

Classical Singing Syllabus

Saturday 7 March 2026

Venue: All Saints, The Drive, Hove BN3 3PB.

Please check the venue listed on your timetable before the event.

Adjudicator: Adrian Goss

Section secretary: Birgit Rohowsky (birgit@allsaintshove.org)

Springboard Singing is open to singers of all ages.

The deadline for entries is midnight on Wednesday 28 January 2026.

Rules

- 1 Performing songs from memory is encouraged but not compulsory. Marks are awarded for both performance and communication, and as singing from music may have a negative impact on communication it could affect the final mark.
- 2 Please note that musical theatre, show/film songs etc are only permitted where specified in this syllabus. You may also like to consider the opportunities offered in the Musical Theatre syllabus, but note that the same musical theatre, show/film song must not be sung in any other class in the 2024 festival. No pop songs are permitted in any classes.
- 3 Where accompaniment is needed, pupils must provide their own accompanist. Recommended accompanists are listed on the Springboard website. Backing tracks and amplification are not permitted.
- 4 Performers are asked to pay close attention to the time limit for each class, as a performance that is over the limit may not be adjudicated fully or the performer may be asked to stop. Timing begins when the singer introduces the performance, or if no introduction is provided, begins to sing.
- 5 Copies of music or scores are required for the Adjudicator for all classes. (See Music Rules below regarding the copying of copyright works.)
- 6 A piece may be sung in only one class in the Festival.

7 In classes for under-18s, teachers and performers should be aware that the music chosen needs to be appropriate to the performer's age and ability.

8 Intermediate and adult performers are asked to sing in the original language wherever possible if the original language is English, French, German, Italian or Latin.

9 Where reference is made to an ABRSM or Trinity syllabus in the singing class requirements, this does not include any music theatre or rockschool syllabus.

10 PLEASE NOTE that Springboard reserves the right NOT to refund entry fees if an entrant withdraws.

Adjudicator

Adrian Goss

B.Mus (Dunelm), ARAM, GRSM (Lond), FTCL, LRAM, LGSM, ARCO(CHM), FRSA $\frac{1}{2}$ Singing

Tenor, vocal coach, pianist, organist and choral director, Adrian studied piano and clarinet at the Royal Academy of Music and singing at the Guildhall School of Music. A tenor lay-clerk at Ely Cathedral, and deputy at St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and HM Chapel Royal, following his London début in 1985, he has enjoyed a 35 year freelance solo career in concert and recital, including recordings and broadcasts.

Formerly Director of Music at two independent senior schools, an Examiner, Director of Kent Music Academy for the talented and gifted young musician, he is currently Director of the chamber choir Quorum and is a highly experienced and successful singing teacher, also leading vocal and choir-training workshops.

Adrian's work was subsequently recognised and honoured in 1999 by the award of the ARAM. He has been an Adjudicator Member of the British & International Federation of Festivals since 1983, a member of the Adjudicators Council for 15 years and its Chair for ten during which he spearheaded the new marking scheme. He was accorded the rare honour of being elected a BIFF Fellow in 2024. He is a member of the Association of Teachers of Singing, the Royal Society of Musicians, and a Fellow of both the ISM and the Royal Society of Arts.

AWARDS

The VAUGHAN WILLIAMS SCHOOL OF MUSIC SACRED MUSIC TROPHY will be awarded to the best performance of a sacred song or oratorio aria in any class, at the discretion of the adjudicator.

The ROSE ROHOWSKY CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 401-405 and 407 & 408.

The DONNA ROBERTI CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 427-428.

The MADAME H PALGRAVE TURNER CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 412-422.

The LAURA EATON CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 424-425.

The DR & MRS SAYERS cup will be awarded to the performer in the two contrasting songs classes (Year 11 and lower).

OUR LADY OF SION CUP will be awarded to the Ensemble - Year 11 & under.

JUNIOR SOLO SINGING

All music selected for the performers must be age appropriate.

For non-competitive classes, personalised, constructive feedback will be offered by the adjudicator, but no mark will be awarded.

All repertoire may be either accompanied or unaccompanied, unless specified as unaccompanied.

Please see the Musical Theatre syllabus for musical theatre, show and film songs.

TIME LIMITS MUST BE ADHERED TO.

The ROSE ROHOWSKY CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 401-405 and 407 & 408.

400 NON-COMPETITIVE (Years 3 and below)

Any age-appropriate solo song, eg art song or children's song.

Fee £8.60

8 and under. Up to 2 mins.

401 ACCOMPANIED (Years 3 and below)

Award: Festival medal.

Any age-appropriate solo song, eg art song or children's song.

Fee £8.60

8 and under. Up to 2 mins.

402 UNACCOMPANIED (Years 3 and below)

Award: Festival medal.

One folk or traditional song.

Fee £8.60

8 and under. Up to 2 mins.

403 NON-COMPETITIVE (Years 4 & 5)

Any age-appropriate solo song, eg art song or children's song.

Fee £11.50

Age 8 - 10. Up to 5 mins.

404 CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 4 & 5)

Award: Festival medal.

Two contrasting songs, which may include one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £11.50

Age 8 - 10. Up to 5 mins.

