



SYLLABUS 2026 INSTRUMENTAL FESTIVAL

ADJUDICATOR: Peter Adams

**VENUE: Otago Boys High School
Auditorium**

DATES: 10 – 13 September 2026

ENTRIES CLOSE: 31 July 2026

INSTRUMENTAL CONVENOR

Sofie Van Huffel
14 Ferntree Drive
9010 Dunedin

Mob: 022 052 8582

E: DPACS.instrumental@gmail.com

Dunedin Performing Arts Competition Society:

Life Members: Arnold Bachop, Dawn Bachop, Gladys Hope,
Lorraine Aitken, Susanne Chambers, Denise
Henderson

President: Judy Bellingham

Vice-President: Susanne Chambers

Secretary: Jenny Whittacker

Treasurer: Sofie Van Huffel

Committee: Judith Borick, Diane Cooper, Denise Henderson,
Cathy Highton-Sim

ADJUDICATOR:

Peter Adams

Peter Adams is Emeritus Professor of Music in the School of Performing Arts at the University of Otago and a well-known conductor, composer, and clarinettist. He has an MMus in Music Theory and Analysis from King's College, London, and began his academic career at Otago University in 1990. Since then, Peter has built up a fine reputation as a composer and as a conductor and musical director working all around New Zealand.

Peter has conducted Dunedin's Dunedin Symphony Orchestra on many occasions and has a long-standing relationship with the Dunedin Youth Orchestra, The Dunedin City Wind Orchestra, and the St Kilda Brass conducting them all many times over the last twenty-five years. He was also the Musical Director of the City of Dunedin Choir for ten years in the previous century!

Peter is something of a specialist in working with young people: For 2012 - 2015 he was Musical Director of the NZ National Youth Brass Band and took them to China in August 2012 for an international youth arts festival. Peter is the musical director of the Waitaki Summer Music School and has also conducted the NZ Secondary Schools Symphony Orchestra and the South Island Youth Orchestra on several occasions.

His compositions have been published by Promethean editions and recorded by Rattle Records and Radio New Zealand.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR COMPETITORS

1. **COMPETITORS:** The Competitions are open to amateurs whose regular income is not derived mainly from the exercise of his or her talents in the particular section in which he or she is competing. The Committee reserves the right to determine the status of any competitor.
2. **AGE LIMIT:** A competitor's age is reckoned as at the first day of the Competitions of the current year. Each competitor, when called on to do so, must satisfy the Committee of his or her age, or be disqualified. Competitors may not compete in other than their age group except in Instrumental Ensemble Classes, where competitors must perform in the age group of the oldest competitor.
3. **CUPS AND TROPHIES** must be returned – cleaned and engraved - to the Convenor at 14 Ferntree Drive, Wakari, Dunedin by September 1, 2026. Please contact her on 022 052 8582, or email DPACS.instrumental@gmail.com to confirm a suitable time for returning. If not returned by that date a \$10 fine will be imposed. All trophy winners are responsible for the engraving of their names, and trophies are held for one year.
4. **TIES:** If two competitors tie for first place, the prize money for first and second shall be combined and divided equally. The second place winner shall receive the third place prize money.
5. **PRIZES:** In addition to monetary and trophy prizes where specified, certificates will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
6. **REHEARSALS:** It is not the Society's responsibility to arrange rehearsals.
7. **ORDER OF APPEARANCE:** Competitors' names appear in the programme in the order in which they will be called upon to perform. All competitors must be in attendance 15 minutes before the commencement of the class and report to the Music Table.
8. **PROTEST:** Any competitor desiring to protest must do so in writing, setting out the grounds, and lodge the same with the Secretary, together with \$10.00 as a guarantee of bona fide. Should the Committee, after investigation, deem any protest to be frivolous or unfounded, the deposit may be forfeited. No protest will be considered unless lodged as specified above within 24 hours after the results have been announced. No protest can be made against any decision of a Judge.
9. **THE PROGRAMME** (which will be the only timetable), will be available three weeks before the Festival. Copies will be posted to competitors if indicated on the Entry Form. Programmes can also be purchased at the competitions

