

# Festival Conditions (2017)

## ELIGIBILITY

1. The classes are intended for amateurs but professionals may take part in 'open' classes, and in other classes as conductors or accompanists. For the purpose of this Festival, a professional is one whose living is dependent on the teaching or performance of music.
2. Pupils of an adjudicator may not perform in a class examined by that adjudicator.

## ADJUDICATION AND MARKING

3. An adjudicator may hear the whole or part of a Test Piece, and may stop a performance when his/her judgment is formed. Our adjudicators expect certain standards to have been reached, and will mark accordingly. The adjudicator's decision in all cases is final.
4. Only officials may communicate with the adjudicators, and any complaints should be made in writing to the Festival Secretary without delay.
5. Mark sheets and certificates may be obtained free at the end of each class, and the marking for certificates is as follows, in accordance with the standardisation system operated by the British and International Federation of Festivals:

Performance	under 12	75%	"A performance showing development of technique and/or communication"
	12 & over	78%	
Merit	All ages	81%	"A capable performance showing artistic appreciation and/or technical ability"
Commended	All ages	84%	"A convincing performance technically and artistically"
Distinction	All ages	87%	"An excellent performance technically and artistically"
Honours	All ages	90%	"An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically"

## AWARDS

6. A First Place medal will be awarded in classes where there are up to five entries. A Second Place medal will be awarded additionally in classes where there are between six and eight entries. A Third Place medal will be awarded additionally in classes where there are nine or more entries. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to performers who have, in the opinion of the adjudicator, reached a technically competent and musically interesting level of performance. All Place awards are made at the adjudicator's discretion. The adjudicator's decision in all matters relating to the musical result of a class is final.

## CONCERT

7. Participants gaining a distinction mark may be invited to perform at the concert on Sunday 3 December. Those selected to perform will be contacted by telephone within 48 hours of their performance at the Festival. 'Concert slips' may be given to participants achieving marks of 87 or over. A concert slip must be filled in and handed to a steward. It does not constitute a firm invitation to appear in the concert.

## MAIDSTONE YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

8. Many classes now serve an additional purpose of offering possible entry into the annual Maidstone Young Musician competition organised by the Maidstone Dawn Patrol Rotary Club. Eligible performers gaining a distinction or honours mark at MMF may qualify to compete in this prestigious event on Saturday 20 January 2018, and they will be contacted by Rotary within seven days of their performance at the Festival.

## SCHEDULING

9. Notice of time and date of classes will be sent to entrants not later than 14 days before the Festival; no information on dates and times will be available before the 2nd week in November. The Festival reserves the right to amalgamate classes if entries do not warrant holding them separately, or to subdivide very large classes. While efforts will be made to comply with requests for time and/or dates of classes, this cannot be guaranteed. Only if a class is withdrawn will entry fees be returned.

## LATE ENTRIES AND CHANGES

10. No entries will be accepted after 9 October and no changes to pieces will be accepted after 23 October. In fairness to those who have chosen their pieces and are sticking to them, any participants not performing the piece stated on their entry forms will be adjudicated but not marked. NB. See also 'HOW TO ENTER'.

## RECORDING

11. No form of recording equipment is allowed at any of the classes or at the concert.

## COPIES AND PHOTOCOPYING

12. Copies of performance pieces must be handed to the adjudicators before performing. With the exception of photocopies, which will be destroyed after use, copies of music must be collected at the end of each class.
13. The Music Publishers' Association has made the following concession regarding photocopying, but only from volumes: "When a piece is selected from a volume containing several different pieces and is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the adjudicator, provided that the competitor has already purchased his/her volume, and that the copy is kept and destroyed by the administrator of the Festival immediately after the event." Where music is downloaded from the Internet, the performer must also print off and submit the permission statement accompanying the music.

## COPYRIGHT AND PERMISSIONS

14. Music: The Festival pays a subscription to PRS for Music and, with only a very few exceptions, has to advise them of every piece performed. This means that participants need not seek copyright permission, but it is essential that they show titles and composers on entry forms, as well as instruments in Strings and Wind Sections.

## ACCOMPANIMENT

15. Performers are very welcome to bring their own accompanist to the Festival. For those who do not have their own accompanist, Nancy Litten (nancylitten @ btinternet.com) is recommended by MMF. Her services at the Festival are provided free of charge, but performers availing themselves of this opportunity will be required to pay her for all pre-Festival run-through/rehearsal time. There are no facilities for rehearsal at Invicta Grammar School. Recorded accompaniment (backing tracks) may be used for a limited number of classes where indicated in the category and class notes in the Syllabus.

## AND FINALLY

16. The decision of the Festival Executive Committee is final in all matters arising out of or not specifically provided for in these Conditions.

MMF Note: Please see other information on the following pages.

## Other important information

### HOW TO ENTER

Please read the Festival Conditions before completing your Entry Form.

