



36th Young Musician International Competition 'Città di Barletta' - Live Edition

May 12 – 14, 2026 Strings - Winds - Guitar - Chamber Music

May 15 – 17, 2026 Piano - Composition

Rules

1- ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPETITION

The **36th Young Musician International Competition "Città di Barletta" Live Edition** is organized by the Cultura e Musica G. Curci - ETS and sponsored by the Barletta Town Administration, the Apulia Region and the Italian Ministry of Culture - Music Department.

The purpose of the competition *is to valorize the young musicians and to present their talent, artistry and inspiration, stimulating international cultural exchange and promoting the cultural and touristy resources of the country.*

All the Competitions will take place in the Curci Theatre, Corso Vittorio Emanuele, 71 - Barletta - Italy.

2- PERIOD

The **Young Soloist International Prize** and the **Chamber Music International Prize** will take place from 12th to 14th May 2026 The **Young Pianist International Prize** will take place from 15th to 17th May, 2026.

The evaluation of the **International Composition Prize** will be done on 17th May, 2026.

The Competitions are open to all the musicians of the world.

3- SECTIONS

The Competition is divided in 4 Sections:

- a) **Young Pianist International Prize**
- b) **Young Soloist International Prize** (Strings - Guitar - Winds)
- c) **Chamber Music International Prize** (Duo - Trio and Ensemble)
- d) **Composition International Prize**

4- YOUNG PIANIST INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

Junior Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2018.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 5 min.

A Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2016.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 7 min.

B Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2014.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 10 min.

C Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2012.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 12 min.

D Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2010.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 15 min.

E Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2007.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 20 min.

F Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2002.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 25 min.

G Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1994.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 30 min.



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5- YOUNG SOLOIST INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

STRINGS – WINDS – GUITAR

Junior Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2017.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 5 min.

A Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2014.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 8 min.

B Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2011.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 10 min.

C Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2007.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 15 min.

D Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2002.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 20 min.

E Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1994.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 25 min.

6- CHAMBER MUSIC INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

- DUO -

any instrument and/or voice except Two Pianos

A Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2011.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 10 min.

B Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2007.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 15 min.

C Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2002.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 18 min.

D Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1996.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 20 min.

E Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1990.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration. of 25 min.



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- ENSEMBLE -

any instrument and / or voice from Trio to Ensemble

A Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2011.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 10 min.

B Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2007.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 15 min.

C Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 2002.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 18 min.

D Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1996.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration of 20 min.

E Category

Applicants born on or after 1st January 1990.

A free choice programme not exceeding the max duration. of 25 min

N.B.: In the Chamber Music Section it's possible to participate even for the players who are older than the age limits, if the average of the age of all the players is not over the limits.

7- COMPOSITION INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

open to all composers of any nationality, without age limits.

-A composition not longer than 10 minutes.

Each participant can participate with one or more scores, for the same or different categories, in anonymous form.

Cat. A – Solo Instrument (with or without electronics)

Cat. B – From 2 to 4 performers (with or without electronics)

Cat. C – Acousmatic

For A and B category the available instrumentation is the following:

For A and B category the available instrumentation is the following:

1 Clarinet

1 Guitar

1 Flute or Piccolo (1 performer)

1 Oboe

1 Soprano, alto, tenor or baritone Saxophone (1 performer)

1 Piano

1 Keyboard, Keyboard Sampler or Midi Keyboard

2 Violins

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

The optional electronics can be tape or live electronics and must be stereo.

For the C category, the acousmatic composition must be stereo.



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For A and B categories, participants will have to email to barlettacompetition@culturaemusica.it:

- A first PDF file containing the anonymous score identified only by a 'motto';
- A second PDF file containing the filled and signed application form and the payment receipt of the entry fee;
- In the mail text it is possible to indicate a link to an MP3 file containing the simulation or recording of the composition (the link must remain active until the date of the competition).
MP3 simulation is recommended for compositions without electronics, mandatory for those with electronics.

For the C category, participants will have to email to barlettacompetition@culturaemusica.it:

- A link without an expiration date (Dropbox, Google Drive, Mega, Pcloud, or similar) to the audio file of the composition. It should be named as follows: Motto – Composition Title, without any reference to the composer's name;
- PDF file containing the completed and signed registration form and the payment receipt of the participation fee, attached to the email.

8 - COMMON RULES

The candidates can enrol in an older Category and they can participate to more Sections in this Competition, but not to more Categories in the same Section (it is allowed only for the Composition Section).

The maximum duration established for each category does not require contestants to reach it, but the performance can't exceed the limit.

9- AUDITIONS

The contestants will admit to the Auditions in alphabetical order. The Competition calendar will be notified as soon as possible. All the auditions will be public. The Audition, the prize-giving ceremony and the final concert will take place in the Curci Theatre at the following address: Corso Vittorio Emanuele, 71 – Barletta. In the same place will be active, during the Competition, the Competition Secretariat, where you can register your arriving in Barletta and ask information. The contestants must ask for the day, the time and the place of their own audition from the website www.culturaemusica.it or from Competition Secretary. If they will arrive on delay, they can play only if the Jury will be agree to listen them, in any case not later the end of their own Category. **Before the Audition each contestant must show to the Jury an identity card and give a copy of the pieces he will play**

10- COMPETITIONS SCHEDULE

The online competition will take place in accordance with this provisional Schedule.

The result will be published every day after each category.

Young Soloist International Prize

Guitar 12 May 2026

Winds 12 May 2026

Strings 13 May 2026

Chamber Music International Prize

Duo 14 May 2026

Ensemble 14 May 2026

Final Concert of the 1st Absolute Prizes and of the Special Prizes of

Strings – Winds – Guitar and Chamber Music May 14th 2026

Young Pianist International Prize Piano Solo 15-16-17 May 2026

Composition International Prize Works Evaluation 17 May 2026

Final Concert of the 1st Absolute Prizes and of the Special Prizes of

Piano May 17th 2026

N.B.: This Schedule can be modified connecting to the number of the enrolments.



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11– JURIES

Musicians of considerable experience will make up the Juries, and the Association Curci President or a delegate. We apply the Ministerial Law n. 2 (August 11th 1989) about the incompatible rules for the Jury. The Jury will make a secret centesimal voting, with arithmetic mean, except highest and lowest scores. The President can round up or down the results.

12– SCORES, PRIZE-GIVING CONCERTS, RECORDINGS

The Absolute Winner for each Category is the competitor who gained the highest score, but not less than 98/100. First Prizes are the competitors who gained a score not lower than 95/100; Second Prizes not lower than 90/100; Thirds not lower than 85/100; Merit Diplomas not lower than 80/100; Participation Diplomas not lower than 60/100. The absolute winners must play gratis during the Final Concert; if they will not do that they will lose the Prizes. The competitors can't make any economic claim for any audio and/or video recordings made during the Competition and the Final concert. These recordings will be exclusive property of the Curci Association for any utilization. Participants agree and authorise the Cultura e Musica G. Curci Association to publish their image, video captions, and recording for promotion and publicity without any fee request. During the Competition nobody can make video or tape recordings or make photos without Association Curci authorization. The First Absolute Prize is indivisible. Each prize will have the deduction at source. Teachers/accompanists may receive diplomas on request.

13– PRIZES

Young Pianist International Prize

- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the Junior - A - B Categories:	Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma
- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the C - D Categories:	Prize of 200 Euros and Diploma
- For the 1st Absolute Prize of the E Category:	Prize of 250 Euros and Diploma
- For the 1st Absolute Prize of the F Category:	Prize of 350 Euros and Diploma
- For the 1st Absolute Prize of the G Category:	Prize of 500 Euros and Diploma

Young Soloist International Prize Strings - Guitar - Winds

- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the Junior - A - B Categories:	Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma
- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the C - D Categories:	Prize of 200 Euros and Diploma
- For the 1st Absolute Prize of the E Category:	Prize of 350 Euros and Diploma

Chamber Music International Prize Duo - Ensemble

- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the A - B Category:	Prize of 150 Euros and Diploma
- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the C Categories:	Prize of 250 Euros and Diploma
- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the D Category:	Prize of 300 Euros and Diploma
- For each 1st Absolute Prize of the E Category:	Prize of 500 Euros and Diploma

Composition International Prize

-For each 1st Absolute Prize of the **A – B – C Categories**

Prize of 200 Euros, diploma and performance of the winner piece in the Concert Seasons of the Curci Association or of the Soundiff Chamber Orchestra.