10. JUDGES: No competitor, parent, teacher or interested party, other than the Committee, shall have contact with the Judge until the last class in which the competitor performs has ended.
11. MUSIC COPIES must be available for the Adjudicator at least 15 minutes before the commencement of the class. They must be handed to the Music Table and have written at the head of the front page the class number and the competitor's name and number. All copies must be collected from the Music Table immediately following the completion of the class.
12. REPETITION OF PERFORMANCE: No competitor, having won first prize with an item at any Dunedin Competitions Society Festivals, shall present this item again as an own choice.
13. TIME LIMIT: There will be a time limit of five minutes in Junior Instrumental Classes (Classes 300-324) and ten minutes in Senior Instrumental Classes (Classes 350-354) for all classes of own choice items except where otherwise indicated.
14. THE COMMITTEE reserves the right to subdivide classes after entries have been received, if the numbers entering make that class unwieldy.
15. SPECIAL PRIZES will not be awarded if fewer than three competitors perform except at the discretion of the Adjudicator. The Adjudicator has the right to withhold prizes if a suitable standard is not attained.
16. REPORTS will be available from the Secretary's table at the end of each session.
17. NO ITEM performed in one class may be repeated in another.
18. DRESS: It is expected that all performers will be dressed in a manner suitable for their performance.
19. PRE-RECORDED TAPES are not permitted as accompaniment in instrumental classes.
20. REGULATION REGARDING PHOTOCOPYING: Please note – The original printed music must be available at all times either for the adjudicator or for the performer. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in disqualification.
21. NO ENTRIES will be accepted from students taught by the Adjudicator in this and the previous year.
22. RECORDING PERFORMANCES: Anyone wishing to video or record a competitor's performance must first obtain the permission of the Convenor.
23. Entry to these competitions is deemed to signify acceptance of these conditions

TIME LIMITS:

Junior Classes – Classes 300-325 for competitors aged under 16:
Five minutes for all own selection classes, except where a special time limit is stated.

Senior Classes – Classes 350-356 for competitors aged 16 & over:
Ten minutes for all own selection classes, except where a special time limit is stated.

OWN SELECTION:

In own selection classes, a competitor may present 1 or more movements from a suite, sonata or group of pieces by the same composer but the time limit must be strictly observed.

VENUE: Otago Boys High School Auditorium; 2 Arthur Street, Central Dunedin

ENTRY FEES:

Competitors aged under 16 years: solo	\$6.00 per class
Except class 304:	\$12.00
Competitors aged under 15 years: junior recital	\$15.00
Competitors aged under 16 years: duet or ensemble	\$10.00 per duet/ensemble

Competitors aged 16 & over: non-recital	\$12.00 per class
Competitors aged 15 & over: recital	\$20.00
Competitors aged 16 and over: ensemble:	\$20.00 per ensemble

Administration Fee: \$20.00 per competitor, or \$25.00 for siblings.

ENTRY:

Online entry forms will be available at the DPACS website from 1 June 2026. (<http://www.dpacs.org.nz/instrumental/>). Those who have difficulty filling out the form, please contact the convenor at DPACS.Instrumental@gmail.com, or call at 022 0528582

Please use one entry form per entrant.

Entrants who wish to compete with multiple instruments: please fill out one form per instrument. Administration fee needs only to be paid once per entrant.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 31 July 2026

Late entries may be accepted (pending availability) up to one week after the closing date on payment of an additional \$10.00.

IMPORTANT NOTE to all Competitors If there are too many entries to fit comfortably into the designated sessions, the Dunedin Performing Arts Committee reserves the right to limit the number of items each competitor chooses to perform.

SPECIAL PRIZES:

- Gail Page Trophy
 - awarded to the Most Promising Pianist under 10 years in Classes 300 & 301.
 - Chosen by Adjudicator

- Pearl Dent Cup
 - for the highest aggregate in Classes 300 & 301 (under 10 years)
 - *Prize: \$ 50 kindly provided by Piano Specialists*

- Pearl Dent Cup
 - for the highest aggregate in Classes 302 & 303 (10 & under 13 years).
 - *Prize: \$ 50 kindly provided by Piano Specialists*

- Best Woodwind Performance 15 years and under
 - Chosen by Adjudicator
 - *Prize: \$ 50 kindly provided by Philippa McNulty*

- Celebration of a Century Cup (junior)
 - for the highest aggregate in Classes 308 & 311.

- Celebration of a Century Cup (senior)
 - for the highest aggregate in Classes 351 & 352.

- St. Cecilia Examinations & Bouman Studios Instrumental Proficiency Award (under 12)
 - for best achievement by a competitor in piano/keyboard and an orchestral instrument.

- St. Cecilia Examinations & Bouman Studios Instrumental Proficiency Award (12 and under 16)
 - for best achievement by a competitor in piano/keyboard and an orchestral instrument.

