International Music Competitions at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava

STATUTE

I. Basic provisions

1. The main organizer and announcer of International Music Competitions at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava is the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava.
2. The aim of the competition is to look for and support young talents.
3. Specializations differ every year. Each specialization may have its own competition name.
4. The cello competition is called ***International Cello Competition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava*.**
5. The competitions are promoted and funded by the Academy of Performing Arts, Art Support Fund, artistic and cultural institutions and other sponsors.
6. Participation in the competition is conditional on the payment of a participation fee.

II. Artistic board of the international competition

1. The competition is headed by the artistic board of the international competition, chaired by the Dean of the Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts.
2. The artistic board of the international competition consists of the Dean, Vice-Dean for Faculty Development and Artistic Activities and three members of the working group which decides about particular issues of the respective year or the competition specialization.
3. The artistic board of the international competition decides about wording of the competition statute, competition conditions and competition jury structure.

III. Jury

1. The jury has usually seven members but it needs to have at least five members and it is composed of leading Slovak and foreign experts in the particular specialization.
2. The chairman and members of the jury are appointed by the Dean of the Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts on the proposal of the Artistic board of the international competition.
3. The jury is led by the jury chairman or, in the event of absence, a deputy elected at the first jury session.
4. Jury secretary who participates in all jury sessions and discloses its results and decisions is the executive body of the panel. Jury secretary is not a voting member of the jury.
5. The jury will listen to and evaluate all accepted contestants, namely in the extent as determined by the competition conditions and the present statute. The jury has the right to determine individual parts of competition repertoire for contest performances. If the time limit specified in competition conditions is exceeded, the chairman may stop the competition performance.

6. If votes are even, the vote of the chairman, in the event of their absence the vote of the deputy, is decisive.
7. The jury's decision is final, cannot be changed or appealed against, cannot be reviewed by a court or any other body.
8. Jury discussions are not public. Jury members are obliged to take part in jury discussions and they are not allowed to disclose any information about the course of the discussions.
9. During the competition period the jury members cannot provide any information or consultation related to the competition to contestants or other persons. Any violation of the present provision may be considered a reason for withdrawing the jury member.

IV. Course of the competition

1. The competition is held in two categories.
2. Category I (up to the age of 21) has two rounds. The age limit for the category is 21 years; contestants cannot turn 22 before the end of the contest.
3. Category II (up to the age of 30) has three rounds. The age limit for the category is 30 years; contestants cannot turn 31 before the end of the contest.
4. There is no minimum age limit for either of the categories. Contestants may compete in both categories. However, no composition of the contest repertoire of one category may be used in the other.
5. A participant under the age of 18 is entered into the competition by his / her legal representative.
6. The competition may be preceded by a preliminary selection round evaluated based on the sent recordings.
7. The competition is announced not later than one calendar year before the competition start date. The deadline for sending application forms is three months before the competition start date at the latest. The organizer is obliged to confirm application form receipt within 15 days after the deadline for sending application forms.
8. Competition conditions will be determined not later than 9 months before the competition start.
9. Competition performances are public. Playing by heart is required only if it is expressly specified in competition conditions.
10. The order of competition performances determined by drawing lots for round 1 will remain valid for next rounds as well.
11. If any contestant fails to come to the competition performance on time, the contestant will be excluded from the competition.
12. After the end of round 2 of the competition category of up to the age of 21, the jury will disclose names of winners and prize holders.
13. Round 3 will be held in cooperation with orchestra during a ceremonious concert after which competition results will be announced ceremoniously. Laureates´ concert does not take place in this case.

V. Financial prizes

1. The following prizes will be awarded in both categories of the International Cello Competition at the Academy of Performing Arts:

   Category I – up to the age of 21
   1st prize 1500 Eur
   2nd prize 1000 Eur
   3rd prize 500 Eur

   Category II – up to the age of 30
   1st prize 3000 Eur
   2nd prize 2000 Eur
   3rd prize 1000 Eur

2. No participant has a legal right to the financial prize.
3. The jury reserves the right not to award individual prizes if interpretation performances fail to reach the required level.
4. If the level of contestants is equal, the jury may award more prizes of the same degree, dividing the financial reward according to places and points awarded.
5. All winners of main prizes in Category I – up to the age of 21 (first, second, third prize) will be awarded a certificate with their name and place.
6. All winners of main prizes in Category II – up to the age of 30 (first, second, third prize) will be awarded title "Laureate of the International Cello Competition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava" and a certificate with their name, title and place.
7. Holders of honorary certificates and other awards will also be awarded certificates but they are not entitled to the Competition Laureate title.
8. A prize will also be awarded for best interpretation of a Slovak composition.
9. Such financial prizes will be taxed in accordance with legal regulations valid in the Slovak Republic.

VI. Assessment and evaluation of competition performances

1. Competition performances in individual rounds are evaluated in writing by jury members using scoring cards with scores ranging from 1 (lowest score) to 25 points (highest score) in whole numbers.
2. Jury members submit scoring cards to the jury secretary or their deputy in intervals specified by the chairman.
3. Jury members will not score any contestant if they did not listen to the whole competition repertoire, if the contestant was the panel member´s regular student during the year preceding the competition start date of if they are relatives with the contestant. In such case the jury member will submit a signed scoring card stating the reason for not awarding any score.
4. If the time limit specified in competition conditions is exceeded, the chairman may stop the competition performance. Such decision has no effect on the scoring of the contestant.
5. The maximum score in one round is 25 points. One highest and one lowest score is crossed out automatically. An arithmetic average with an accuracy of two decimals is calculated from the remaining scores.
6. After the end of each competition round the jury secretary or their deputy will prepare a scoring summary and submit it to the chairman for approval and signature.

7. Jury members are entitled to check correctness of their scores in the total evaluation table.
8. Names of successful contestants will be disclosed in alphabetical order after the end of individual rounds.
9. Twelve contestants usually proceed to round 2 of the competition. If several contestants on the 12th place have the same scores, more contestants may proceed to round 2.
10. Three contestants proceed to round 3 of the competition.
11. If no contestant has reached a score average of at least 23 points in the final round, the panel leader will ask jury members to vote on awarding the first prize.
12. Second and third prize need not be awarded in justified cases.
13. In exceptional cases the jury has the right to award the first, second or third prize among several contestants.
14. The jury votes about awarding honorary certificates and other awards. Those may also be awarded to contestants who have not passed to the final round.
15. The jury will determine who of the awardees will perform at a potential winners´ concert. It will also determine their concert repertoire. Such performances are mandatory and represent a condition for receiving the prize.

VII. Special provision for making photographs and audio and audio-visual recordings of competition performances and concerts of the laureates

1. The organizer (Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava) reserves the right to create an audio-visual recording of competition performances. Such performances may be recorded and transmitted by radio and television or streamed on social networks and the website of the competition organizer for competition promotion purposes.
2. The organizer of the competition is the owner of the property rights to the photographs and recordings from the competition performances and the concert of the laureates. Performers will consent to the competition organizer to take photographs and record and use their artistic performances in the competition, free of charge.
3. The granting of consent for the production of photographs and recordings of the competition performances and the concert of the laureates by the contestant is a condition of participation in the competition.
4. If a contestant is provided with an audio or audio-visual recording of his / her competition performance in the competition, he / she undertakes in writing to use it exclusively for his / her personal, study, non-commercial and non-public purposes.

VIII. Final provision

The statute has been written in Slovak and in English. In the event of any discrepancies, the authentic i.e. Slovak version prevails.

In Bratislava, 8th October 2023

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Dean of the Music and Dance Faculty at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava