lord Mayor of the State Capital of Munich

PATRONS

Dr. Katja Wildermuth	Bayerischer Rundfunk
Florian Hager	Hessischer Rundfunk
Ralf Ludwig	Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk
Hendrik Lünenborg	Norddeutscher Rundfunk
Dr. Yvette Gerner	Radio Bremen
Ulrike Demmer	Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg
Martin Grasmück	Saarländischer Rundfunk
Prof. Dr. Kai Gniffke	Südwestrundfunk
Katrin Vernau	Westdeutscher Rundfunk
Barbara Massing	Deutsche Welle
Stefan Raue	Deutschlandradio

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MAIN COMMITTEE

Dr. Katja Wildermuth	• Head of the committee General Director of Bayerischer Rundfunk, Munich
Prof. Lydia Grün	President of the University of Music and Theatre, Munich
Matthias Ilkenhans	Manager of the NDR Radiophilharmonie, Norddeutscher Rundfunk
Annette Josef	Head of MDR Klassik, Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk
Christoph Poppen	Conductor
Martin Roth	Head of the Music Department, Südwestrundfunk, Baden-Baden
Sonia Simmenauer	Performing Arts Agent
Tanja Tetzlaff	Violoncellist
Andrea Zschunke	Head of the Music Program Group, Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Cologne
Prof. Dr. Stephan Frucht	– coopted member Artistic Director Siemens Arts Program

ARTISTIC DIRECTION

Dr. Meret Forster

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Elisabeth Kozik

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Anja Krainz

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UPCOMING

August 28 to September 17, 2027
flute · voice · piano trio · violin

Subject to alterations!

In cases of doubt, the German text applies.

The text of this invitation is available
in German and English.

ARD International Music Competition
c/o Bayerischer Rundfunk
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D-80335 Munich
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www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de