405 UNACCOMPANIED (Years 4 & 5)

Award: Festival medal.

One folk or traditional song.

Fee £8.60

Age 8 - 10. Up to 2 mins.

406 NON-COMPETITIVE (Years 6 & 7)

Two songs, which may include one musical theatre, Disney or film song, composed prior to 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus.

Fee £12.00

Age 10 - 12. Up to 6 mins.

407 CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 6 & 7)

Award: Festival medal.

Two songs, which may include one musical theatre, Disney or film song, composed prior to 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Songs may be accompanied and/or unaccompanied. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £12.00

Age 10 - 12. Up to 6 mins.

408 UNACCOMPANIED (Years 6 & 7)

Award: Festival medal.

One folk or traditional song.

Fee £8.60

Age 10 - 12. Up to 2 mins.

JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE ENSEMBLES

409 DUETS, TRIOS AND QUARTETS (Year 11 and under)

At least one song in any style, including no more than one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990.

Fee £10.20

Group of 2 to 4 people

16 and under. Up to 4 mins.

410 ENSEMBLE - Year 11 & under

Award: Our Lady of Sion Cup

At least one song in any style, including no more than one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990.

Fee £11.50

Group of 5 to 16 people

16 and under. Up to 5 mins.

INTERMEDIATE SOLO SINGING

All music selected for the performers must be age appropriate. For non-competitive classes, personalised, constructive feedback will be offered by the adjudicator, but no mark will be awarded. All repertoire may be either accompanied or unaccompanied unless specified as unaccompanied. Please see the Musical Theatre syllabus for musical theatre, show and film songs. **TIME LIMITS MUST BE ADHERED TO.**

The **MADAME H PALGRAVE TURNER CUP** will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 412-422.

The **LAURA EATON CUP** will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 424-425.

411 NON-COMPETITIVE (Years 8, 9, 10 & 11)

Two contrasting songs which may include one musical theatre song, composed before 1990, Disney or film song, composed prior to 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £12.00

Age 12 - 16. Up to 6 mins.

412 GIRLS CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

Two contrasting songs, which may include one musical theatre song composed before 1990, Disney or film song, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £12.00

Age 12 - 14. Up to 6 mins.

413 BOYS CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

Two contrasting songs, which may include one musical theatre, Disney or film song, composed prior to 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £12.00

Age 12 - 14. Up to 6 mins.

414 UNACCOMPANIED SONG (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

One folk or traditional song

Fee £8.60

Age 12 - 14. Up to 2 mins.

415 ART SONG (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

May include art songs in any language, or arie antiche. Original language preferred, but translations are accepted.

Fee £10.20

Age 12 - 14. Up to 4 mins.

416 ARIA (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

One aria from an oratorio, opera, or operetta. Where applicable, recitatives should be included. Original language preferred, but translations acceptable.

Fee £10.20

Age 12 - 14. Up to 4 mins.

417 VOICE AND VERSE (Years 8 & 9)

Award: Festival medal.

One English poem, recited from memory, and at least one English art song. Subsequent songs may be in any language.

Up to 7 minutes or less, to include a minimum of 4 minutes music.

Fee £13.00

Age 12 - 14. Up to 7 mins.

418 CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 10 & 11)

Two contrasting songs, which may include one musical theatre, Disney or film song, composed prior to 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Verbal introductions are encouraged but not obligatory.

Fee £13.00

Age 14 - 16. Up to 7 mins.

419 UNACCOMPANIED SONG (Years 10 & 11)

One folk or traditional song.

Fee £8.60

Age 14 - 16. Up to 2 mins.

420 ART SONG (Years 10 & 11)

May include art songs in any language, or arie antiche. Original language preferred, but translations are accepted.

Fee £10.20

Age 14 - 16. Up to 4 mins.

421 ARIA (Years 10 & 11)

One aria from an oratorio, opera, or operetta. Where applicable, recitatives should be included. Original language preferred, but translations acceptable.

Fee £10.20

Age 14 - 16. Up to 4 mins.

422 VOICE AND VERSE (Years 10 & 11)

One English poem, recited from memory, and at least one English art song. Subsequent songs may be in any language.

8 minutes or less, to include a minimum of 5 minutes music.

Fee £14.00

Age 14 - 16. Up to 8 mins.

SENIOR SOLO SINGING

Performers are asked to sing in the original language only if in English, French, German, Italian or Latin but translations are accepted for pieces in other languages.

Performers are encouraged to sing from memory, but scores are acceptable in Oratorio classes.

Please note that Operatic and Oratorio Arias (not including Arie Antiche) are not permitted in art song classes.

All repertoire may be either accompanied or unaccompanied, unless specified as unaccompanied.

Please see the Musical Theatre syllabus for musical theatre, show and film songs.

ALL TIME LIMITS MUST BE ADHERED TO.

The DONNA ROBERTI CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 427-428.

The LAURA EATON CUP will be awarded to the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 424-425.

423 NON-COMPETITIVE (Years 12 & 13+)

Two contrasting songs in any style, including musical theatre song composed before 1990, Disney or film songs, composed before 1990, or listed in either an ABRSM or Trinity singing syllabus. Personalised constructive feedback will be provided by the adjudicator.

