

The 26th OSAKA International Music Competition

Christopher Hinterhuber (Pianist, Professor at Vienna National University of Music and Performing Arts): Artistic Director

Michael Frischenschlager (Honorary President at Vienna National University of Music and Performing Arts): Special Counselor

Yoshihiko SANO: Competition Director

Yoko KITANO: Executive Director

Objectives of the OSAKA International Music Competition:

The spirit of this competition is to find a number of artists from around the world and help them to compete in an international setting. The OSAKA International Music Competition is dedicated to promoting arts and culture under the banner of world peace and mutual understanding.

Competition Categories:

Section I:	Piano, Vocal Music, String, Wind
Section II:	Early Music (Solo and Ensemble for Harpsichord, Period Instruments etc.), Two Pianos, Four Hands, Duo, Ensemble, Folk Instruments,
Section III:	Amateurs, Youth

Competition Schedule:

Bangkok Regional Round:

July 3-6, 2025

MACM, College of Music, Mahidol University, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

Application Deadline: **June 16, 2025**

DVD Audition

Deadline: July 25, 2025

Eligibility: For contestants who are unable to take part in the regional round above.

For the information on the DVD Audition, please refer to the following link:

https://www.osakaimc.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/26th-guidelines_DVD.pdf

Final Rounds:

October 4–12, 2025

See below.

Date	Category	Venue
October 4, 2025	Amateurs (Excellence, Senior, Silver, Duo/Ensemble Courses)	Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka
	Youth (Repertoire Course, Free Program Course: Infant A)	Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center
October 5, 2025	Amateurs (Superior, Virtuoso, Outstanding Courses)	Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka
	Youth (Free Program Course: Junior, Infant B, C)	Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center
October 10, 2025	Piano Age-U	Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka
	Early Music, Folk Instruments, Duo, Ensemble	Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center
October 11, 2025	Piano Age-E3/H	Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka
	Strings Age-U/G	Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center
	Woodwinds Age-U, Brass Age-U/G	
	Piano Age-G, Two Pianos, Four Hands	Takatsuki Arts Theatre South Building
	Vocal Music Age-J/H/Musical Course	
October 12, 2025	Piano Age-E1/E2/J	Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka
	Strings Age-E1/J/H	Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center
	Wind Instruments Age-J/H, Woodwinds Age-G	
	Strings Age-E2/E3/Harp	Takatsuki Arts Theatre South Building
	Vocal Music Age-U/G	

The schedule/venues are subject to change without notice due to the number of participants.

GRAND FINAL=GALA CONCERT



October 13, 2025 at Takatsuki Arts Theatre South Building Torishima Hall (Osaka)

Awards Ceremony

Section I, II

October 13, 2025 at Takatsuki Arts Theatre South Building Torishima Hall after the Grand Final=Gala Concert

Section III

October 4, 5, 2025 at Muramatsu Recital Hall Shin-Osaka, Abeno Kumin (Ward) Center

*Result announcement takes place at the judging venue and online on the day of judging.

Prizes

Grand Prix: Best performer from Section I or Section II; Prize of JPY500,000, Certificate and Trophy

Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award: Second best performer; Certificate

Osaka Governor Award: Third best performer; Certificate

< Sections I & II >

1st to 3rd Prize of each category: Certificate, Medal
Espoir Prize: Certificate

< Section III >

[Regional Round] / [Semi-finals]

Gold Prize (Eligible to enter the finals for Section III), Silver, Bronze Prizes, and others.

[Final Round]

Best Amateurs/Youth Award: Best performer in the Youth and Amateurs Categories;
Prize of JPY30,000 for Youth, JPY70,000 for Amateurs, Certificate

1st to 3rd Place: Certificate, Medal

4th to 6th Place, Certificate

Special Prizes

Circle Wind Special Award: Presented by NPO 9.11 Circle Wind Memorial Concert.

Chief Executive Award: Recommendation to play at a Gala Concert in 2026.
(participation fee waiver)

Paris Music Forum Award: Concert in Paris or Seoul.

Cap Ferret Music Festival Scholarship: Invitation to Cap Ferret Music Festival in France.

Sawallisch Award: Invitation to academy held by Wolfgang Sawallisch Stiftung in Germany in 2026.

