



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1203095

# **SYLLABUS 2025**

## **and regulations**

Entries close: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Festival Competition Dates –

**21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

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*Festival Rules, Safeguarding Policy and Privacy Policy can be viewed online – [www.newcastlefestival.org.uk](http://www.newcastlefestival.org.uk)*

Please note that some classes may be switched between the Friday and the Saturday depending on the number of entrants. If a competitor is not available for one of the sessions, please add this information when you complete the online entry.

Competitors are reminded to check the revised details about the Festival Accompanist, as they must now make their own private arrangements.

Follow us on Facebook - [newcastle-under-lyme festival](https://www.facebook.com/newcastle-under-lyme-festival) for music, speech & drama



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

6.00pm to 9.00pm

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

9.30am to 12.30pm

2.00pm to 5.00pm

### **Venue**

The Clayton Hall Academy  
Clayton Lane, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 3DN

We are delighted to have the following adjudicators for Festival 2025, all of whom are experienced in taking competition classes:

#### **SPEECH AND DRAMA**

Laura Field  
Priscilla Morris

#### **MUSIC**

Piano – Richard Haslam  
Instrumental – Daniel Chandler  
Vocal – Angela Rowley

*Biographies of all five adjudicators will be available to view on the 'Who's Who' page of the website - [newcastlefestival.org.uk](http://newcastlefestival.org.uk)*

## **ENTRY ONLINE**

[www.newcastlefestival.org.uk](http://www.newcastlefestival.org.uk)

**ENTRIES OPEN 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**ALL ENTRIES CLOSE 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025**

**We are sorry but we will not accept late entries, or late alterations.**

All enquiries to: The Entries Coordinator, Karen Shutt,  
14 Craig Walk, Alsager, Cheshire ST7 2RJ  
Tel: 01270 874157 Email: [entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk](mailto:entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk)

## President

Margaret Tebby LRAM ATCL B Ed

## Vice-Presidents

John Callister Head of Entrust Music Service Staffordshire  
[www.entrust-ed.co.uk](http://www.entrust-ed.co.uk)

Barbara Kelly Professor of Musicology,  
Royal Northern College of Music

Mike Lloyd Music Mania [www.musicmaniauk.com](http://www.musicmaniauk.com)

Brian Rawlins BA (Hons) LLAM LRAM

Ruth Steele City of Stoke-on-Trent Music Service Lead  
[www.musicmark.org.uk/members/stoke-on-trent-city-music-service](http://www.musicmark.org.uk/members/stoke-on-trent-city-music-service)

The festival is an opportunity for amateur competitors of all ages to perform in public and receive advice from experienced professional adjudicators. For some, the festival may be part of their preparation for examinations and perhaps a career, for others it is an extension of their absorbing interest in music-making and drama.

The festival is organised and staffed by a team of dedicated volunteers who give their time and enthusiasm to continue the festival tradition. It is great fun to be part of. If you would like to find out more about the many volunteer roles available please speak to any of the volunteers on the festival weekends or make contact through the website [www.newcastlefestival.org.uk](http://www.newcastlefestival.org.uk).

## TAKING PART IN THE FESTIVAL

**Where** All competition classes will be held at the Clayton Hall Academy, Clayton Lane, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 3DN.

**When** For some classes, the syllabus shows the most likely days and times on which classes will be held. We will make every effort to keep to the scheduled sessions but heavy or conflicting entries may mean we have to make changes. If this becomes necessary we will let competitors know as soon as possible.

**Please indicate, at entry, if you are not available for any of the three sessions.**

To help us keep the schedules running to time competitors must keep to the time limits shown in the syllabus. The adjudicator may ask competitors performing beyond the set time to stop.

**Facilities** Refreshments (hot dogs, burgers, chips and drinks) will be on sale from a catering van on site.  
Cakes, biscuits and drinks (hot and cold) will be on sale near to the information desk.  
Rooms are provided for ensembles to assemble for warm-up and tuning.

**Audience** Audience admission to the two-day festival is £4.00 per adult, with free admission for young people aged 16 and under. (There is no entrance fee for competitors).  
Programmes will show all the classes and competitors, and can be purchased for £5 on the day (or £6 in advance, to include cost of postage, if ordered through the online entry system).

**Entries** Entries should be made online.  
The deadline for entries is 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025.  
Entries will not be accepted without payment. Payment should be made online using Paypal or the credit card option. Online entries will receive receipt of entry immediately by email.  
About 3-4 weeks after the entry deadline all competitors should receive notification of the time and location of classes. This email will also admit the competitor, and accompanist where needed, to the competition rooms. If you have not received this notification by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025, please contact the Entries Coordinator on 01270 874157 or email: [entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk](mailto:entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk)

### **Accompaniments**

Vocal Solos and Instrumental Solos require live accompaniment, unless the solo has no accompaniment, and backing tracks cannot be used.