- Ella George Trophy for most engaging string player under 12 years old:
 - Awarded for expressive performance by a performer who plays the strings in class 315 (a or b) and at least one of classes: 306, 309, 312, 319, or 320.
 - Chosen by Adjudicator

PIANO TEST PIECES

Class 300 Under 10 years

“Mazurka”

(After the Ball, No 13 from Children’s Book)

A. Gretchaninoff

** Please do play the repeats **

Class 302 10 & under 13 years

“Evening in Transylvania”

(Abend am Lande; No 5 from Easy pieces)

B. Bartok

Class 304 13 & under 16 years

“Rumores de la Caleta”

(No.6 from “Recuerdos de viaje)

I. Albeniz

Sheet music for these pieces is available at

<https://tinyurl.com/7p48tctv>



Please contact the Convenor if you need any more information about these pieces.

JUNIOR CLASSES (for competitors under 16 years of age)

Piano:

- Class 300 Piano solo - Under 10 years – Test piece
Class 301 Piano solo - Under 10 years - Own Selection
Class 302 Piano solo - 10 & under 13 years – Test piece
Class 303 Piano solo - 10 & under 13 years - Own Selection
Class 304 Piano solo: I.R.M.T. Interm. Scholarship – 13 & under 16
Competitors must perform the Test Piece and a contrasting Own Selection of no more than 5 minutes
Prizes: 1st: 100 2nd: 60 3rd: 40
Prizes kindly provided by:
Institute of Registered Music Teachers, Otago Branch
- Class 305a Piano - Novice – Under 16
For competitors who have had piano tuition for 3 years or less

String Instruments:

- Class 315a String Instrument Solo – Under 10 years – Own Selection
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO
- Class 315b String Instrument Solo – 10 & Under 12 y. - Own Selection
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO
- Class 316 String Instrument Solo - 12 & under 16 y. - Own Selection
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO

Class 315a and 315b may be combined if there are less than 3 competitors in each class

Woodwind or Brass:

- Class 317a Woodwind or Brass Solo - Under 10 years - Own Selection
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO
- Class 317b Woodwind or Brass Solo - 10 & Under 12 y. - Own Selection
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO
- Class 318 Woodwind or Brass Solo - 12 & under 16 y. - Own Selection
Time Limit: 6 minutes
Prize: a pair of concert tickets Presented by DSO

Class 317a and 317b may be combined if there are less than 3 competitors in each class

JUNIOR CLASSES (for competitors under 16 years of age) (cont'd)

Any Instrument:

Competitors may enter a class more than once, if playing a different instrument in each entry

- Class 305b Novice – Under 16
For competitors who have had tuition for 3 years or less
- Class 306 Baroque Solo - Under 12 years
works from 1600 to 1750
- Class 307 Baroque Solo - 12 & under 14 years
works from 1600 to 1750
- Class 308 Baroque Solo - 14 & under 16 years
works from 1600 to 1750
- Class 309 Contemporary Solo - under 12 years
Works from 1900 to the present
- Class 310 Contemporary Solo - 12 & under 14 years
Works from 1900 to the present
- Class 311 Contemporary Solo - 14 & under 16 years
Works from 1900 to the present
- Class 312 Light Popular Solo - under 16 years
- Class 319 Classical - Romantic Solo - under 16 years
Works from 1750 to 1900
- Class 320 New Zealand Composition - under 16 years
- Class 321 Most Promising Performer - Junior Instrumental
Competitors wishing to be considered for Class 321 must compete in at least 3 other classes (solo or ensemble) and make an entry with the appropriate fee.
A competitor who has won this class is not eligible to enter again.
Selected by the Adjudicator
Prize: \$50 kindly provided by Dunedin Musical Society

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Any instrument - with or without piano accompaniment

In Ensemble classes, the group must enter the section appropriate to their oldest member. A competitor may not enter more than twice in the same class (with different partners).

Duets - any instrument - with or without piano accompaniment

Class 322 Instrumental Duet - Under 10 years

Class 323 Instrumental Duet - 10 & under 12 years

Class 324 Instrumental Duet - 12 & under 16 years

Young Chamber Music group – no accompaniment by a non-group member

Class 325 Instrumental ensemble – Under 16 years

* All members of the group are under 16 years old.

* Maximum 6 performers in the group

* Time Limit: Maximum - 8 mins



Just search for “Dunedin Performing Arts Competitions Society”, “like” our page and you will be kept up to date with information about all our festivals!

