

# Strings Syllabus 14th-17th November 2025

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## STRINGS Syllabus

14th - 17th November 2025
Strings Committee
Convenor Isobel Kennedy
Committee Mr M Gadd LLCM, Mrs Sally Goodfellow, Mr Jena Pang MA (Oxon), PGDL, Avril Childs,
Jacqueline Pipe, Lucy Butler & Becky Cox

#### Rules

GENERAL ENTRY CONDITIONS for COMPETITION

Please look at the main website for the full Entry Conditions:

southendfestivalofperformingarts.com/entry-terms-conditions

Any performer wishing to know more about the British & International Federation of Festivals and its recommended guidelines please refer to:

www.federationoffestivals.org.uk

All entry fees are stated against each class in the syllabus.

Solos: Please see individual class information

Recitals/original compositions, duets/trios/quartets and the Edna Head Award: £10.00

Groups of 5 - 9 competitors (inclusive): £15.00

Groups of 10 or more competitors: £20.00

(Please note: We regret that we are not in a position to refund Entry Fees)

### Adjudicator

### Roy Robinson

MA, Dip Perf RCM, ARCM(P), ARCM(T), LRAM(T), LTCL(P)

Roy trained as a performer at the Royal College of Music and was a major prize winner, winning the Leslie Alexander award, the highest accolade available on the viola. He was a dual first study viola pupil of Frederick Riddle and piano pupil of Angus Morrison. He holds a complete suite of performing and teaching diplomas on piano and viola, largely ARCM and LRAM, plus performing diploma on the violin and an MA in music. He also has a background as an organist and vast experience as a choir trainer and conductor.

Roy has spent most of his career combining teaching, performing, examining and adjudicating. He has taught academic music to A Level, the piano, violin and viola to diploma level, and the violin to RAM Exhibitioners; he currently delivers termly piano diploma masterclasses in Brighton. He has organised and delivered numerous orchestral and singing courses and festivals for children, some under the umbrella of SATIPS, and has coached and conducted many adult choral societies. He has arranged and composed countless pieces for choirs and instrumental combinations, and several of his works are published by Subject Publications. Following full-time appointments in various independent schools, mostly as Director of Music, he has now returned to freelance life.

He has extensive experience as a performer. He has performed on viola and piano in orchestras and ensembles, including work in London, Birmingham and Bournemouth, and as a solo recitalist, most recently playing 2 piano recitals in Hampshire. He has particularly enjoyed several long lasting piano duet partnerships, largely playing to music club audiences across the south. A previous official accompanist to Cheltenham Bach Choir under Brian Kay, he has performed on TV and broadcast on radio; he was also frequent concert accompanist (and occasional conductor) to Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir, as well as other choirs across the south.

As a busy ABRSM grade, diploma and jazz examiner, he has worked all over the world (including examining in German). He has also engaged in other work for ABRSM, including viola consultant and selector of the previous viola syllabus and presenter of teacher meetings abroad.

As an longstanding adjudicator member of the British Federation of Music Festivals, Roy brings wide experience of performing and teaching to encourage, support and inspire progress. He not only enjoys adjudicating his main specialisms, strings and piano, but also the complete range of classes as a generalist: he is listed as GEN which means he is qualified to adjudicate all classes. Away from music, he can often be found driving one of his classic cars.

#### SOLOS

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3000 SENIOR RECITAL CLASS - Any stringed instrument (Amateur			
or Professional)	16 and over	Up to 20 mins	£10.50
Award: The Winifred Nancarrow Challenge Cup, Cash Prize of £25			
donated by Jena Pang			
A programme of contrasting pieces; balance of programme will be taken			
into consideration.			
3020 JUNIOR RECITAL CLASS - Any stringed instrument	15 and under	Up to 15 mins	£10.50
Award: The Marjorie Bose Memorial Cup, The Joyce & Bobby Birn			
Memorial Cash Prize of £25			
A programme of contrasting pieces; balance of programme will be taken			
into consideration.			
3040 CONCERTO CLASS - Any Stringed Instrument (Amateur or			00.50 (1.1. 40.07.50)
Professional)	Any	Up to 15 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Award: The Robert Carrodus Memorial Bowl			
One movement from any Concerto or work for solo stringed instrument			
and orchestra. Performance time should not exceed 15 minutes, unless			
permission is specifically obtained from the Festival at least 2 weeks			
before the closing date.			
3050 BAROQUE CLASS - Any stringed instrument	Any	Up to 10 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Award: The Sheila Marshall Memorial Cup			
Any stringed instrument (including Plucked) Own choice of any work from			
the Baroque period.			