Pop and Musical Theatre competitors may use live or recorded accompaniments. Any electrical equipment must have a valid PAT test sticker.

Any arrangement to employ the services of the Festival Accompanist is done by private arrangement only and should be agreed by 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

The Festival Accompanist is: **Karen Shutt** BA(Hons), LTCL(per), PGCE  
14 Craig Walk, Alsager, Cheshire ST7 2RJ  
Tel: 01270 874157

## A letter from Liz Richardson (Chair of the Festival)

Dear Festival supporters,

The 2024 Festival was well attended and run smoothly. Thank you to those of you who took the time to provide helpful feedback. The adjudicators were impressed with our festival, and provided helpful and complimentary feedback.

During the past year the Festival Trustees have been working to update the online entry system, using 'RunMyFestival'. Please be patient with us as we learn to use this package. We also have a new bank account, a new marking system and new certificates.

In 2025 we have arranged for a catering van to be on site, where you can purchase hot dogs, burgers, chips and hot drinks. In addition, there will be the usual refreshment area, where you can buy cakes, biscuits and hot drinks.

The Newcastle-under-Lyme Festival for Music, Speech and Drama is affiliated to BIFF (British and International Federation of Festivals <https://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/>) A new marking system was introduced by BIFF in April 2024 and is being used by all affiliated festivals and adjudicators. The descriptors are clear and the details can be seen by clicking the links below. The marks will not correlate with marks given in the 2024 festival, so they need to be understood using the new criteria.

Speech and Drama -

<https://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/sites/federationoffestivals.org.uk/files/sd - descriptors and criteria -new marking scheme 0.pdf>

Music -

<https://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/sites/federationoffestivals.org.uk/files/music - descriptors and criteria - new marking scheme 0.pdf>

Please support the Festival in any way that you can. We are grateful to the volunteers who give up their time each year to help the festival weekend to run smoothly. If you could become a volunteer, please contact us ([info@newcastlefestival.org.uk](mailto:info@newcastlefestival.org.uk))

With best wishes,

Liz Richardson

# Festival Information

The following cash prizes will be awarded in 2025:-

## George Finney Award

Youth Choral. VC 189 Songs from the Shows, 19 years and under.  
Each competing group will receive a bursary of £100.

## Barracks Trust Award

Adult Vocal Ensemble. CH 530 Own Choice  
1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded cash prizes of £120, £80 and £50 respectively, donated by The Barracks Trust.

## Barracks Trust New Award

Vocal Ensemble Open. CH 532 Own Choice  
Cash prizes for 1st and 2nd places of £70 and £30, donated by The Barracks Trust.

## Trophy

A trophy will be awarded to the winner of each class, at the discretion of the Adjudicator.

## The Lions Brass Trophy

The Lions Brass trophy will be awarded to the most promising player of a brass instrument at the festival. The award may be to a soloist or to a player in a group or band and may not necessarily be to the winner. The Adjudicator's decision will be taken after completion of all classes involving brass.

## Entries

### NEW MARKING SYSTEM

We will be using the new BIFF marking system from 2025. Details, via a link to the BIFF site, can be found in the Chair's letter (page 6).

When candidates are entered for the Newcastle Festival it is important that all the relevant information is given. Titles and Composers of all Own Choice pieces must be given and not changed at a later date.

If a competitor is not available for the whole weekend that must be stated at entry. If a competitor is in other classes, or has siblings that are also entered, this must be stated at entry, to allow us to avoid clashes where possible. Late changes are not possible. The date of birth for under 18s should be given at entry.

## **Age Group Classes**

Most of the Own Choice classes for under 18s have been revised to be allocated to National Curriculum School Year Groups (NC) rather than to the previously stated age ranges.

## **Copyright Rules**

The rules about copyright are strict and competitors who do not bring an original copy of their music **will be disqualified**. Photocopies that have been legally downloaded are permitted. A photocopy for the adjudicator can be made and should be marked '**Adjudicator's copy**'.

All photocopies will be destroyed after the Festival and cannot be returned to the competitor.

## **Speech and Drama**

Most, but not all, of the classes will be on the Saturday. Please indicate at entry if you are not available on the Friday evening. There will be two adjudicators in 2025.

## **Music**

**Graded classes** – The Graded classes for Instrumental and Pianoforte classes have been popular and will continue to be offered. These classes are open to competitors of any age.

**Pianoforte** – Set Piece classes were replaced by Graded Classes in 2020. Piano OPEN classes will take place in the Library at Clayton Academy on the Saturday afternoon.

**Instrumental Classes** – Significant changes have recently been made to these classes. All instrumental solo classes are now for all instruments, excluding piano solos.

