

9th RIGA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PIANISTS 2020

General Rules

The 9th Riga International Competition for Young Pianists takes place on **October 17th – 20th 2020** at *Small Guild*, Amatu Street 5 Riga, Latvia. The competition is open to pianists of any nationality from 5 to 21 years (born after October 18, 1998) in categories for Solo and Four Hands performance.

Competition Schedule

September 30th	Application Deadline
October 17th	8.40-11.50 Music Teacher Seminar at <i>Riga Music School Nr.3</i> (free admission)
October 18th	8.30 Competition: Junior Group A-B-C-D at <i>Small Guild</i> , Amatu 5
October 18th	18.00 Opening Concert at <i>Small Guild</i> and Junior Group Awards (free admission)
October 19th	8.30 Competition: Senior Group A-B-C the 1 st Round at <i>Small Guild</i>
October 20th	8.30 Competition: Debut, Senior Group D and the 2 nd Round Senior Group A-B-C
October 20th	18.00 Laureate Concert and Award Ceremony at <i>Small Guild</i> (free admission)

Competition Aim & Tasks

Develop the traditions of academic piano performance in Latvia and promote the popularization of folk tunes, classical ballet and opera music in academic piano genres. Promote the development of the academic piano skills for young pianists in Piano Solo and Four Hands performance; enrich the pedagogical repertoire of academic piano performance with forgotten and less known pieces; provide young pianists with a professional experience and stage performance.

Participation

1. Contestants' Groups

- 1.1. **Debut**, 5-6 years
- 1.2. **Junior A**, 7-8 years
- 1.3. **Junior B**, 9-10 years

- 1.4. **Junior C**, 11-12 years
- 1.5. **Junior D**, 7-13 years
- 1.6. **Senior A**, 13-15 years
- 1.7. **Senior B**, 16-18 years
- 1.8. **Senior C**, 19-21 year
- 1.9. **Senior D**, 13-18 years

2. Competition Categories

- 2.1. Piano Solo (One or Two Rounds depending on the Group)
- 2.2. Piano Four Hands

3. Repertoire

All contestants are required to perform their programs by memory. All program time limits mean entire performance length, including breaks between the pieces. The competitor may choose the order of the pieces played.

Contestants will not be permitted to make **any repertoire changes after September 30th.**

3.1. Piano Solo

3.1.1. Debut (5-6 years)

Up to **5 minutes** in total: a set of contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** a set of contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Janis Kepitis** (1908-1990) *Kokletajs* **OR** **Janis Norvilis** (1906-1994) *Field of Songs* **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre. The best performance of contrasting arrangements by Janis Kepitis, Janis Norvilis will be awarded.

3.1.2. Junior A (7-8 years)

Up to **6 minutes** in total:

- 1. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Ilze Arne** (1953) **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
- 2. one folk tune arrangement by any composer **OR** piece/pieces from any genre;
- 3. one etude of contestant's choice.

The best performance of contrasting arrangements by Ilze Arne will be awarded.

3.1.3. Junior B (9-10 years)

Up to **7 minutes** in total:

1. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Janis Norvilis** (1906-1994) *Field of Songs* **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
2. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Romualds Kalsons** (1936) *12 Latvian Folk Tune Arrangements* **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
3. one etude of contestant's choice.

If competitor's program includes a highly virtuosic piece (I. Berkovich *Variations on Paganini*), is not necessary to play *Etude*

The best performance of contrasting arrangements by Janis Norvilis, Romualds Kalsons will be awarded.

3.1.4. Junior C (11-12 years)

Up to **8 minutes** in total:

1. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** contrasting *Latvian Folk Tunes for Piano* op. 29, op. 32 by **Jazeps Vitolis** (1863-1948) **OR** by **Olgerts Gravitis** (1926-2015) *50 Latvian Folk Tunes*, **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
2. one OR several, OR a set of Baroque period pieces (e.g. *Fugues, Inventions, Sinfonias*, movements from the *French Suites* by J. S. Bach, movements from the *Suites* by G. F. Haendel, D. Scarlatti *Sonatas* etc.);
3. one virtuoso concert style (programmatic) study by A. Arensky OR F. Burgmüller, OR A. Diabelli, OR I. Moscheles, OR M. Moszkowski, OR E. MacDowell, OR E. Neupert, OR L. Rozycki (but not C. Czerny).

The best performance of contrasting arrangements by Jazeps Vitolis, Olgerts Gravitis will be awarded.

3.1.5. Junior D (7-13 years)

Only for pupils of General Education schools with piano classes (**non-professional students**).