- 1 All entries must be made on the Entry Form which may be printed from the Festival website and must be sent to the Festival Secretary, Robert Greenham, mmf17, 60 Upper Fant Road, Maidstone, ME16 8DN. Entries must arrive no later than Monday 9 October 2017.
- 2 Except in a few stated cases, title, composer, instrument and duration of pieces must be shown on the Entry Form. Please check spellings of titles and names to avoid errors appearing in the programme and on certificates.
- 3 In classes where an age limit is specified, the date at which the age is taken is 1 November, and participants may not enter out of their age group. Participants may not perform the same piece in more than one class.
- 4 Certain additional details of young performers are now required to be shown on the Entry Form primarily by virtue of Maidstone Music Festival's duty to comply with Statutory Instrument 2014 No. 3309, Children and Young Persons, England: The Children (Performance and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014.

### PRESENTATION

It is expected that participants will take the trouble to dress appropriately for the occasion. This helps to give a good overall impression and could even affect the marks awarded for the performance.

### PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Participants should keep both dates free until they have been notified of exact dates and times. All classes are expected to run on the weekend of 25/26 November 2017.

### CHARGES FOR ADMISSION TO SESSIONS

Adults	Single charge of £2.00 per day
Children	Single charge of 50p per day
Programme	£1.50. These are only available to the general public from the first day of classes and then only at the School.

Performers will be admitted free for the day(s) on which they are performing.

### REFRESHMENTS

Light refreshments are available from 8.30am to 4.00pm on both festival days. No food or drinks may be taken into classes.

### INJURY, LOSS OR DAMAGE

The Committee does not hold itself responsible for any injuries sustained by any performer or member of the public whilst on Festival premises. The Committee also will not be held responsible for any loss or damage to the performers' copies, mark sheets, or any other property at the Festival.

### SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Under the Child Protection Act this Festival has formulated its own Safeguarding Policy. While this Festival endeavours to maintain a safe and secure environment for our participants, **responsibility for children under the age of 18 years lies with accompanying parents, guardians, carers and/or teachers.**

## Festival venue

### LOCATION

All classes will be held at Invicta Grammar School, Huntsman Lane, Maidstone, ME14 5DR

### HOW TO GET THERE

Invicta Grammar School is situated ½ mile east of Maidstone's town centre. Huntsman Lane leads northwards from A20 Ashford Road. If approaching via the town, look for direction signs indicating 'Bearsted A20'. Once on A20 Ashford Road, turn left into Huntsman Lane about 100 metres after passing beneath a railway bridge. Links to area and street maps may be found on the Festival website <http://www.maidstonemusicfestival.org.uk>

### PARKING

There is a school car park in front of the main building, with additional parking beside and behind the building via the access road to Valley Park Community School. Some on-street parking is permitted at weekends in parts of Huntsman Lane and Vinters Road. The nearest public car park is about ¼ mile away off Vinters Road.

Please do not contact Invicta Grammar School on matters connected with this Festival. The school is not the organiser of the Festival.

## Festival committee

Chairman: Sue Greenham; Treasurer: Heidi Elvers; Secretary: Robert Greenham; Pia Alexandre; Julie Cane; Dawn Constable; Natalie Hall; Lynn Seeley; Anita Turner; Joanne Wilson.

## Friends of Maidstone Music Festival

Mr Peter Atkinson & Mrs Monica Atkinson; Mr John Bagg; Mrs Mary Bartlett; Mr Humphry Evatt; Mrs Margaret Holgate; Mr Graeme Humphrey; Mr Peter Kirby; Mr John Lewis & Mrs Gloria Lewis; Mrs Nancy Litten; Mrs Ruth Looker; Mrs Mary Anne Mathews; Mr Bob Norris; Mrs Angela Revis

## Acknowledgments

Maidstone Music Festival gratefully acknowledges the help of its team of volunteers to run the Festival, the material sponsorship by Warner Pianos, and all financial assistance from Friends of MMF and from various parties in the past. The Festival is a member of the Maidstone Area Arts Partnership.

Maidstone Young Musician, in partnership with Maidstone Music Festival, is sponsored by Maidstone Dawn Patrol Rotary Club.

## Child Protection Policy

**The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech** work for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for children and young people each year. The Federation and its member Festivals are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals.

### **We recognise that:**

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

### **The purpose of the policy:**

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm

### **We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:**

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and safe working practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The Federation will review this policy each year in November in line with Safe Network guidance or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our member Festivals in time for the start of the new Festival year.

**Delivered in partnership with SafeNetwork – [www.safenetwork.org.uk](http://www.safenetwork.org.uk)**  
Robert Greenham, Festival Secretary 01622 750943

## Vulnerable Adults at Risk Protection Policy

**The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech** work for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for adults, children and young people each year. The Federation, and our member Festivals, are committed to ensuring safe environments for vulnerable adults at risk and believe that it is always unacceptable for a vulnerable adult at risk to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all vulnerable adults at risk, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them. This policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals.

