TUNBRIDGE WELLS ARTS FESTIVAL

VOCAL & CHORAL Syllabus

Rules

1 All performances in the Vocal and Choral Section must be sung from memory, with the exception of oratorio arias, which may be sung from music in accordance with accepted performance practice.

2 Costumes and props are not permitted in Vocal classes.

Adjudicator

Belinda Mikhaïl

BMus(Hons),PgDipRCM,ARCM,EMT

Belinda Mikhaïl won the Associated Board and the Queen Mother Scholarships to study piano and singing as a joint first study at the Royal College of Music where she won the Hopkinson Gold Medal for her final recital. She has since travelled extensively performing both as a soloist and as a chamber musician and has appeared as a concerto soloist at the major London Concert Halls.

She has made numerous recordings for Sony BMG and Universal and is a vocal soloist on EMI's Vocalise album as used in trailers for ER, Lost and Grey's Anatomy. She appears as the featured soloist on many film soundtracks and her solo piano playing of the theme from Chariots of Fire was heard at every medal ceremony at the London Olympic Games.

Belinda is in demand as a Vocal Coach for classical, musical theatre, jazz, pop and rock singers and runs an extensive private and online teaching practice in Buckinghamshire. She has trained performers as diverse as Simone Ashley from Bridgerton, Siouxsie Sioux the rock legend and the Oscar-winning actress Juliette Binoche. She is also known in the industry as a Voice Over artist.

Belinda's work has seen her travel extensively, most recently enjoying work in Glasgow, Isle of Man, Gibraltar and Thailand adjudicating at their annual music festivals. She thoroughly enjoys listening to a wide variety of music and meeting a wealth of musicians as she travels in her role as a British and International Federation adjudicator.

GRADED SOLOS

Class	Age	Time	Fee
400 Vocal Solo Grade 1 ONE examination song from a CURRENT Grade 1 syllabus of any recognised board. Performers should not have passed Grade 2 by the time of the festival.	Year 13 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
401 Vocal Solo Grades 2-3 ONE examination song from a CURRENT Grade 2 or 3 syllabus of any recognised board. Performers should not have passed Grades 3 or 4 respectively by the time of the festival.	Year 13 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 Accompanist £8.50
402 Vocal Solo Grades 4-5 ONE examination song from a CURRENT Grade 4 or 5 syllabus of any recognised board. Performers should not have passed Grades 5 or 6 respectively by the time of the festival.	Year 13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
403 Vocal Solo Grades 6-7 ONE examination song from a CURRENT Grade 6 or 7 syllabus of any recognised board. Performers should not have passed Grades 7 or 8 respectively by the time of the festival.	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.50 Accompanist £9.50
404 Advanced Vocal Performance One or more items from the same work. A minimum standard of approximately Grade 8 is expected. Grade 8 examination music may be performed.	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £12.00

AGE GROUP SOLOS - CLASSICAL & TRADITIONAL

Class	Age	Time	Fee
405 Vocal Solo Year 2 & under One or two songs at any grade/level.	Year 2 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
406 Vocal Solo Year 3-4 ONE classical or traditional song at any grade/level. Songs from shows, films and pop songs should not be performed, but should be entered in the Musical Theatre classes below.	Year 3 to Year 4	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
407 Vocal Solo Year 5-6 ONE classical or traditional song at any grade/level. Songs from shows, films and pop songs should not be performed, but should be entered in the Musical Theatre classes below.	Year 5 to Year 6	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 Accompanist £8.50
408 Non-Competitive Vocal Solo Year 6 & under One or two songs in any style including folk, musical theatre or pop. Non-competitive performers will receive an adjudication but no mark.	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 Accompanist £8.50