**Duets and Trios** – There are three Piano Duet classes. Instrumental Duets and small ensemble groups, including Piano Trios, should be entered into class EN 410 or EN 411.

**Vocal and Musical Theatre classes** – All the Junior classes that were previously organised according to age have been replaced with National Curriculum School Year Group Classes.

Please check the publisher's copyright rules to ensure that you have permission to perform the pieces you select.





**Vocal Ensembles** - The approximate number of performers, and the name of the conductor, should be given when completing the entry form.

**Instrumental Ensembles** - The approximate number of performers, and the name of the conductor, should be given when completing the entry form.

**Composition Classes** – There are composition classes for Music and Verse.

**High Scorers' Concert** – There will be a concert on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025, at St Luke's Methodist Church in Clayton. High Scorers at the festival will be invited to take part.

<p>This Programme is worth money to you. See pages 4, 11, 19</p> <hr/> <p>Newcastle-under-Lyme  Chamber of Trade.</p> <p>GREATER NEWCASTLE</p> <h1>SHOPPING</h1> <h2>and Musical Festival</h2> <p>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20th, 1931, to SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28th, 1931 INCLUSIVE.</p> <p>LOOK OUT FOR THE  BLUE STAR.</p> <p><b>Newcastle Musical Festival</b> in the MUNICIPAL HALL, MONDAY AND TUESDAY, 23rd and 24th NOVEMBER, 1931. Adjudicator—Sir GRANVILLE BANTOCK, M.A., Mus.Doc.</p> <p>MONDAY COMPETITIONS : Juvenile Pianoforte, Soprano, Contralto and Challenge (Female Voices) Solos, Male Voice Quartette, Male Voice Choir.</p> <p>TUESDAY COMPETITIONS : Children's Choir, Bass, Tenor and Challenge (Male Voices) Solos, Male Voice Duet, Church and Chapel Choirs.</p> <p>COMBINED . . .</p> <p><b>Shopping &amp; Musical Festival</b> <b>Programme &amp; Competition Coupons</b> — Price 3d. —</p> <hr/> <p>A. E. GODWIN, Printer, Newcastle.</p>	<p><b><i>Can you help?</i></b></p> <p><b><i>We are looking for any historical papers or items that relate to the Festival. Please let us know if you have any.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If you would like to help in the research and the compilation of a booklet about the Festival over the past 100 years, please let us know.</i></b></p>
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# Speech and Drama

*Rules to be aware of -*

*1 A copy of the text must be brought to the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of texts must be adhered to. The Festival pays for a licence through its affiliation to BIFF (Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society).*

*A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

*2 The online entry requires the title, the author or poet's name and the details of the publication being used, including the ISBN number.*

*3 Duologues are not covered by the BIFF licence. The competitors must ensure that they have permission to perform the piece. (LAMDA allow their works to be performed).*

*4 Solo Dramatic items may qualify for copyright indemnity provided that the item is announced with title and author at the time of performance. The performer must not change the words or the gender of a character.*

## Verse Speaking – Choice of Set Piece

Poems should be announced by the competitor naming the title and author. Timing of own choice poems starts after this announcement. The verse should normally be spoken from memory.

The title of the Own Choice poem needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy should be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

- |                  |  |                 |
|------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>SD<br/>01</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEARS 4 AND BELOW</b><br>Choice of Set Piece<br><i>(One poem by Eleanor Farjeon or<br/>One poem by Robert Louis Stevenson)</i>              | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD<br/>02</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEARS 5 and 6</b><br>Choice of Set Piece<br><i>(One poem by Allan Ahlberg or one poem by Roger McGough)</i>                                 | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD<br/>03</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEARS 7 to 9</b><br>Choice of Set Piece<br><i>(One poem by Jenny Joseph, One poem by Walter de la Mare<br/>or One poem by Wilfred Owen)</i> | Entry Fee - £10 |

## Verse Speaking – Own Choice

Poems should be announced by the competitor naming the title and author. Timing of own choice poems starts after this announcement. The verse should normally be spoken from memory.

The title of the Own Choice poem needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy should be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

- |                  |  |                 |
|------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>SD<br/>04</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEAR 4 AND UNDER.</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 2 minutes. | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD<br/>05</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEAR 5</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 3 minutes.            | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD<br/>06</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEAR 6</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 3 minutes.            | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD<br/>07</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEARS 7 and 8</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 4 minutes.     | Entry Fee - £10 |
| <b>SD<br/>08</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>NC YEARS 9 and 10</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 5 minutes.    | Entry Fee - £10 |
| <b>SD<br/>09</b> | <b>VERSE SPEAKING<br/>OPEN</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 6 minutes.                 | Entry Fee - £12 |

## **Prose Reading – Own Choice**

Pieces should be announced by the competitor, naming the title and author. Timing starts after this announcement. The title of the own choice passage needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy should be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival.

Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

- |                  |   |                 |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>SD<br/>11</b> | <b>PROSE READING<br/>NC YEARS 4 AND BELOW</b> | Entry Fee - £8  |
|                  | Not to exceed 3 minutes.<br>Own Choice        |                 |
| <b>SD<br/>12</b> | <b>PROSE READING<br/>NC YEARS 5 AND 6.</b>    | Entry Fee - £8  |
|                  | Not to exceed 4 minutes.<br>Own Choice        |                 |
| <b>SD<br/>13</b> | <b>PROSE READING<br/>NC YEARS 7 AND 8</b>     | Entry Fee - £10 |
|                  | Not to exceed 5 minutes.<br>Own Choice        |                 |
| <b>SD<br/>14</b> | <b>PROSE READING<br/>NC YEARS 9 AND 10</b>    | Entry Fee - £10 |
|                  | Not to exceed 5 minutes.<br>Own Choice        |                 |
| <b>SD<br/>15</b> | <b>PROSE READING<br/>OPEN</b>                 | Entry Fee - £12 |
|                  | Not to exceed 6 minutes.<br>Own Choice        |                 |

## Sight Reading

Competitors remain outside the competition room. They will be called in programme order and will have 30 seconds to scan the set passage before reading it. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

- |                        |  |                 |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>SD</b><br><b>21</b> | <b>SIGHT READING</b><br><b>NC YEARS 6 AND BELOW</b><br>Set Piece (Sight Reading) | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>SD</b><br><b>22</b> | <b>SIGHT READING</b><br><b>NC YEARS 7 - 10</b><br>Set Piece (Sight Reading)      | Entry Fee - £10 |
| <b>SD</b><br><b>23</b> | <b>SIGHT READING</b><br><b>NC YEAR 11 AND ABOVE</b><br>Set Piece (Sight Reading) | Entry Fee - £12 |

## Solo Drama

Small hand props are allowed but no costume. Passages should be introduced by the competitor, including naming the title and author. Timing starts after the announcement. The title of the Own Choice piece needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy should be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

- |                        |  |                |
|------------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>SD</b><br><b>30</b> | <b>SOLO DRAMA</b><br><b>NC YEARS 4 AND BELOW</b><br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.<br>Own Choice | Entry Fee - £8 |
| <b>SD</b><br><b>31</b> | <b>SOLO DRAMA</b><br><b>NC YEARS 5 AND 6.</b><br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.<br>Own Choice    | Entry Fee - £8 |

**SD 32 SOLO DRAMA NC YEAR 7** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 4 minutes.  
Own Choice

**SD 33 SOLO DRAMA NC YEAR 8** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 4 minutes.  
Own Choice

**SD 34 SOLO DRAMA NC YEARS 9 AND 10** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 4 minutes.  
Own Choice

**SD 35 SOLO DRAMA OPEN** Entry Fee - £12

Not to exceed 6 minutes.  
Own Choice

**SD 38 SOLO DRAMA - SHAKESPEARE NC YEARS 8 AND BELOW** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 4 minutes.  
Own Choice

**SD 39 SOLO DRAMA - SHAKESPEARE OPEN** Entry Fee - £12

Not to exceed 6 minutes.  
Own Choice



## Verse Composition

Own composed poem to be submitted by email. A copy of the composition for the Adjudicator must be sent, to be received by 17th February 2025, to the Entries Coordinator:

entries@newcastlefestival.org, giving the full name of the competitor, contact details and class number.

The Adjudicator will discuss the poetry composition at the festival, using the compositions submitted, and announce the successful winners.

Performance of winners' verses to be given by the authors (or their agreed replacement) during the class at the festival. the author must be present during the class at the festival. The author must be present for the adjudication.

Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

N.B. THE COMPOSITION SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OR ENTERED INTO ANOTHER FESTIVAL. The Festival organisers reserve the right to publish the work where this would help promote the Festival.

<b>SD 50</b>	<b>VERSE COMPOSITION NC YEAR 6 AND BELOW</b>	Entry Fee - £8
	Not to exceed 3 minutes. Own Choice	
<b>SD 51</b>	<b>VERSE COMPOSITION NC YEARS 7 to 10</b>	Entry Fee - £10
	Not to exceed 4 minutes. Own Choice	
<b>SD 52</b>	<b>VERSE COMPOSITION OPEN</b>	Entry Fee - £12
	Not to exceed 5 minutes. Own Choice	





**01782 634634**  
**AMAJORMUSIC.CO.UK**  
**TRENTHAM SHOPPING VILLAGE!**  
 Get to us off the A34, just off J15 of the M6

**PROUD TO SUPPORT THE  
 NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME MUSIC FESTIVAL**

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 REPAIRS INSTRUMENT HIRE MUSICAL GIFTS  
 LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE @AMAJORMUSICSHOP  
 Trentham Shopping Village, Stone Rd, Trentham, ST4 8AX

## Could you help with the Festival in 2025?

### **Volunteers needed!**

Our local festival relies totally on volunteers and each year we try to recruit a few new ones to take the place of those who have served for many years and feel it is time to retire!