IMK Prize: Perform with orchestra in Europe.

Toccoa Falls College Award: Concert at Toccoa Falls College Recital Hall in Georgia, USA.

Matsumoto Memorial Music Guest House Award: Concert at Matsumoto Memorial Music Guest House.

Puccini Hall Award: Concert at Osaka Hommachi Puccini Hall.

Thomas Kreuzberger Award: 500 euros a talented pianist aged 18 and under.

Osaka Mayor Award, Takatsuki Mayor Award, Journalist Award, ALSO Award, Ongakugendai Award, Audience Award.

Opportunity to perform at Concert or Concerto concert.

※ Travel, accommodation and other costs incurred participating in seminars and concerts must be paid by participants.

Section II

- Early Music
- Two Pianos
- Four Hands (one piano ensemble)
- Duo
- Ensemble
- Folk Instruments

Requirements:

No age requirement. Playing by memory is not required.

Eligibility

Early Music:

Harpsichord and other period instruments. Solo and ensemble (up to 8 members) are acceptable.

Two Pianos:

Up to eight hands.

Four Hands:

Up to eight hands.

Duo:

No instrumental requirement.

Ensemble:

No instrumental requirement, but up to 8 members.

Folk Instruments: Solo and ensemble (up to 8 members) incl. Marimba and Mandolin are acceptable.

Registration Fees (per group)

Bangkok Regional Round:

All categories **except for** harpsichord in Early Music Category:
3,500 Baht

Final Round:	Early Music	26,500 Yen
	Two Pianos	39,900 Yen
	Piano Four Hands	32,000 Yen
	Duo	32,000 Yen
	Ensemble	32,000 Yen
	Folk Instruments	26,800 Yen

Repertoire (except for Early Music)

Regional Round:

One piece or pieces chosen by the contestant. The length of performance:
10 minutes.

Final Round:

One piece or pieces chosen by the contestant. The length of performance:
10 minutes

Repertoire for Early Music

Regional Round (exclude harpsichord):

One piece or pieces chosen by the contestant. The length of performance:
8 minutes.

Regional Round (Harpsichord)

One piece or pieces other than J. S. Bach. *DVD Audition
The length of performance: 8 minutes.

Final Round:

One piece or pieces written before or in the 18th Century. The length of
performance: 8 minutes.

Notes:

- The contestant should bring his/her own instrument and music stand, etc. except for piano and harpsichord.
- Tuning pitch of harpsichord is A=415 Hz.

◆ Grand Final=Gala Concert



Eligibility

Section I/II:

The 1st prize winner of each category

Section III:

Best Amateurs/Youth Award winner

Repertoire

- One piece chosen by the contestant. For [Age-E & J and Junior] **no more than 7 min.** and for [Others], **no more than 10 min.**
- Section III, one piece chosen by the contestant, **no more than 7 min.**

Note:

The registration form for the Grand Final=Gala Concert will be notified after the announcement of the finals result.

◆ Notes

<Section I Preliminary Round Exemption>

The following contestants are exempted from the Section I preliminary round.

- Prize winners in the 21st to 25th competitions or finalists in the 24th to 25th competitions in Section I.
- Prize winners in the 21st to 25th competitions or finalists in the 24th to 25th competitions in Section II.
- The 1st to 3rd prize winners in the 24th to 25th competitions in the Outstanding Amateurs, Virtuoso, and Excellence courses in Section III.
- Prize winners of specified competitions. (Contact for further details.)
- Those who are recommended by specified organizations.

<Performance>

- If the contestant plays a specific movement(s) or excerpt(s) from a suite or variation, it must be clearly noted on the application form.
- If contestants play more than one piece/movement, pieces/movements must be played in the order written on the application form.
- In principle, no repeats are allowed.
- Arranged or shortened pieces are not accepted. (Accompaniment may be omitted.)
- Improvisation, prepared piano, etc. are not permissible.
- Except for unaccompanied pieces, contestants should play with a piano accompanist.
- The piece should be performed without music, **except for** the following categories.

Regional Round

Section I: Winds

Section II: All categories

Section III: Excellence, Superior, Junior, Senior, Silver, Infant and Duo/Ensemble Courses

Final Round

Section II: All categories

Section III: Silver and Duo/Ensemble Courses

- The piece chosen by the contestant except the piece for the final round may not be changed after the submission of the application form.
- The final round repertoire cannot be changed after submitting the registration form for the final round.
- Contestants are required to bring their own accompanist. (If you need an accompanist, apply and send a score to the office. The cost is the contestant's responsibility.)
- Except for Piano and Harpsichord (for solo), contestants must bring their own instrument, pedal extender/platform, footrest, etc.

<Judging Duration>

- Actual performing time may be shorter than the designated length of performance. Depending on the schedule, the judging duration might be changed.
- If a piece is longer than the judging duration, a bell will be rung to stop the performance. The performing time will not affect the result.
- Duration will be timed from the line marked on the stage.

<Others>

- The contestant will receive the schedule and other information approximately 10 days before the date of each scheduled regional/final round.
- The position of the Piano lid and the position of the two pianos are controlled by the Executive Committee.
- Photos and video/audio recordings are **not permitted**. A high-quality official video recording of each contestant's performance at the regional round, made by the College of Music, will be sent to the contestant afterward.
- The order of performances shall be decided based on an alphabetical order. The starting letter is decided by the Executive Committee.
- Recorded media, fees, and other materials submitted are non-returnable.
- Travel, accommodation, and other costs must be paid by the contestants.
- If judging has to be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather conditions or natural disasters, judging shall be postponed. If contestants are unable to attend the rescheduled date, their regional/final round participation will carry over to the next competition. Organizer shall not be liable to refund of fees.
- The contestants must obtain the necessary visas to visit Japan. If an invitation letter or any documents are required for the visa application, the applicant must request them from the secretariat. ¥10,000 will be charged for the visa documents.
- No inquiries about the judging procedures are permitted.
- Section III Best Amateurs Award and Best Youth Award winners are required to attend the Grand Final=Gala Concert.
- Grand Final=Gala Concert performers must attend the awards ceremony.
- Certificates and medals can be sent to those who fail to attend the awards ceremony. (Shipping fee will be charged.)
- All the performances, broadcasting rights, recording, filming, and photography in the competition and concert which are related to the competition belong to the OSAKA International Music Promotion Society. The contestant can't claim the rights to them.

◆ Successive and the 26th Competition Jury

Bangkok Regional Round

Mahidol University College of Music Faculty

Final Rounds

Piano/Harpsichord: Christopher HINTERHUBER, Alexander MÜLLENBACH, Alexander PALEY, Boris BEKHTEREV, Dina YOFFE, Gabriel KWOK, Genevieve MARTIGNY, Gunther HERZFELD, Heyoung PARK, Helene BERGER, Henri BARDA, Ingomar RAINER, Janos CEGLEDY, Johannes KROPFITSCH, Luo XIAO, Michele INNOCENTI, Michael WLADKOWSKI, Norbert ZEILBERGER, Odile POISSON, Roland KELLER, Rafael GUERRA, Raffi BESALYAN, Serguei MILSTEIN, Shuhua CHEN, Sylvia CHU, Teresa LEOPOLD, Veda ZUPONCIC, Waseem KOTOUB, Xia JIANG, Xiao WU, You Ju LEE, Zhe WEI, Aya HAMADA, Eri NAKAGAWA, Fumiko EGUCHI, Jun KANNO, Kazuko SUMI, Mitsuko ICHIMURA, Ryoko FUKAZAWA, Shinichiro NAKANO, Tomoko SAWALLISCH, Urara SASAKI, Yoko KITANO, and others