Class	Age	Time	Fee
409 Intermediate Vocal Solo Year 7-9 ONE classical or traditional song at any grade/level. Songs from shows, films and pop songs should not be performed, but should be entered in the Musical Theatre classes below.	Year 7 to Year 9	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
410 Senior Vocal Solo Year 10-13 ONE classical or traditional song at any grade/level. Songs from shows, films and pop songs should not be performed, but should be entered in the Musical Theatre classes below.	Year 10 to Year 13	Up to 5 mins	£9.50 Accompanist £9.50
411 Non-Competitive Vocal Solo Year 7-13 One or two songs in any style including folk, musical theatre or pop. Non-competitive performers will receive an adjudication but no mark.	Year 7 to Year 13	Up to 5 mins	£9.50 Accompanist £9.50
412 Boy Treble Solo Year 9 & under ONE classical or traditional song at any grade/level. Songs from shows, films and pop songs should not be performed, but should be entered in the Musical Theatre classes below.	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
413 Junior Folk Song Year 6 & under A traditional folk song - accompanied or unaccompanied	Year 6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
414 Senior Folk Song Year 7-13 A traditional folk song - accompanied or unaccompanied	Year 7 to Year 13	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
415 Aria Year 7-13 Aria from any opera, oratorio or operetta. Music chosen must be appropriate to the age and vocal development of the performer.	Year 7 to Year 13	Up to 5 mins	£9.50 Accompanist £9.50

AGE GROUP SOLOS - MUSICAL THEATRE

Class	Age	Time	Fee
416 Musical Theatre Year 4 & under ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 4 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 Accompanist £8.00
417 Musical Theatre Year 5 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 5 only	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 Accompanist £8.50
418 Musical Theatre Year 6 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 6 only	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 Accompanist £8.50
419 Musical Theatre Year 7 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 7 only	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
420 Musical Theatre Year 8 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 8 only	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
421 Musical Theatre Year 9 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 9 only	Up to 4 mins	£9.00 Accompanist £9.00
422 Senior Musical Theatre Year 10-13 ONE song from a musical or film.	Year 10 to Year 13	Up to 5 mins	£9.50 Accompanist £9.50

RECITALS

Class	Age	Time	Fee
423 Junior Vocal Recital Year 6 & under Two or three songs of contrasting styles and periods. A minimum standard of Grade 3 is expected. NOTE: No items may be repeated in any other class.	Year 6 and under	Up to 6 mins	£10.00 Accompanist £10.00
424 Intermediate Vocal Recital Year 7-9 Two or three songs of contrasting styles and periods. A minimum standard of Grade 5 is expected. NOTE: No items may be repeated in any other class.	Year 7 to Year 9	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 Accompanist £12.00
425 Senior Vocal Recital Year 10-13 Two or three songs of contrasting styles and periods. A minimum standard of Grade 7 is expected. NOTE: No items may be repeated in any other class.	Year 10 to Year 13	Up to 10 mins	£14.00 Accompanist £14.00
426 Non-Competitive Vocal Recital (any age) Two or three songs of contrasting styles and periods. Non-competitive performers will receive an adjudication but no mark.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£10.00 Accompanist £10.00

ENSEMBLES

Class	Age	Time	Fee
427 Junior Vocal Duet Year 6 & under One song in any style. Each voice should have its own independent part. Group of 2 people	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£14.00 per duo Accompanist £10.00
428 Senior Vocal Duet Year 7-13 One song in any style. Each voice should have its own independent part. Group of 2 people	Year 7 to Year 13	Up to 5 mins	£16.00 per duo Accompanist £12.00
429 Vocal Duet, Trio or Quartet Year 13 & under One song in any style. Each voice should have its own independent part. Note: Duets should enter Junior Duet or Senior Duet classes if both performers are within the age range for those classes. Group of 2 to 4 people	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£18.00 per group Accompanist £12.00

CHOIRS

Class	Age	Time	Fee
430 Infant Choir Year 2 & under A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Year 2 and under	Up to 6 mins	£23.00 per group Accompanist £12.00
431 Children's Choir Year 6 & under A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Year 6 and under	Up to 6 mins	£23.00 per group Accompanist £12.00
432 Junior Choir Year 8 & under A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Year 8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£23.00 per group Accompanist £12.00
433 Intermediate Choir Year 7-9 A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Year 7 to Year 9	Up to 8 mins	£25.00 per group Accompanist £14.00
434 Senior Choir Year 7-13 A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Year 7 to Year 13	Up to 8 mins	£25.00 per group Accompanist £14.00
435 Adult Choir A minimum of 10 singers. Two contrasting pieces, with or without accompaniment. Please note: Entries will be limited to a maximum of four choirs per class with a total number of no more than 100 singers per class. Group of a minimum of 10 people	19 and older	Up to 8 mins	£25.00 per group Accompanist £14.00

Awards

If you win your class, you may be eligible for an award. Class awards will be announced at the Festival and will be presented at the GEMS Concert & Prize Giving on Sunday 21 March 2027.