<http://www.facebook.com/DunedinPerformingArts>

You can also check out our website @ <http://www.dpacs.org.nz>

SENIOR CLASSES (for competitors 16 years of age and over)

- Class 350 Own Selection - Any instrument
Time limit: 10 minutes
Prizes: *1st: \$100 2nd: \$60 3rd: \$40*
Prizes kindly provided by:
Hodgson Family Towers Trust
- Class 351 Baroque Solo - Any instrument
Works from 1600 - 1750
Time Limit: 10 minutes
Prizes: *1st: \$100 2nd: \$60 3rd: \$40*
Prizes kindly provided by:
The Institute of Registered Music Teachers, Otago Branch and DPACS
- Class 352 Contemporary Solo - Any instrument
Works from 1920 to the present
Time Limit: 10 minutes
Prizes: *1st: \$100 2nd: \$60 3rd: \$40*
Prizes kindly provided by:
Patrick and Jeanette Shepherd
- Class 355 Classical-Romantic Solo – Any instrument
works from 1750 to 1900
Time Limit: 10 minutes
Prizes: *1st: \$100 2nd: \$60 3rd: \$40*
Prizes kindly provided by:
Alexander Pianos
- Class 356 Instrumental ensemble – 16 and older
At least one member of the group is 16 or older
Maximum 6 people in the group
Time Limit: 10 minutes
- Class 354 Most Promising Performer
Competitors wishing to be considered for Class 354 must compete in either Class 353 or at least two of the following classes: 350, 351, 352, 355
A competitor who has won this class is not eligible to enter again.
Selected by the Adjudicator

Prize: T.B.C.

RECITALS

Competitors may enter only once – 15 year olds may enter junior or senior recital, not both.

Class 343 Junior recital – Any instrumental

Under 16 years old

Competitors are to perform contrasting works or movements from different periods. At least two composers must be included.

Time Limit: Minimum - 8 mins Maximum - 13 mins

Time limit is to be strictly observed.

ENTRY FEE: \$15.00

Class 353 Recital - Any instrument

15 years and over

Competitors are to perform contrasting works or movements from different periods. At least two composers must be included.

Please note that first prize will only be awarded if at least 3 competitors perform and the adjudicator is happy a suitable standard has been attained.

A competitor who has won this class is not eligible to enter again.

Time Limit: Minimum - 13 mins Maximum - 20 mins

Time limit is to be strictly observed.

ENTRY FEE: \$20.00

Prizes: 1st: \$500 2nd: \$300 3rd: \$200

1st Prize kindly sponsored by T.B.C.

2nd Prize kindly sponsored by Piano Specialists and DPACS

3rd Prize kindly sponsored by Wilkinson Rodgers Lawyers

The DPACS Instrumental competition wishes to thank the following sponsors for their generous support:

The Edward Moritz Theomin Charitable Trust

Piano specialists



WE HAVE RELOCATED TO NEW CUSTOM-FITTED PREMISES
9 Howe Street, Dunedin North

Specialist Retail Outlet offering

- A range of restored and new pianos
- An expert piano-tuning service
- Experienced technicians
- Expert advice and efficient service to our valued clients

 Established in 1994
PIANO SPECIALISTS
EXCLUSIVELY PIANOS



03 455 5711 or 027 436 9159 • E pianos@xtra.co.nz • www.pianos.co.nz

Institute of Registered Music Teachers – Otago Branch

Patrick and Janette Shepherd

Hodgson Towers Family Trust

Alexander pianos





Alexander Pianos
Home of the Alexander Piano, the longest piano in the world

Tuning – Sales – Repair – Restoration - Concerts
Adrian Mann

0273549182 adrian@alexanderpiano.nz
Shop online at www.alexanderpiano.nz

Wilkinson Rodgers Lawyers

Dunedin Symphony Orchestra



Dunedin Symphony Orchestra

Philippa McNulty

Dunedin Musical Society

The Dunedin Musical Society presents 7 recitals per year, each one a wonderful mix of classical music performed by very competent performers. It starts at 2.30pm and lasts for about an hour. We welcome you to come and enjoy in the pleasant venue, which is Mornington Methodist Church. Admission : \$5 (children and performers free)

After the recital, there is opportunity for young students to perform – anyone who wishes is welcome to perform – names are taken on the day.

3.45pm: Student Recital

Dates for 2026: 8 February; 29 March; 24 May; 28 June; 9 August;
6 September; 18 October