Strings: Leon SPIERER, Michael FRISCHENSCHLAGER, Ida HAENDEL, Albert Yue CHENG, Andres CARDENES, Anna GUTOWSKA, Avri LEVITAN, Dae Hwan KIM, Debbrawood SCHWARTZ, Ernst KNAVA, George BABUADZE, Gérard POULET, Helga-Marie KNAVA, Igor PETRUSHEVSKI, Jean MOUILÈLRE, Jong-jin HONG, John DUFFY, Mari TAMPERE-BEZRODNY, Martin STANZELEIT, Mauro IURATO, Michael VAIMAN, Midori SEILER, Min-Jun CHO, Naomi SEILER, Nathaniel ROSEN, Ngo Hoang LINH, Nicolas KOECKERT, Oleh KRYSA, Paris PARASCHOUDIS, Rainer CHRISTIANSEN, Robin BONNELL, Wolfgang KLOS, Seoyoung LEE, Soon-ik LEE, Stefan KROPFITSCH, Su-Lan HSU, William PRUNKL, Wing HO, Young-Sook YOUN, Yuri CHRISTIANSEN, Zaza GOGUA, Marcin Tomasz SZAWELSKI, Asako YOSHIKAWA, Atsuko YOSHINO, Ayako SHINOZAKI, Fumiaki KONO, Kazuki SAWA, Kiyoshi SHOMURA, Takashi SHIMIZU, Yuki HYAKUTAKE, and others

Vocal Music: Claudia VISCA, Gianni KRISCAK, Jae-Moo YANG, Marcella REALE, Sun-Sook KIM, Tsui Ping WEI, Chorlada SURIYAYOTHIN, Asako TAMURA, Chizuko MATSUNAMI, Harumi OKADA, Kotoko SAITO, Mari MIDORIKAWA, Miwako MATSUMOTO, Tsuyoshi MIHARA, Yasuo UZUKA, Yoichiro UCHIDA, Yoshiaki GYOTEN, Yuko ARATA, Yuko MITANI, and others

Winds: Barbara GISLER-HAASE, Alongkorn LAOSAICHUEA, Carsten ECKERT, Christoph MOSER, Daren ROBBINS, Hae Kyung LEE, Hans Maria KNEIHS, Jae Young BAE, Luca BENUCCI, Mihi KIM, Sugree CHAROENSOOK, Taras DEMCHYSHYN, Hiroshi MATSUSHIMA, Asako INOUE, Kazuo TOMIOKA, Koji OKAMURA, Kozo KAGIZAKI, Masahiro MAEDA, Naohiro TSUKEN, Osamu KUMASHIRO, Shinichi GO, Tatsuzo AKASAKA, Yoshiaki TAKEMOTO, and others

Journalists, Conductors and others: Narong PRANGCHAROEN, Silvain GUIGNARD, Hiroyuki KOMIBUCHI, Ken FUKUMOTO, Kiichi YOKOYA, Nobuo NISHIOKA, Nobuya MONTA, Takashi ASANO, Takuo IKEDA, Tokihiko UMEZU, Yuki HASEGAWA, and others

(As of Jan. 2025)

◆ Deadline for the Application for the Bangkok Regional Round

Please prepare the following items to complete the Online Application Form **no later than June 16, 2025:**

A scan or photograph of a birth certificate or passport
A black & white or color photograph (3 x 4 cm)
Pay the 3,500 Baht for the registration fee of the Bangkok Regional Round Through the payment link

◆ How to Apply & Pay

1. After clicking “Apply” The system will guide you to the Online Application Section.
2. Please fill in all information.
3. Click on “ Register ” at the end of the page, then the system will proceed you to the Payment Section.

* You can choose to pay immediately or pay later (within 3 days) by using the link you will be received via email you have informed in the Online Application Section.

4. You will receive confirmation mail **within 5 working days** to inform that you have successfully apply for the 26th OSAKA International Music Competition.

◆ Contacting Address

Thailand: Bangkok Regional Committee, OSAKA International Music Competition
College of Music, Mahidol University
Salaya, Phuttamonthon
Nakhon Pathom, 73170, Thailand
Phone: 02-800-2525, Ext. 3117
Fax: 02-800-2530
E-mail: osaka.bangkok.round@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.music.mahidol.ac.th/osaka/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OSAKABangkokRound>

Japan: OSAKA International Music Competition Secretariat
* Please enquire by e-mail. (Japanese or English)
2-3-13 Ohji-cho, Abeno-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 545-0023, JAPAN
PHONE: +81-6-6625-5931
FAX: +81-6-6625-5934
E-mail: inquiry@osakaimc.com (for inquiry)
entry2025@osakaimc.com (for application materials)
Website: <http://www.osakaimc.com/>