Up to **6 minutes** in total:

1. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** by **Janis Kepitis** (1908-1990) *Kokletajs*, **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
2. contrasting folk tune arrangements native to the contestant **OR** by **Pauls Dambis** (1936) *10 Small Pieces for Children* **OR** piece/pieces from any composer and genre;
3. one etude of contestant's choice.

The best performance of contrasting arrangements by Janis Kepitis, Pauls Dambis will be awarded.

3.1.6. Senior A (13-15 years): Two Rounds

I Round: performance from 9 – 12 minutes

1. a piece with folk tune elements (*Variations* OR *Ballade*, OR *Fantasy*, OR *Mazurka*, OR *Paraphrases*, OR *Rhapsody*, OR *Rondo* e.g. J. Brahms *Rhapsody*, F. Chopin *Polonaise*, B. Martinu *Tango* etc.);
2. one OR several, OR a set of Baroque period pieces (e.g. movements from the *English* or *French Suites*, *Partitas*, *Toccatas* by J. S. Bach, movements from the *Suites* by G. F. Haendel, J. Ph. Rameau, A. Soler, D. Scarlatti *Sonatas* etc.);
3. one virtuoso concert style study (P. Tchaikovsky, S. Maykapar, F. Mendelssohn, S. Lyapunov, F. Liszt, S. Rachmaninoff, A. Scriabin, J. Vitolis etc.).

II Round: performance from 12 – 15 minutes

1. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **UNTIL** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round,
2. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **AFTER** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round.

In the 1st Round the best performance of folk tune arrangement by **Marija Druste (1984)** *Folk Impression I* will be awarded.

3.1.7. Senior B (16-18 years): Two Rounds

I Round: performance from 12 – 15 minutes

1. a piece with folk tune elements;
2. one OR several, OR a set of Baroque period pieces;
3. one virtuoso concert style study;
4. a piece of contestant's choice.

II Round: performance from 15 – 20 minutes

1. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **UNTIL** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round,
2. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **AFTER** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round.

In the 1st Round the best performance of folk tune arrangement by **Marija Druste (1984)** *Folk Impression II* will be awarded.

3.1.8. Senior C (19-21 year): Two Rounds

I Round: performance from 15 – 20 minutes

1. a piece with folk tune elements;
2. one OR several, OR a set of Baroque period pieces;
3. one virtuoso concert style study;
4. a piece of contestant's choice.

II Round: performance from 20 – 25 minutes

1. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **UNTIL** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round,
2. a piece or a set of pieces of contestant's choice composed **AFTER** 1900 and NOT performed in the I Round.

In the 1st Round the best performance of folk tune arrangement by **Marija Druste (1984)** *Folk Impression IV* will be awarded.

3.2. Piano Four Hands

3.2.1. Junior A (7-8 years)

Up to **5 minutes** in total: contrasting folk tune arrangements by any composer **AND/OR** classical ballet music, **AND/OR** opera music transcription/transcriptions.

The best performance of contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Janis Kepitis (1908-1990)** will be awarded.

3.2.2. Junior B (9-10 years)

Up to **6 minutes** in total:

1. folk tune arrangement / arrangements by any composer;
2. a classical ballet music **AND/OR** opera music transcription / transcriptions.

The best performance of contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Alfreds Kalnins (1879-1951)** will be awarded.

3.2.3. Junior C (11-12 years)

Up to **7 minutes** in total:

1. folk tune arrangement / arrangements by any composer;
2. a classical ballet music **AND/OR** opera music transcription / transcriptions.

The best performance of contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Harry Ore (1885-1972)** will be awarded.

3.2.4. Junior D (7-13 years)

Only for pupils from General Education schools with piano classes (**non-professional students**). Up to **6 minutes** in total: contrasting folk tune arrangements by any composer **AND/OR** classical ballet music, **AND/OR** opera music transcription / transcriptions.

The best performance of contrasting folk tune arrangements by **Georgs Pelecis (1947)** will be awarded.

3.2.5. Senior D (13-18 years)

Up to **12 minutes** in total:

1. a piece or a set of pieces composed **UNTIL** 1900,
2. a piece or a set of pieces composed **AFTER** 1900.

Advisable include a folk tune arrangement/s by any composer **AND/OR** classical ballet music, **AND/OR** opera music transcription/s (F. Chopin *Variations D-dur* B.12a, J. Brahms *Hungarian Dances*, I. Paderewski *Tatra Album*, A. Dvorzak *Slavonic Dances*, M. Glinka *Capriccio on Russian Themes* etc.)

