RULES

1. All competitors must be age 21 or under at the time of the competition.
2. All competitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a legal guardian.
3. All competitors must be members of the British Viola Society. Link to join here: http://www.britishviolasociety.co.uk/support/join/ (FREE for 18 years and under)
4. Competitors of all nationalities are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Application form and audiovisual (video) recording

Applications and video recordings must be submitted online via MUVAC by **Friday 30 July 2027**. Applicants should create or log in to their MUVAC account, select the Tertis and Aronowitz Competitions application, and complete the online application form. The required supporting documents should then be uploaded to the relevant sections of the application, and the video recording should be uploaded as an unlisted video and submitted as part of the application. Please ensure that all required information, documents and the video recording have been uploaded before submitting your application. Once submitted, please check that your application has been successfully received through MUVAC.

Please note that applications submitted by post will not be accepted.

2. Supporting documents

The following documents must be uploaded with the application:

- Proof of date of birth.
- Proof of Membership of the British Viola Society (Membership link: Membership Benefits – British Viola Society). *See note below.*
- Proof of payment of the application fee (see point 3 below).
- A publicity photograph.

3. Application fee

A non-refundable application fee of **£180**. After you have submitted your application, you will receive an email with instructions for paying the application fee. Payment must be made in full by **23:59 on Friday 30 July 2027**. Your application will only be processed once the application fee has been received. Please do not send payment before receiving the payment

instructions. **Please note:** Should the competition be postponed for any reason, the application fee will remain non-refundable and will be carried forward to cover the revised competition dates.

4. Notification of progression

Applicants will be informed whether or not they have advanced to Rounds 1 and 2 no later than **Friday 3 September 2027**. All applicants are encouraged to attend the final two rounds of the competition, whether or not they have advanced to Rounds 1 and 2. These rounds will take place during the competition/festival week, 16-22 January 2028 and attendance is free of charge. Applicants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

British Viola Society membership

If you are not currently a member of the British Viola Society, please add the relevant membership fee to your payment and we will process the application on your behalf: £10 LTIVC membership

VIDEO SUBMISSION

Preliminary (Video)

All works must be filmed back-to-back in one take (as if in a recital performance) with no audio or visual editing.
Submissions should be between 15 – 20 minutes in length and should be made up of the following:

1. One movement of solo Bach from one of the Cello Suites, Violin Partitas or Sonatas.

2. One movement from any major sonata, with piano composed after 1850 (N.B. Schubert's 'Arpeggione' Sonata, composed in 1824, is permitted).

3. Britten - Lachrymae (from the beginning until four bars before Figure 5 - circa 6 ½ mins).

The order must be as listed above. The recording must have been produced within 6 months prior to submission. Where appropriate, works must be presented with piano. Repeats may be omitted to fit within the time limit.

COMPETITION ROUNDS/STAGES AND PROGRAMMES

ALL rounds will be live AND streamed

The repertory for Round 1, 2, 3 and 4 for participants that successfully advance beyond the video round must be submitted by 30 September 2027.

All competitors that advance from the video round will play in both Rounds 1 and 2. Eight competitors will be selected to advance to the third round, and of this group, three competitors will then be selected to proceed to the final round.

The order of appearance by the participants will be decided upon arrival. This order will remain unaltered throughout Round 1 and 2 of the Competition.

The Competition will consist of four rounds that will take place live at the Glasshouse International Centre for Music, Gateshead of which all will be open to the public. Round 4 (Final Round) will take place at the Glasshouse with The Royal Northern Sinfonia.

Revised Repertoire Requirements 2028

ROUND 1 - 'OLD AND NEW'
(During the competition week 16th - 22nd January 2028)
Two movements of solo Bach from one of the Cello Suites, Violin Partitas or Sonatas. One of these movements may be the same as Round 1, and both movements must come from the same work.

New Commissioned Test Piece – **composed by Arthur Feder**

ROUND 2 – 'SONATA'
(During the competition week 16th - 22nd January 2028)
A complete major sonata with piano, composed after 1850 (nb: Schubert's 'Arpeggione' Sonata, composed in 1824, is permitted). Accompanists will be provided by The Tertis & Aronowitz International Competitions. No competitor will be permitted to bring their own accompanist for this round.

ROUND 3 – 'CHAMBER & CAPRICE'
(During the competition week 16th-22nd January 2028)

1. Brahms - Zwei Gesänge für eine Altstimme mit Bratsche und Klavier (Two songs for an alto voice with viola and piano), Op.91.

2. ANY Paganini, Rode, or Vieux Etude or Caprice of high difficulty. Vocalist and pianist

will be provided by The Northern Sinfonia. No competitor will be permitted to bring their own musicians for this round.

ROUND 4 – 'FINAL WITH ORCHESTRA'
(During the competition week 16th-22nd January 2028)

1. First movement of either Hoffmeister (D Major) or Stamitz (D Major) viola concertos, with an original cadenza composed or improvised by the competitor.
2. Britten – Lachrymae.

JURY INFORMATION

1. There will be five jury members.
2. Any juror having a teaching or professional relationship with a participant must declare such relationship and will abstain from voting on the participant's performances. No juror shall have a family relationship with a participant.
3. The jury will award all prizes.
4. The decisions of the jury are final.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The competition will be held at the Glasshouse International Centre for Music, Gateshead from the morning of Sunday 16th January and will be finished on the evening of Saturday 22nd January.

Rehearsals for the finalists will take place on the 21st and 22nd January. The competition will also feature recitals, masterclasses and workshops open to the public.

Please note that the competition rounds are open to the public, and may be livestreamed on the official competition Facebook page and distributed amongst our partners.

We thank you for applying to the fifth Cecil Aronowitz International Viola Competition, and we wish you the very best of luck!