There are many roles that volunteers can take on and we would love to hear from anyone who is ready and willing to join the team. We would love to have a few young people helping us also!

Contact: [lizr.20@gmail.com](mailto:lizr.20@gmail.com)

- secretary**      **finance**      **cashier**      **publicity**
- advertising**      **liaison**      **planning**      **website**
- photography**      **graphic design**      **data handling**
- various admin roles**      **adjudicator's secretary**
- room stewards**      **writing certificates**
- fund raising**      **venue booking**
- car park steward**

# Piano

*An **original copy of the music must** be produced in the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of music must be adhered to. A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

## Graded Piano

These classes are open to competitors of any age. Competitors should only enter ONE graded class. They should choose the class closest to the level at which they are currently working. The title of the chosen piece (ONE PIECE ONLY) needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy of the music must be provided for the Adjudicator. Pieces should be chosen from the current Associated Board or Trinity College of Music syllabus.

No repeats, unless required by the examination board.

Trophies will be held for one year.

*(If the examination board is allowing an overlap, then a piece from either list is acceptable. Please be clear on the entry form by listing the title, composer, piece reference and syllabus date.)*

**PN 100 GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**PRE GRADE 1**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM Initial or Prep Test or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity Initial)

**PN 101 GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**GRADE 1**

Choice of Set Piece

(One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 1 or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 1.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**102 GRADE 2**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 2. or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 2.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**103 GRADE 3**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 3. or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 3.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**104 GRADE 4**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 4. or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 4.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £10  
**105 GRADE 5**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 5. or One piece from current syllabus Trinity grade 5.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £10  
**106 GRADE 6**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 6. or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 6.)

**PN GRADED PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £12  
**107 GRADES 7 and 8**

Choice of Set Piece (One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 7 or 8. or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 7 or 8.)

## **Piano solos, for 18 years and under.**

The title and composer of the Own Choice piece (ONE PIECE ONLY) needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy of the music must be provided at the festival for the Adjudicator.

Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

**PN PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**110 NC Year 4 and below.**

Own Choice  
Not to exceed 2 minutes.

**PN PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**111 NC Years 5 and 6**

Own Choice  
Not to exceed 3 minutes.

**PN PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £10  
**112 NC Years 7 and 8**

Own Choice  
Not to exceed 4 minutes.

**PN PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £10  
**113 NC Years 9 and 10**

Own Choice  
Not to exceed 5 minutes.

**PN PIANO SOLO** Entry Fee - £12  
**114 NC Years 11 to 13**

Own Choice  
Not to exceed 6 minutes.

## Open Piano Solos

These Piano classes are open to all ages and will be held on the Saturday of the festival. The competitor should decide which class is most appropriate for their piece. The Adjudicator may take into consideration the performer's choice of piece. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

**PN 120 PIANO SOLO OPEN** Entry Fee - £14

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

**PN 121 PIANO SOLO OPEN** Entry Fee - £14  
**BAROQUE PERIOD.**

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

**PN 122 PIANO SOLO OPEN** Entry Fee - £14  
**CLASSICAL PERIOD**

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

This class includes late Beethoven and late Schubert.

**PN 123 PIANO SOLO OPEN** Entry Fee - £14  
**CHOPIN**

Own Choice of one piece by Chopin.

Not to exceed 7 minutes.

Award: Robert Ratcliffe Trophy

**PN 124 PIANO SOLO OPEN** Entry Fee - £14  
**POST CLASSICAL TO MODERN DAY**

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

This class excludes Beethoven and Schubert.

## Piano Duets

**PN 130 PIANO DUET** Entry Fee - £14  
**NC YEARS 8 AND UNDER.**

Own Choice. Time limit – 3 minutes

**PN 131 PIANO DUET** Entry Fee - £14  
**NC YEARS 11 AND UNDER**

Own Choice. Time limit – 4 minutes

**PN 132 PIANO DUET** Entry Fee - £16  
**OPEN**

Own Choice. Time limit – 5 minutes

The Festival Committee would like to thank organisations and individuals for supporting the Festival, by paying to advertise in this Syllabus.

Would you be able to support the festival by placing an advertisement in the Programme for 2025?