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3060 SENIOR CONTEMPORARY MUSIC (INCLUDING FILM AND			
SHOW MUSIC) - Any stringed instrument	16 and over	Up to 10 mins	£8.50
Award: The Wilfrid Waller Memorial Cup			
Own choice of music composed from 1900 onwards.			
(16 years and over)			
3070 JUNIOR CONTEMPORARY MUSIC (INCLUDING FILM AND			
SHOW MUSIC) - Any stringed instrument	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£7.50
Award: Cowan Cup			
Own choice of music composed from 1900 onwards.			
(15yrs and under)			
3080 VIOLIN OR VIOLA SOLO (Any Age)	Any	Up to 15 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Award: The Dorothy Ventris Trophy (Senior Violin)			
Own choice of one piece.			
3100 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Set Piece (15yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
Choice of either:			
Spy Movie (Fiddle/Viola Time Sprinters, K&D Blackwell; OUP)			
3110 VIOLIN OR VIOLA SOLO - Own Choice (15yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£7.50
Award: The Jena Pang - Brenda Farrow Rose Bowl			
Own choice of one piece.			
3120 VIOLIN OR VIOLA SOLO - Set Piece (13yrs and under)	13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£7.50
Caribbean Sunshine (From Fiddle Time Runners, or Viola Time Runners;			
OUP)			
3130 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Own choice (11-13 yrs)	Age 11 - 13	Up to 5 mins	£7.50
Award: Cash Prize of £10 donated by Jena Pang			
Own choice of piece			
3140 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Set Piece (10yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
On The Go (Fiddle /Viola Time Runners; K&D Blackwell, OUP)			
3150 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Own choice (10yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
Award: The Terry Birdseye Cup for Strings & Cash Prize of £15			
Own choice of 1 of 2 pieces			
3180 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Set piece (8yrs and under)	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
Set Piece:			
Tiptoe, Boo! (Fiddle/ Viola Time Joggers, OUP) by Kathy and David			
Blackwell			
3190 VIOLIN or VIOLA SOLO - Own choice (8yrs and under)	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
Own choice of 1 or 2 pieces			

### **NOVICE CLASSES AND NON-COMPETITIVE CLASSES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3200 VIOLIN or VIOLA NOVICE CLASS (11-18yrs)	Age 11 - 18	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
Competitors must not have been learning either instrument for more than			
18 months at date of entry. Own choice of one or two pieces.			
3205 VIOLIN or VIOLA NOVICE CLASS (10yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
Competitors must not have been learning either instrument for more than			
18 months at date of entry. Own choice of one or two pieces.			

### **SOLOS**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3210 ADULT LEARNERS - Any Stringed Instrument	18 and over	Up to 5 mins	£8.50
Own choice. This Class is intended for those who are learning a stringed			
instrument in their adult years.			
3220 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS SOLO (Any age)	Any	Up to 15 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Award: The Dorothy Ventris Trophy (Senior 'Cello)			
Own choice			
3240 'CELLO SOLO - Set Piece (15yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
Set Piece:			
Allegro, 3rd Movement from Sonata Op.1 No. 6 by G. Chinzer (Faber)			
3250 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS SOLO - Own choice (15yrs and	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£7.50
under)			
Award: The Kathryn Ash Memorial Cup			
Own choice.			
3260 'CELLO SOLO - Set Piece (12yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 1 min	£7.50
Set Piece:			
Rondeau - Purcell (No. 3 from Classical & Romantic Pieces for Cello &			
Piano, OUP)			
3270 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS SOLO - Own choice (12yrs and	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£7.50
under)			
Award: Cash prize of £10 (donated by Jason Cello Tuition)			
Own choice.			
3280 'CELLO SOLO - Set Piece (10yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 1 min	£7.50
Set Piece:			
Square Dance by Alan Bullard (from Party Time!; ABRSM)			
3290 'CELLO SOLO or DOUBLE BASS SOLO - Own choice (10yrs			
and under)	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
Award: The Gwen Horrigan MBE Memorial Trophy			
Own choice.			
3300 'CELLO SOLO - Set Piece (8yrs and under)	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£7.50
Set Piece:			
Lazy Cowboy - K&D Blackwell(Cello Time Joggers, OUP)			
3310 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS SOLO - Own choice (8yrs and	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
under)			
Award: The Wong's Cup for Young Cellists & Cash prize of £10 for winner,			
£5 for runner-up (donated by Jason Cello Tuition)			
Own choice of 1 or 2 pieces.			

#### **NOVICE CLASSES AND NON-COMPETITIVE CLASSES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3320 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS NOVICES (18yrs and under)	18 and under	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
Competitors must not have been learning for more than 18 months at date			
of entry. Own choice of 1 or 2 pieces.			
3330 'CELLO or DOUBLE BASS NOVICES (12yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£7.50
Competitors must not have been learning for more than 18 months at date			
of entry. Own choice of 1 or 2 pieces.			