### **We recognise that:**

- the welfare of a vulnerable adult at risk is paramount
- all vulnerable adults at risk, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with vulnerable adults at risk, their relatives, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare.

### **The purpose of the policy:**

- to provide protection for vulnerable adults at risk who participate in our festivals
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a vulnerable adult may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm
- to actively promote the empowerment and well-being of vulnerable adults who participate in our festivals

### **We will seek to safeguard vulnerable adults at risk by:**

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting safe working practices for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information appropriately about adults who are at risk, with their consent
- if consent is refused and there are considered to be serious concerns of abuse for the individual concerned or others, then consent may be over ridden in line with guidance, and only shared appropriately with those who need to know
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The Federation will review this policy each year in January or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our member Festivals in time for the start of the new Festival year.

**Delivered in partnership with SafeNetwork – [www.safenetwork.org.uk](http://www.safenetwork.org.uk)**  
Robert Greenham, Festival Secretary 01622 750943

# Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone

The Federation and its member Festivals use the following policies and procedures to create **Safer Festivals** for everyone:

- 1 A single, definitive Child Protection Policy adopted by all Federation Festivals.
- 2 One or more designated Festival Safeguarding Officers (FSO) appointed for each Federation Festival - for MMF: Robert Greenham, telephone 01622 750943.
- 3 Best practice advice in the form of **Safe Working Practice** and **Festival Child Protection leaflets**, with support and training for all Festival staff and volunteers, including clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child.
- 4 Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new Festival staff and volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending/performing at a Federation Festival.
- 5 All Festival volunteers wear a Festival badge. All teachers/parents/guardians/carers are asked to report all incidents of any nature to anyone wearing a badge. All reported incidents will be handled in accordance with the **Safe Working Practice** and **Festival Child Protection** best practice advice. Also we will ensure the availability of a quiet area / room where concerns can be expressed in private.
- 6 For the duration of a Festival all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils. If they are unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/pupils are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout all Festival venues, practice and changing areas that may be provided. The Festival cannot take responsibility for any property left unattended.
- 7 No unauthorised photography, audio or video recording of children and young people is allowed at our Festivals. Where parents/guardians/carers do not wish photos to be taken at all, then the responsible adult attending should ensure that their child is not included in official photos.
- 8 Some children and vulnerable adults may have specific needs in order to take part. If this is the case we ask the responsible teachers/parents/guardians/carers to contact the Festival Secretary prior to arrival. The Festival actively seeks wherever possible to meet these needs, but must know beforehand in order to prepare support – or to advise that help cannot be provided on this occasion.

The Festival's **Child Protection Policy** and approach to **Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone** is published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and on our website. By completing and signing the entry form all parents/ guardians/carers and teachers of entrants under 18 confirm that they give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the entrants to take part in the Festival. Without consent the entry to the Festival cannot be accepted. Robert Greenham, Festival Secretary 01622 750943

# Maidstone Young Musician of the Year

## Introduction

This annual competition for young musicians is organised by the Maidstone Dawn Patrol Rotary Club. It comprises the first of four stages to the National Young Musician Competition, a well-established and successful competition promoted by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. Each stage is designed to support and encourage the development of musical talent. The national competition aims to offer young people: experience of performing on a public stage; opportunity to showcase their musical talent; impartial feedback and assessment of performance from experienced and qualified adjudicators. Winners of local competitions go on to county competitions, leading to regional heats, and thereafter to the Grand Final.

## So, what's changed for Maidstone?

From 2017 onwards, the only route for qualifying for entry as finalists in the Maidstone Young Musician competition is via successful, high quality performances in at least one of Maidstone Music Festival's **appropriate competitive solo performance** classes in the festival preceding the competition date. All MMF classes are competitive solo performance classes unless indicated by one or more of the following terms: 'non-competitive'; 'duet'; 'ensemble'; 'accompaniment'; 'original composition'. The only competitive solo performance classes which are NOT appropriate for the Young Musician competition are those instrumental classes which allow recorded accompaniment to be used. As always, all performers may enter as many classes as they wish. Please see paragraph 8 of Festival Conditions, pp 2 & 3.

## Eligibility criteria

**Geographical:** Performers must either live or study music in the Maidstone area. More specifically, they must EITHER reside within the Borough of Maidstone and its environs, albeit that they may receive their instrumental or vocal tuition outside the area, OR receive such tuition within the Borough and its environs, albeit that they may reside outside the area.

**Age/Ability:** The competition is open to all levels, grades and styles of young amateur instrumentalists and vocalists who are in full time education up to the age of 17 on 31 August 2017, but who are not full time students of music or performing arts.

**Rotary Great Britain & Ireland Youth Competitions webpage, including the essential downloadable Rotary Young Musician Information Pack for 2017/18:**  
<https://www.rotarygbi.org/what-we-do/youth-competitions/>

## Local Rotary contacts for any queries or further information:

carolvizzard@gmail.com  
Bryan.Frost@btinternet.com  
Telephone 01634 814292