Whole page - portrait view - jpg please.	£60
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For more details, please contact Liz Richardson  
 (info@newcastlefestival.org.uk)

# Instrumental Solos

*An original copy of the music must be produced in the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of music must be adhered to. A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

## Graded Instrumental Solos

Any instrument, except Piano. These classes are open to competitors of any age. Competitors should only enter one Graded class. they should choose the class closest to the level at which they are currently working. the choice of piece (ONE PIECE ONLY) needs to be stated on the entry form and a copy of the music must be provided at the festival for the Adjudicator. Pieces should be chosen from the current Associated Board or Trinity College Syllabus. *(No repeats unless required by the examination board)*. Piano accompaniment allowed. The Official Festival Accompanist is available by private arrangement.

Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

*(If the examination board is allowing an overlap, then a piece from either list is acceptable. Please be clear on the entry form by listing the title, composer, piece reference and syllabus date.)*

**IN GRADED INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**200 GRADES 1 AND 2**

Choice of Set Piece

(One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 1 or 2 or

One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 1 or 2.)

**IN GRADED INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** Entry Fee - £8  
**201 GRADES 3 AND 4**

Choice of Set Piece

(One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 3 or 4 or

One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 3 or 4.)

**IN GRADED INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** Entry Fee - £10  
**202 GRADES 5 AND 6**

Choice of Set Piece

(One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 5 or 6 or One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 5 or 6.)

**IN 203 GRADED INSTRUMENTAL SOLO GRADES 7 AND 8** Entry Fee - £10

Choice of Set Piece

(One piece from current syllabus for ABRSM grade 7 or 8 or  
One piece from current syllabus for Trinity grade 7 or 8.)

## **Instrumental Solos – Own Choice**

Any instrument, including Recorder and Guitar, but excluding Piano. The choice of piece (one piece only) needs to be stated at the time of entry and a copy of the music presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival. Piano accompaniment allowed. The Official Accompanist is available by private arrangement. Winners trophies will be held for one year.

**IN 210 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO NC YEAR 6 AND BELOW. OWN CHOICE.** Entry Fee - £8

Not to exceed 3 minutes.

**IN 211 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO NC YEARS 7 TO 9. OWN CHOICE.** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 4 minutes.

**IN 212 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO NC YEARS 10 TO 11. OWN CHOICE.** Entry Fee - £10

Not to exceed 5 minutes.

**IN 213 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO NC YEARS 12 TO 13. OWN CHOICE.** Entry Fee - £12

Not to exceed 6 minutes.

**IN 214 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO OPEN. OWN CHOICE.** Entry Fee - £14

Not to exceed 7 minutes.

### **THE LIONS BRASS TROPHY**

The Lions Brass trophy will be awarded to the most promising player of a brass instrument at the festival. The award may be to a soloist or to a player in a group or band and may not necessarily be to the winner.



# Instrumental Ensembles

*An original copy of the music must be produced in the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of music must be adhered to. A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

The approximate number of players must be stated on the entry form. No player or conductor may perform with more than one group in the same class. Large groups are allowed 10 minutes setting up time with five minutes to clear at the end of the performance. The large ensemble classes will be held on the Saturday morning. Winners' trophies will be held for one year.

## **EN FAMILY CLASS 400**

Entry Fee - £16

*A group of family members; two or more members of one family, including voices or instruments or both, of any ages. More than one entry can be made if different people are competing, but no person can take part twice in this class.*

Minimum of 2 and maximum of 10 performers

Not to exceed 6 minutes.

Own Choice

## **EN SMALL INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE 410 14 YEARS AND UNDER**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 2 and maximum of 5 performers

Not to exceed 7 minutes.

Own Choice

All players to be within the age limit.

A non-playing conductor is allowed.

A Piano Accompanist does not need to be within the age group and need be not counted as one of the performers.

## **EN SMALL INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE 411 OPEN**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 2 and maximum of 5 performers

Not to exceed 7 minutes.

Own Choice

**EN INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE**  
**412 14 YEARS AND UNDER**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 6 and maximum of 12 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

All players to be within the age limit.

A non-playing conductor is allowed.

A Piano Accompanist does not need to be within the age group and need be not counted as one of the performers.

**EN INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES**  
**413 19 YEARS AND UNDER.**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 6 and maximum of 12 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

All players to be within the age limit.

A non-playing conductor is allowed.

A Piano Accompanist does not need to be within the age group and need be not counted as one of the performers.

**EN INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES**  
**414 OPEN**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 6 and maximum of 12 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

A non playing conductor is allowed.

Piano accompaniment allowed.

**THE LIONS BRASS TROPHY**

The Lions Brass trophy will be awarded to the most promising player of a brass instrument at the festival. The award may be to a soloist or to a player in a group or band and may not necessarily be to the winner.

The Adjudicator's decision will be taken after completion of all classes involving brass.

