



Competitions

2023 – 2024

General Entry Regulations

The following rules apply to all competitions:

1. Competition entries must be made on the official form and submitted by 4.30pm on the relevant closing date. Late entries will not be accepted.
2. Competition fees must be paid online, details of which will be provided on the competition entry form.
 - a. Conservatoire students pay a non-refundable fee of €20 per competition.
 - b. Full-time students pay a refundable deposit of €50 per competition (deposit forfeited if student withdraws).
 - c. Chamber ensembles pay a single fee/deposit.
3. Age limits are determined from, and inclusive of, the date* of the competition.
4. An individual or ensemble awarded first place in any competition may not re-enter the same competition the following year.
5. No competitor may perform repertory that they have performed in any CSM competition in the previous three years (inclusive of the current academic year).
6. Competitions are not open to members of staff.

* Or final date in the case of competitions that take place over more than one day.

Junior Concerto Competition

Date of Competition	Friday 1 December 2023
Age Limit	14 years (15 years if wind, brass, percussion or double bass candidate)
Entry Fee	€20
Entries Open	Monday 6 November 2023
Entries Close	Monday 20 November 2023

The Junior Concerto Competition is open to Conservatoire students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform, with piano accompaniment, a complete movement (or movements) from a concerto, to include cadenzas where appropriate. Chosen programmes must be between 8 and 15 minutes duration.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €50.

Senior Concerto Competition

Dates of Competition Friday 19 – Sunday 21 January 2024

Age Limit 19 years

Entry Fee €20

Entries Open Monday 18 December 2023

Entries Close Monday 8 January 2024

The Senior Concerto Competition is open to Conservatoire students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform, with piano accompaniment, a complete concerto, to include cadenzas where appropriate.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €100 (presented to the School by the Bridget Doolan Trust) and, where possible, given an opportunity to perform as a soloist with one of the School's orchestras.

Advanced Concerto Competition

Dates of Competition Friday 19 – Sunday 21 January 2024

Entry Fee / Deposit €20 / €50

Entries Open Monday 18 December 2023

Entries Close Monday 8 January 2024

The Advanced Concerto Competition is open to students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform, with piano accompaniment, a complete concerto, to include cadenzas where appropriate. Chosen repertoire must demonstrate an advanced level of technical skill and musical ability.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €150 and, where possible, given an opportunity to perform as a soloist with one of the School's orchestras.

Junior Recital Competition

Dates of Competition	Wednesday 31 January – Saturday 3 February 2024
Age Limit	14 years (15 years if wind, brass, percussion or double bass candidate)
Entry Fee	€20
Entries Open	Monday 18 December 2023
Entries Close	Monday 15 January 2024

The Junior Recital Competition is open to Conservatoire students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform a programme of not more than 15 minutes duration, showing an ability to interpret a range of styles. Competitors may not include more than one movement from a concerto* in their programme or perform repertoire requiring more than one other collaborator.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €100.

The runner-up is awarded a cash prize of €75.

The remaining finalists are awarded a cash prize of €50 each.

Where applicable, a cash prize of €50 will be awarded to each of the following: highest-placed pianist, violinist, violist, cellist/double bassist, guitarist, woodwind player, brass player, singer and percussionist.

* With reference to **Rule 5**, no competitor may perform repertory that they have performed in any CSM competition in the previous three years (inclusive of the current academic year).

Senior Recital Competition

Dates of Competition Thursday 21 – Sunday 24 March 2024

Age Limit 19 years

Entry Fee €20

Entries Open Monday 26 February 2024

Entries Close Monday 11 March 2024

The Senior Recital Competition is open to Conservatoire students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform a programme of not more than 20 minutes duration, showing an ability to interpret a range of styles. Competitors may not include more than one movement from a concerto* in their programme or perform repertoire requiring more than one other collaborator.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €150.

The runner-up is awarded a cash prize of €100.

The remaining finalists are awarded a cash prize of €75 each.

Where applicable, a cash prize of €50 will be awarded to each of the following: highest-placed pianist, violinist, violist, cellist/double bassist, guitarist, woodwind player, brass player, singer and percussionist.

* With reference to **Rule 5**, no competitor may perform repertory that they have performed in any CSM competition in the previous three years (inclusive of the current academic year).

Advanced Recital Competition

Dates of Competition Thursday 16 – Sunday 19 May 2024

Entry Fee / Deposit €20 / €50

Entries Open Monday 15 April 2024

Entries Close Tuesday 7 May 2024

The Advanced Recital Competition is open to students who are currently enrolled in the School to study the instrument chosen for the competition. Candidates are required to perform a programme of not more than 25 minutes duration, showing an ability to interpret a range of styles. Competitors may not include more than one movement from a concerto* in their programme or perform repertoire requiring more than one other collaborator.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €200.

The runner-up is awarded a cash prize of €150.

The remaining finalists are awarded a cash prize of €75 each.

Where applicable, a cash prize of €50 will be awarded to each of the following: highest-placed pianist, violinist, violist, cellist/double bassist, guitarist, woodwind player, brass player, singer, percussionist, traditional Irish performance and period performance.

* With reference to **Rule 5**, no competitor may perform repertory that they have performed in any CSM competition in the previous three years (inclusive of the current academic year).

Vanbrugh Chamber Music Competition

Date of Competition Saturday 11 May 2024

Entry Fee / Deposit €20 / €50

Entries Open Monday 15 April 2024

Entries Close Monday 29 April 2024

The Vanbrugh Chamber Music Competition is open to ensembles whose members are currently enrolled as students in the School. Eligible ensembles may contain from two to nine members, and no change in membership will be permitted after the closing date for entry. Ensembles may perform one complete work and/or an appropriate number of movements from different works. The total programme should not exceed 25 minutes duration.

The winners are awarded a cash prize of €200.

The runners-up are awarded a cash prize of €100.

At the discretion of the Vanbrugh and the West Cork Chamber Music Festival, a prize-winning ensemble may be invited to attend and/or take part in the West Cork Chamber Music Festival.

Piano Accompaniment Competition

Date of Competition	Sunday 12 May 2024
Entry Fee / Deposit	€20 / €50
Entries Open	Monday 15 April 2024
Entries Close	Monday 29 April 2024

The Piano Accompaniment Competition (formerly the May O'Neill Scholarship for Piano, instituted in memory of the late May O'Neill, staff member at the School for over forty years) is open to students who are currently enrolled in the School. Candidates are required to accompany a singer or an instrumentalist in a programme of 15 to 20 minutes duration, showing an ability to interpret a variety of styles. The programme must include works and/or movements from at least two of the following periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, post-1900 (singers must include at least one example of French chanson or German Lied). Candidates will also be provided with a quick-study piece approximately 24 hours before the competition.

The minimum number of entries required for the competition to take place is three.

The winner is awarded a cash prize of €150.

The runner-up is awarded a cash prize of €75.