

Festival Rules of Entry

ENTRIES

1. All entries must be made on the official entry forms, EITHER by email to northnorthantsmf@gmail.com , OR by post and submitted as a paper entry reaching the Festival Chair on or before the closing date as given in the syllabus.
2. Late entries will not be accepted
3. No entry will be accepted UNLESS payment for the class has been received. You may be asked for Proof of payment with Payment Reference as indicated on Entry Form. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any entry.
4. Each entrant must be in the appropriate school year group for each class. Group entries must belong to the specified year groupings.
5. Performers in all ensemble classes must be bona fide members of the group concerned
6. Entrants may perform only once in each class except in duet, trio or ensemble classes where an entrant may perform more than once provided a different part is played.

GENERAL

1. The Festival is for amateurs, which is defined as one who does not receive more than out-of-pocket expenses for services rendered in those branches of the arts with which the Festival is concerned. This rule does not apply to a conductor
2. The Festival reserves the right to limit, cancel or subdivide any class
3. The Festival reserves the right to substitute any Adjudicator without notice.
4. NO photographs or recordings may be taken DURING ANY PERFORMANCE but may be taken after the performance WITH RELEVANT PERMISSION.
5. The Festival cannot accept responsibility for property left at the venues during the Festival
6. Confirmation of venue, date, and time of classes will be available on the festival website (www.northnorthantsmf.co.uk) or in the printed programme when available.

OWN CHOICE PIECES

1. A copy of Own Choice pieces (including choices from examination grades) must be provided for the Adjudicator's use on the day and be marked with name and class number, otherwise the performance will be judged non-competitively.
 2. Where music has an accompaniment, this should be used.
 3. Backing Tracks are not Permitted in any class
4. If you require an official accompanist you must state so on your entry form, if not then your entry into the class, if not your class will be Withdrawn and no refund will be given.

ASSESSMENT & AWARDS

1. Whilst performance in some classes has a competitive element, it is not an examination and the intention is to offer a performance opportunity in a supportive environment.
 2. The Following Remarks will be given
 - *Outstanding - An exceptional performance technically and artistically
 - *Distinction - An excellent performance technically and artistically
 - *Commended - A convincing performance technically and artistically
 - *Merit - A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability
 - *Moderate - A performance showing development of technique and/or communication
 - *Fair - A performance limited in its communication at present
 3. The Adjudicator's decision will be regarded as final.
4. No entrant, teacher or interested party may discuss any aspect of the Festival with an Adjudicator before, during or after classes, except at the invitation of the Adjudicator.
5. Every entrant will receive a Performance Certificate and the Adjudicator's comments. After Adjudication, Certificates and Awards will be presented. Awards may be withheld if, in the opinion of the Adjudicator, sufficient merit is not shown.
6. Trophies remain the property of the North Northamptonshire Music Festival and should be returned to the Festival one month prior to the next Festival

COPYRIGHT

1. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that the provisions of the 1956 and 1988 Copyright Acts are observed. The Music Publishers' Association has revised its Code of Practice insofar as Own Choice Works selected from volumes is concerned: When selecting from a publication containing several different works and where the required work is not published separately, one copy may be made for the Adjudicator. The copy will be retained by the Festival and destroyed after the event. This permission does not apply to set works nor to making copies for accompanists who must always be given an original copy from which to play. Single copies of items may not be photocopied without the prior permission of the Copyright holder
2. Performers in Own Choice Classes will be required to submit a copy to the Adjudicator's Steward stating TITLE – AUTHOR - PUBLISHER.

SPONSORSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION

1. We are a self-financing organisation run by a team of dedicated volunteers. We need help financially, to enable the Festival - your Festival - to maintain a service of the highest quality and to plan future festivals with confidence.

FRIENDS & SPONSORS

1. Members of the public are invited to support the Festival financially by becoming Friends or Sponsors.
2. Class Sponsors have the opportunity to select the class for which their award will be made, subject to that class not already being sponsored. If the chosen class has insufficient entries to justify an award then it will be held until the following year.
3. To become a class sponsor an Annual Fee of £30 is to be made to the Festival. If the fee is not received Annually then the festival had the right to withdraw your award and pass it to another sponsor.
4. If anyone wishes to make a donation of a trophy, plaque or Cup then that generosity will be recorded in a list published in the festival programme. This may well be relevant to commemorate someone as a form of memorial. If this is something which appeals to you please get in touch with The Festival and we will be delighted to discuss the possibility with you.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE FESTIVAL – CAN YOU HELP?

There is no need for musical or acting ability to enter the spirit of our Festival. All that is required is for you to be keen to help the organisers by giving a little of your time during the period of the Festival. One half day session, normally about three hours, would be an enormous help. A prearranged rota is compiled which provides coverage at the venue to greet entrants, parents, teachers and audience, sell programmes and help generally with the tasks of the session. Guidelines, with an informal training morning/evening are provided. Stewards are really important in the smooth running of the Festival sessions – your volunteering to help in this way would be greatly appreciated. To volunteer please contact northnorthantsmf@gmail.com