## Instrumental Ensembles – Orchestras and Bands

**EN 420 ORCHESTRAS/BANDS** Entry Fee - £25  
**14 YEARS AND UNDER**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

All players to be within the age limit.

A non-playing conductor is allowed.

A Piano Accompanist does not need to be within the age group and need be not counted as one of the performers.

**EN 421 ORCHESTRAS/BANDS** Entry Fee - £25  
**19 YEARS AND UNDER**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

All players to be within the age limit.

A non-playing conductor is allowed.

A Piano Accompanist does not need to be within the age group and need be not counted as one of the performers.

**EN 422 ORCHESTRA / BANDS** Entry Fee - £25  
**OPEN**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 10 minutes.

**EN 423 COMMUNITY BAND** Entry Fee - £25  
**OPEN**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers

Own Choice. Not to exceed 10 minutes.

This class is for community bands and does not include school groups.

# Vocal Solos, including Musical Theatre Solos

*An original copy of the music must be produced in the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of music must be adhered to. A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

## Vocal Solos

Piano accompaniment allowed. The Official Accompanist can be available by private arrangement.

The choice of song (one song only) needs to be stated at the time of entry and a copy of the music must be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival.

No props, action or costume. Live accompaniment only.

Winners trophies will be held for one year.

- |                   |   |                 |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>VC<br/>300</b> | <b>VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 6 AND UNDER.</b><br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.<br>Own Choice                                     | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>VC<br/>301</b> | <b>VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 7 TO 10</b><br><br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.<br>Own Choice                                      | Entry Fee - £10 |
| <b>VC<br/>302</b> | <b>VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 11 TO 13</b><br><br>Not to exceed 6 minutes.<br>Own Choice                                     | Entry Fee - £12 |
| <b>VC<br/>303</b> | <b>VOCAL SOLO<br/>OPEN</b><br><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.<br>Open to all ages and voices. Two songs allowed. | Entry Fee - £14 |

## Musical Theatre Vocal Solos

Small props, movement and an impression of costume should be used. The choice of song must be stated at the time of entry and a copy of the music must be presented to the Adjudicator on the day of the festival. Winner's trophy will be held for one year.

- |                   |   |                 |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>VC<br/>310</b> | <b>MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 4 AND UNDER.</b><br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.<br>Own Choice   | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>VC<br/>311</b> | <b>MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 5 TO 6</b><br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.<br>Own Choice   | Entry Fee - £8  |
| <b>VC<br/>312</b> | <b>MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 7 TO 10</b><br>Not to exceed 5 minutes.<br>Own Choice  | Entry Fee - £10 |
| <b>VC<br/>313</b> | <b>MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL SOLO<br/>NC YEARS 11 TO 13</b><br>Not to exceed 6 minutes.<br>Own Choice   | Entry Fee - £12 |
| <b>VC<br/>314</b> | <b>MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL SOLO<br/>OPEN</b><br>Not to exceed 8 minutes.<br>Own Choice<br>Songs from Operetta, Music Hall and Musical Theatre.<br>Two songs allowed.                          | Entry Fee - £14 |
| <b>VC<br/>320</b> | <b>POP (SOLO)<br/>OPEN</b><br>Own Choice. Not to exceed 6 minutes.<br>Pop vocal with live (can be self accompaniment) or<br>recorded accompaniment. Must bring own PAT-tested<br>equipment. | Entry Fee - £14 |

## Vocal Ensembles / Choirs

*An original copy of the music must be produced in the competition room. The copyright laws governing the copying of music must be adhered to. A copy for the Adjudicator may be a photocopy as long as the original copy is also present in the room. All photocopies submitted to the adjudicator will be destroyed by the Festival Office staff.*

### CH GROUP MUSIC THEATRE 500

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 performers

Not to exceed 10 minutes.

Two songs allowed.

Own choice from published works of Musical Theatre or film.

Small props, movement and an impression of costume should be used. The approximate number of singers must be stated at the time of entry. Winner's trophy will be held for one year.



Come and join our Tweedale family!

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## Junior Choirs

**CH JUNIOR CHOIR Entry Fee - £20**  
**510 NC YEARS 6 AND UNDER**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers  
 Two contrasting own choice pieces.  
 Not to exceed 7 minutes. Time limit includes both pieces.

**CH JUNIOR CHOIR Entry Fee - £20**  
**511 NC YEARS 7 TO 11**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers  
 Two contrasting own choice pieces.  
 Not to exceed 7 minutes. Time limit includes both pieces.

**CH JUNIOR CHOIR Entry Fee - £20**  
**512 NC YEARS 13 AND BELOW**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers  
 Two contrasting own choice pieces.  
 Not to exceed 7 minutes. Time limit includes both pieces.