4. Jury

The Jury is composed of internationally recognized pianists. Competitors will be evaluated on a 100 – point system, each performance will be awarded the arithmetic mean from the overall sum of points. Adjudication of competitors' is only the Jury's prerogative. Judging criteria are: degree of repertoire difficulty, technical quality of performance, stylistic adequacy and text preciseness, clarity and diversity of musical expression, and artistic stage presentation. The Jury reserves the right to stop the performance exceeding the time limit. All decisions of the Jury are final and cannot be appealed by anyone. Students of the Jury members are allowed to take part at the competition; the Jurors may not vote for their own students.

From Senior Group A/B/C Jury will choose up to 9 Finalists in total to proceed to the 2nd Round of the competition. In case of several candidates in the same category and group obtaining an equal number of points, the Jury President has the final vote.

5. Additional

Application fee

Debut and Junior A/B/C/D group is **45.00 EUR**

Senior A/B/C/D group is **90.00 EUR**

On the payment, full **Name** and **Group** of the competitor should be given. The fee will not be returned. Bank charges should be made by the contestants. Please make the payment until September 30th, 2020 to:

RIGAS STARPTAUTISKAIS JAUNO PIANISTU KONKURSS RIGA INTERNATIONAL CYP

Address: Pulkveza Brieza 8-17, Riga LV-1010, Latvia

Bank account / IBAN: **LV64 HABA 0551 0361 72008**

BIC / S.W.I.F.T.: HABA LV22

Bank address: SWEDBANK, Balasta dambis 15, Riga LV-1048, Latvia

You may find the payment details on the competition website:

With signing the *Application Form*, contestants agree to competition's General Rules. The travel and accommodation expenses are to be paid by the contestants. At the competition the

contestant under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, a teacher, or other person over 18 years of age. The competition schedule, order of rehearsals and stage appearances in competition will be notified by E-mail to competitors AND posted on the competition website. Formal concert dress is required.

The rights for audio and video recording, photography and broadcasting of the performances belong to the Competition. The *Riga International Competition for Young Pianists* may not be held liable for any payments to pianists arising out of materials derived from any Competition events. The scores by Latvian composers are available for free download according to competition's educational tasks on the website.

6. Prizes and Awards

The contestants will be provided with 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prize *Winners' Diplomas* and *Participants' Diplomas*.

In **Piano Solo** category the winners in **Debut** and **Junior A/B/C/D** group will be awarded the *Ilze Arne, Pauls Dambis, Olgerts Gravitis, Romualds Kalsons, Janis Kepitis, Janis Norvilis, Jazeps Vitols and BRAVO Award*.

In **Four Hands** category the winners in **Junior A/B/C/D** group will be awarded the *Alfreds Kalnins, Janis Kepitis, Harry Ore and Georgs Pelecis Award*.

Money prizes in **Piano Solo** category for **Senior Group**:

Group: "Piano Solo SENIOR A"

1.Prize 200 €

2.Prize 150 €

3.Prize 100 €

Group: "Piano Solo SENIOR B"

1.Prize 300 €

2.Prize 200 €

3.Prize 150 €

Group: "Piano Solo SENIOR C"

1.Prize 500 €

2.Prize 300 €

3.Prize 200 €

Money prizes in **Piano Four Hands** category for **Senior Group**:

Group: "Piano Four Hands SENIOR D"

1.Prize 200 €

2.Prize 150 €

3.Prize 100 €

Special prizes for Senior Group: *Juris & Regina Lusi in Memoriam Award, Theo Bikis in Memoriam Award, Marija Druste Award, Ballet and Dance Guild of Latvia Award, Einbeck Award, Bach Award, Chopin Award, Scarlatti Award.*

Results of the **Senior A/B/C/D** group will be announced on **October 20, 2020 at 6 p.m. at Small Guild Hall** in Riga where *Prizewinners' Gala Concert* and the *Awards Ceremony* will take place. The Finalists are obliged, according to the decision of the Jury, to participate at the *Awards Ceremony* and perform at the *Gala Concert*, otherwise they will lose their right to the money prize and special prize awarded. Formal concert dress is required. The Jury has the right to decide upon the amount of the Prizes given.

Contestants' piano teachers will receive the *Certificate* of advanced professional training program (12h) coordinated with Riga Municipality and the Riga Music School nr.3 valid from 26.06.2019 under nr. RIMC-19-143.

7. Application

Application Deadline: **September 30th, 2020.**

Please apply online at: [...](#)

If an online application is not possible, please fill in clearly the printed *Application Form 2020* [...](#)

Scanned documents as PDF files (a filled *Application Form*, a copy of the birth certificate OR identity card OR passport) can be sent by e-mail to rigapiano@gmail.com

Only complete applications with a paid application fee will be processed. To identify the application fee payment, please make sure the Name and the Group of the contestant is entered correctly.

The organizers reserve the right to limit the number of contestants.