The Artistic Director will decide, for one or more winners compositions:

- **to record, publish, and digitally distribute the piece (in its entirety or in the form of excerpts) on the YouTube channel, Social media channels, and the website of Cultura e Musica G. Curci - ETS**

-For all the other competitors who will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes in every Category:

Diploma with score.

-For all the other competitors who will gain a score not lower than 60/100 in every Category:

Diploma with score.

-To each teacher with 1st prize pupils: **Diploma.**



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14– SPECIAL PRIZES - Artistic Director Special Prizes –

'National Composer' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

- for the best performance of a piece of a composer born in the same Nation of the contestant

'Bach' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

-for the best performance of a piece by J. S. Bach

'Virtuoso' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

- for the best performance of a virtuoso piece or etude

'Classical Sonata' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

-for the best performance of a classical Sonata

'Contemporary Music' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

-for the best performance of a piece composed after 1960

'Romantic Music' Prize of 100 Euros and Diploma

-for the best performance of a romantic piece

15– PRIZE CONCERTS

The Artistic Direction reserves the right to assign 10 Prize-Concerts to the first prize winners with distinction during the Competition, offered by several Music Associations and Institutions.

The winners of the Prize Concerts will receive a refund of expenses for these Concerts.

16- OTHER SPECIAL PRIZES

"Claudio Ceschini" Prize

For the best Saxophonist of the Competition : Special Diploma.

"W. A. Mozart" Prize

For the youngest contestant who will win not less than a 3rd prize: Special Diploma.

"M. Clementi" Prize

For the Teacher who will have more prize winner pupils: Special Diploma.

17 – ENTRY FEES

1 - Piano - Strings - Guitar - Winds (Junior - A - B Cat.)	40 Euros
2 - Piano - Strings - Guitar - Winds (C - D Cat.)	50 Euros
3 - Piano (E - F - G Cat.), Strings - Guitar - Winds (E Cat.)	60 Euros
4 - Duo - Ensemble (A - B Cat.)	60 Euros
5 - Duo - Ensemble (C - D Cat.)	70 Euros
6 - Duo - Ensemble (E Cat.)	80 Euros
7 - Composition (A-B-C Cat.)	50 Euros

The Entry Fees for Duo and Ensemble, are aggregate amounts; whatever is the number of the players of each group. The Soloists who need the Competition Piano Accompanist, must add to the application fee an additional fee of 30 Euros (Junior and A cat) or of 40 Euros (B cat) or of 50 Euros (C cat) or of 60 Euros (D and E cat) and send a copy of the scores they will play with application form.



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18- APPLICATION FORM

The Application Form can be filled on the online form (not allowed for Composition Prize) on our website www.culturaemusica.it or on a pdf copy of it.

For any information you can contact us:

tel/fax **+39 0883 528026** Mobile Phone **+39 380 3454431** (from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on weekdays)

www.culturaemusica.it

E-mail barlettacompetition@culturaemusica.it

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/barlettacompetition>

The Application Form, with the Entry Fee receipt, can be send in one of the following ways:

- a) by form online on our web site www.culturaemusica.it (not allowed for Composition Section)
- b) by mail to barlettacompetition@culturaemusica.it

not later than Wednesday **April 29, 2026.**

The Entry Fee, not refundable, must be payed in a following way:

- a) by **Paypal** using the form on our website <http://www.culturaemusica.it/paypal.html> or
- b) by bank transfer entered to:

BdM BANCA S.P.A. – Filiale di Barletta - via Ferdinando d'Aragona n. 173 - 76121 Barletta (BT) – Italy

Account n. 1000866 ABI 05424 CAB 41350 CIN D

IBAN: IT33 D054 2441 3500 0000 1000 866

SWIFT - BIC : BPBAIT3BXXX

named to :

Cultura e Musica -G.Curci -ETS via P.Mascagni,1 76121 BARLETTA (Bt) - ITALIA

All bank charges incurred must be borne by the applicant.