Fee £11.50

Age 16 - 19. Up to 5 mins.

424 ARIA (Years 12 & 13+)

Award: The Laura Eaton Cup will be awarded for the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 424 and 425.

One aria from oratorio, opera or operetta. Where applicable, recitative to be included.

Fee £11.50

Age 16 - 19. Up to 5 mins.

425 ART SONG (Years 12 & 13+)

Award: The Laura Eaton Cup will be awarded for the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 424 and 425.

Any art song, including arie antiche and sacred songs.

Fee £11.50

Age 16 - 19. Up to 5 mins.

426 UNACCOMPANIED SONG (Years 12 & 13+)

One folk or traditional song.

Fee £8.60

Age 16 - 19. Up to 2 mins.

427 VOICE AND VERSE (Years 12 & 13+)

Award: The Donna Roberti Cup will be awarded for the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 427-428

One English poem, recited from memory, and at least one song, which must be in English.

Subsequent songs may be in any language.

8 minutes or less, to include a minimum of 5 minutes music.

Fee £14.00

Age 16 - 19. Up to 8 mins.

428 RECITAL (Years 12 & 13+)

Award: Coaching prize with Lucinda Houghton awarded at the adjudicator's discretion. The Donna Roberti Cup will be presented for the best performance at the discretion of the adjudicator in classes 427-428.

At least one aria, one art song, and one pre-1990 musical theatre song. One must be in a foreign living language.

Recital must include a spoken introduction. The programme will be marked out of 100: 90 marks for performance, and 10 marks for presentation and programming.

15 minutes or less, to contain no less than 10 minutes of music.

Fee £19.50

Age 16 - 19. Up to 14 mins.

SENIOR AND ADULT ENSEMBLES

429 ENSEMBLE (Years 12 & 13+)

At least one song in any style, including no more than one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990.

Fee £11.50

Group of 5 to 16 people

Age 16 - 19. Up to 5 mins.

430 DUET, TRIO or QUARTET (Years 12 & 13+)

At least one song in any style, including no more than one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990. Ensembles may be accompanied or unaccompanied.

Fee £10.20

Group of 2 to 4 people

Age 16 - 19. Up to 4 mins.

431 ENSEMBLE (Adults)

At least one song in any style, including no more than one musical theatre, Disney or film song composed before 1990.

Fee £11.50

Group of 5 to 16 people

18 and over. Up to 5 mins.

432 DUET, TRIO or QUARTET (Adults)

A duet, trio or quartet, sung by a group of 2 to 4 people. Musical theatre and show songs post-1990 are not permitted. Ensembles may be accompanied or unaccompanied.

Fee £8.60

Group of 2 to 4 people

18 and over. Up to 2 mins.

ADULT SINGING

Performers are asked to sing in the original language only if in English, French, German, Italian or Latin but translations are accepted for pieces in other languages.

Performers are encouraged to sing from memory, but scores are acceptable in Oratorio classes.

Please note that Operatic and Oratorio Arias (not including Arie Antiche) are not permitted in art song classes.

All repertoire may be either accompanied or unaccompanied, unless specified as unaccompanied.

Performers must be at least 18 years old to enter classes 432-437.

ALL TIME LIMITS MUST BE ADHERED TO.

433 ADULT NON-COMPETITIVE

Two contrasting songs in any style. Personalised constructive feedback will be provided by the adjudicator.

Fee £14.00

18 and over. Up to 8 mins.

434 OPERATIC ARIA

One opera aria in any language, including English, or operetta aria in a foreign language. Recitative to be included where applicable.

Sponsored by David and Sandra Botibol in memory of Dora Botibol.

Fee £11.50

18 and over. Up to 5 mins.

435 ENGLISH OPERETTA AND MUSICAL THEATRE

One English language operetta aria, recitative to be included where applicable, or musical theatre piece composed before 1990.

Fee £11.50

18 and over. Up to 5 mins.

436 ORATORIO or SACRED SONG

Any oratorio aria or sacred song. Where applicable, recitative to be included.

Fee £11.50

18 and over. Up to 5 mins.

437 ART SONG

Any art song, including arie antiche.

Sponsored by Andrew Seton.

Fee £11.50

18 and over. Up to 5 mins.

DAME FELICITY LOTT RECITAL COMPETITION

A competition, generously sponsored by Dame Felicity Lott, providing exciting opportunities and prizes for all singers aged 19 years or over, whose principal source of income does not derive from professional solo singing.

438 DAME FELICITY LOTT RECITAL CLASS

Award: First prize £150 donated by Martin Knott. Second prize £50 donated by Sue Goodacre. Coaching sessions with distinguished singers will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.

To include at least one art song and one opera, operetta or oratorio aria, with at least two living languages demonstrated across the programme. A spoken introduction is expected. All repertoire to be sung in the original language. The programme will be marked out of 100: 90 marks for performance; 10 marks for presentation and programming.

Up to 20 mins, with at least 15 mins of music.

Fee £32.00

19 and over. Up to 20 mins.