



# Wimbledon College

## MUSIC COMPETITION

2010



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If you play an instrument, sing or compose, you are warmly invited and encouraged to enter this year's Music Competition.

The first round of the competition is in instrumental groups. The groups are:

- piano and keyboard (beginners to grade 4)
- piano and keyboard (grade 5 to grade 8)
- woodwind
- brass
- strings
- guitar
- percussion
- voice

You need to choose a competition piece which lasts no longer than five minutes. The first round heats will take place in January during the school day in front of small audiences in the Music School.

You may enter up to **three** groups.

An adjudicator will listen to all the performances, give you feedback on your performance, and decide on a winner in that group.

The **winner of each group** will win a trophy, presented at the Concert Final.

It does not matter whether you are a beginner or Grade 8, all entries are welcome. The adjudicators are looking for the way in which you perform your piece at the level you are at. A Grade 2 piece performed well could beat a Grade 5 piece performed badly. You need to think about how you interpret the piece as well as getting the notes right.

There will also be a trophy for the **Most Promising Musician 2010** - this prize could go to someone who has only been playing an instrument for a few months.

The **eight best performances overall** will be invited to perform in the **Concert Final**. Three professional musicians will be the judges.

The winner of the Concert Final will win the **Wimbledon College Musician of the Year 2009** trophy and a **£100 cash prize**.

There is also be a **trophy and £50 prize** for the runner-up.

## Guidance on choosing your competition piece

Choose something that is well within your competence. This will allow you to interpret the music and make the performance your own. If you choose something too difficult you will worry only about playing the right notes and there will be little interpretation which the adjudicators can reward.

If it is available, make sure you buy a CD of your piece and listen to a professional performance (this will usually be the case for pieces of Grade 5 and above by well-known composers). Find out something about the piece - about the composer, how, when and why he or she wrote it - these can all be clues as to how you should perform. If there is no recording of the piece, ask your music teacher to play it for you and discuss it so you understand it better.

If your piece needs accompaniment, make sure you arrange an accompanist early in your rehearsal time. If you need help ask the Director of Music.

Whatever piece you choose, it is always worth getting the advice of the Director of Music before you start practising. He will be able to tell you whether your choice is a good piece for a competition.

## Timescale

before the Christmas holidays	think about your competition piece and discuss it with your music teacher - it is important to choose the right piece for the competition
during the Christmas holidays	choose your competition piece - start practising with help from your instrumental teacher - work hard!
immediately you come back after the holidays	you must submit your entry form by the deadline of <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b> ; you may enter up to three groups in the competition - you need to complete one entry form for each entry (additional copies of the entry form are available from the Director of Music)
heats	the heats will be held on <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b> during the school day in front of a small audience in the Music School
after the heats	if you are chosen as one of the best eight - you need to continue to polish your piece or choose another piece for the Concert Final
the Concert Final	is on <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b> at 7.30pm; you will have 30-minutes of practice time on stage in the Hall during the day

## The Composition Prize

There is also a **Prize for Composition** in the Music Competition.

Your composition can be for any solo instrument, group of instruments, voice or voices. It can also be written for electronic performance (for example on *Sibelius* software). If it is possible to perform your piece live at the Concert Final, we will do so.

There is a **trophy and £100 prize** for the best composition submitted.

If you are entering the composition competition, your piece must be submitted to the Director of Music by **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January**.

The winner will be announced the following week and the piece will be performed at the Concert Final. You must be present for that premiere performance.

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**Entry Form**

Name:

Tutor Group:

Instrument:

What grade are you currently working towards?

Who is your instrumental teacher?

What piece do you intend to play for the heats (title and composer)?

Does your piece need accompaniment? If so is the accompaniment piano or other instrument?

You must attach a copy of the piece (and any accompaniment) - ask the Director of Music or another music teacher if you need help doing this.

Pupil's signature:

Parent's signature:

Approved:

(Director of Music)

The deadline for entry forms is FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010