No refund is available.

19 - FINAL RULES

If you will enrol yourself to the Competition, you must accept all these Rules.

In any case of controversy the Italian text is valid and the Trani Court is competent.



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- Application Form A -

Sections :

Young Pianist International Prize

Young Soloist International Prize (Strings - Winds - Guitar)

Composition International Prize

☐ PIANO

☐ COMPOSITION

☐ GUITAR

☐ STRINGS - Instrument..... ☐ WINDS - Instrument

Category ☐ Junior ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Surname.....Name.....

place of birth.....date of birth.....:

Full Address.....

Tel.....E-Mail.....

Teacher Surname and Name.....

Full Address.....

Tel.....E-Mail.....

Programme

(Composers, Titles and Time)

I request the piano accompanist and enclose the additional fee (see Rules art. 17) and a copy of the scores ☐ YES ☐ NO

N.B. For the Composition section please follow art.7 of the Rules

I enclose:

1) Copy of an Identity document or self - certification.

2) Copy of the receipt of the Application Fee (see Rules art.17) payable in one of the following ways:

a) by **Paypal** using the form on our website <http://www.culturaemusica.it/paypal.html>

b) by bank transfer entered to: **BdM BANCA S.P.A.** - Filiale di Barletta via Ferdinando d'Aragona n. 173 - 7612 Barletta (BT) - Italy

account n. 1000866 ABI 05424 CAB 41350 CIN D IBAN: IT33 D054 2441 3500 0000 1000 866 SWIFT - BIC : BPBAIT3BXXX

named to : **Associazione Cultura e Musica - G. Curci**

I read and accept the Rules of the Competition.

I authorize the Curci Association to use these personal data for the Competition necessities .

Date..... Signature.....

Parent Signature for minors.....

N.B. You can copy this application form by typewriter or photocopier.

The deadline for sending the application form is **April 29, 2026**



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- Application Form B -

Sections :

Chamber Music International Prize (Duo - Ensemble)

☐ Duo-Instruments..... ☐ Ensemble-Formation.....

Category ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E

1st Player Surname and Name (or Conductor).....

place of birth.....date of birth.....instrument.....

Full Address.....

Tel.....E-Mail.....

2nd Player Surname and Name.....

place of birth.....date of birth.....instrument.....

Full Address.....

Tel.....E-Mail.....

Teacher/s (Surname, Name, Full Address, Tel. Numb., e-mail):

Programme

(Composers, Titles and Time)

We enclose:

1) Copy of Identity Document or self - certifications.

2) Copy of the receipt of the Application Fee (see Rules art. 17) , payable in one of the following ways:

a) by **Paypal** using the form on our website <http://www.culturaemusica.it/paypal.html>

b) by bank transfer entered to: **BdM BANCA S.P.A.** - Filiale di Barletta via Ferdinando d'Aragona n. 173 - 7612 Barletta (BT) - Italy

account n. 1000866 ABI 05424 CAB 41350 CIN D IBAN: IT33 D054 2441 3500 0000 1000 866 SWIFT - BIC : BPBAIT3BXXX

named to : **Associazione Cultura e Musica - G. Curci**

3) Players List with Surnames, Names, Instruments and Full Addresses (only for Ensembles)

We read and accept the Rules of the Competition..

We authorize the Associazione Curci to use these personal data for the Competition necessities.

Date..... Signature/s.....

Parent Signature for minors.....

N.B. You can copy this application form by typewriter or photocopier.

The deadline for sending the application form is **April 29, 2026**