## Youth Choirs

### George Finney Award

**CH YOUTH CHORAL Entry Fee - £50**  
**520 19 YEARS AND UNDER**  
**(SONGS FROM THE SHOWS)**

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 50 performers  
 Not to exceed 10 minutes.

Own Choice of Songs from the Shows. (Please check copyright rules and obtain any permission required from the publisher.)

Winner will receive the George S. Finney trophy.  
 Every choir taking part will receive a bursary of £100 from the George Finney fund.  
 The conductor does not need to be within this age bracket.

**CH 521 YOUTH VOCAL ENSEMBLE** Entry Fee - £20  
**22 YEARS AND UNDER.**

Minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 performers  
 Two contrasting own choice pieces.  
 Not to exceed 8 minutes. Time limit includes both.  
 The conductor does not have to be within this age bracket.

## Open Choir Classes

### Barracks Trust Award

**CH 530 ADULT CHOIR** Entry Fee - £40  
**OPEN**

A programme of two or more contrasting pieces to be performed within the time limit of 12 minutes.  
 Open to any category of adult choir, including Community, Gospel and Barber Shop, etc. School and youth choirs are excluded, although up to four school-aged members are allowed.

Minimum of 10 and maximum of 75 performers  
 Cash prizes, donated by The Barracks Trust of £120, £80 and £50 will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively.

**CH 531 SMALL VOCAL ENSEMBLE** Entry Fee - £20  
**OPEN.**

Minimum of 2 and maximum of 8 performers  
 Own Choice. Not to exceed 7 minutes.

### Barracks Trust New Award

**CH 532 VOCAL ENSEMBLE OPEN** Entry Fee - £30

Minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 performers  
 Own Choice. Not to exceed 8 minutes.  
 Cash prizes for first and second places, donated by The Barracks Trust, of £70 and £30.



**CH**    **POP**  
**540**   **OPEN**

Entry Fee - £20

Minimum of 2, and maximum of 5 performers  
 Own Choice. Not to exceed 6 minutes.

Pop vocal with live or recorded accompaniment, which can be vocal and/or instrumental. Competitors must bring own PAT tested equipment. (Please check copyright rules and obtain any permission required from the publisher.)

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Struggling with GCSE or A-level  
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I can help you with:

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- ▶ Music production

### LOCATION

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### EMAIL

ed@pianovoyagers.co.uk



## ADVANCE NOTICE

### High Scorers' Concert

There will be a concert on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025, at St Luke's Methodist Church in Clayton.  
 High Scorers at the festival will be invited to take part.

## Music Composition

Own composition to be submitted by email.

A copy of the composition for the Adjudicator must be sent, to be received by 17th February 2025 to the Entries Coordinator: [entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk](mailto:entries@newcastlefestival.org.uk), giving the full name of the competitor, contact details and class number.

The composition is to be played or sung at the festival. It can be for solo or a small group of instruments or voices not exceeding six performers including a conductor, if used. The composer is the named entrant for this class. The onus is on the entrant to arrange for the performance of the composition, although the entry will not be judged on the performance or the lyrics. The composer need not perform but must be present for the adjudication. (The composition should not have been previously published or entered into another festival. The festival organisers reserve the right to publish the work where this would help promote the Festival.)

The winner's trophy will be held for one year.

<b>CO</b>	<b>MUSIC COMPOSITION</b>	Entry Fee - £10
<b>600</b>	<b>AGE 14 YEARS AND UNDER.</b>	
	Not to exceed 5 minutes.	

<b>CO</b>	<b>MUSIC COMPOSITION</b>	Entry Fee - £12
<b>601</b>	<b>AGE 18 YEARS AND UNDER.</b>	
	Not to exceed 6 minutes.	

<b>CO</b>	<b>MUSIC COMPOSITION</b>	Entry Fee - £14
<b>602</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	
	Not to exceed 8 minutes.	

## Could you support the Festival?

Newcastle Festival is run entirely by unpaid volunteers. However, items such as professional adjudicators and venue hire need to be paid for and entry fees only partly cover the costs. Please consider making a donation.

**Donations can be paid directly to our HSBC account -  
*Newcastle (Staffs) Music and Drama Festival*  
(Sort Code 40-34-13 Account number 31848143).**

In order for the Festival to benefit from Gift Aid, you will need to contact the Treasurer – [janeharrop03@gmail.com](mailto:janeharrop03@gmail.com)

**You can become a FRIEND for £15+ or become a PATRON for £30+.**

*Each time we print a new programme, we list the names of Friends and Patrons who have made donations during the previous 12 months. You will also be sent a free programme and receive free admission to the next festival.*

If you wish to make your donation by cheque, please make it payable to:-

### **Newcastle Staffs Music & Drama Festival**

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