### **SOLOS**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3400 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 10 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Own choice- any age			
3410 GUITAR SOLO (Amateur or Professional - Any age)	16 and over	Up to 10 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Award: Multi-class: The Jerry Mayes Challenge Cup (Classes 3410, 3420			
& 3430)			
Own choice			
3420 GUITAR (15yrs and under)	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£7.50
Award: Multi-class: The Jerry Mayes Challenge Cup (Classes 3410, 3420			
& 3430)			
Own choice			
3430 GUITAR (10yrs and under)	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£7.50
Award: Multi-class: The Jerry Mayes Challenge Cup (Classes 3410, 3420			
& 3430)			
Own choice			
3440 SENIOR UNACCOMPANIED SOLO - Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass	16 and over	Up to 10 mins	£8.50
Any orchestral stringed instrument. Own choice of music written/arranged			
specifically for unaccompanied performance. 16yrs and over.			
3450 JUNIOR UNACCOMPANIED SOLO - Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£7.50
Any orchestral stringed instrument. Own choice of music written/arranged			
specifically for unaccompanied performance. 15 yrs and under			

#### **GRADED CLASSES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3500 STRINGS INITIAL AND GRADE 1 - Any stringed instrument	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not have passed any grade higher than			
the one from which the choice is made and must not play the piece in any			
other class in the Strings section.			
3530 STRINGS GRADE 2 AND 3 - Any stringed instrument	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not have passed any grade higher than			
the one from which the choice is made and must not play the piece in any			
other class in the Strings section.			
3560 STRINGS GRADE 4 AND 5 - Any Stringed Instrument	Any	Up to 5 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not have passed any grade higher than			
the one from which the choice is made and must not play the piece in any			
other class in the Strings section.			
3570 STRINGS GRADE 6 AND 7 - Any Stringed Instrument	Any	Up to 5 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not have passed any grade higher than			
the one from which the choice is made and must not play the piece in any			
other class in the Strings section.			
3580 STRINGS GRADE 8 - Any Stringed Instrument	Any	Up to 8 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not have passed any grade higher than			
the one from which the choice is made and must not play the piece in any			
other class in the Strings section.			
3590 DIPLOMA - Any Stringed Instrument (Amateur or Professional)	Any	Up to 10 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
Any one piece from the examination syllabus of ABRSM or Trinity from			
2010 onwards. Competitors must not play the piece in any other class in			
the Strings section.			

#### **DUETS & ENSEMBLES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3700 DUET FOR TWO VIOLINS - Any age	Any	Up to 10 mins	£10.00
Award: Multi-class: The Leona Phillips Challenge Cup (Classes			
3700,3710,3720,3730)			
Accompaniment optional. Enter up to 3 pieces. Own choice.			
Duet			
3710 DUET FOR TWO VIOLINS (12yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00
Award: Multi-class: The Leona Phillips Challenge Cup (Classes			
3700,3710,3720,3730)			
Accompaniment optional. Enter up to 3 pieces. Own choice.			
Duet			
3720 DUET FOR TWO 'CELLOS - Any Age	Any	Up to 10 mins	£10.00
Award: Multi-class: The Leona Phillips Challenge Cup (Classes			
3700,3710,3720,3730)			
Accompaniment optional. Enter up to 3 pieces. Own choice.			
Duet			
3730 DUET FOR TWO 'CELLOS (12yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00
Award: Multi-class: The Leona Phillips Challenge Cup (Classes			
3700,3710,3720,3730)			
Accompaniment optional. Enter up to 3 pieces. Own choice.			
Duet			
3740 VIOLIN, VIOLA, 'CELLO, BASS DUET - Teacher & Pupil (16yrs	16 and over	Up to 5 mins	£8.50
and over)			
Own choice. Pupil only to be adjudicated. The pupil should pay a solo fee;			
no fee is payable by the Teacher.			
3750 VIOLIN, VIOLA, 'CELLO, BASS DUET - Teacher & Pupil (15yrs			
and under)	15 and under	Up to 5 mins	£7.50
Own choice. Pupil only to be adjudicated. The pupil should pay a solo			
fee; no fee is payable by the Teacher.			
3800 STRING GROUP - Any age	Any	Up to 10 mins	See notes for group fees
Award: The HSBC Bank String Group Trophy (Senior)			
Any combination of orchestral stringed instruments. Enter up to 3 pieces.			
Own choice. Piano accompaniment optional.			
Group of any size			
3810 STRING GROUP - 12yrs and under	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	See notes for group fees
Award: The HSBC Bank String Group Trophy (Junior)			
Any combination of orchestral stringed instruments. Enter up to 3 pieces			
Own choice. Piano accompaniment optional. N.B. Suitable arrangements			
may be used in this Class, but a copy of such must be available for the			
Adjudicator.			
Group of any size			

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3820 GROUP CLASS for PLUCKED INSTRUMENTS	Any	Up to 10 mins	See notes for group fees
Any combination of two or more plucked instruments (guitar, mandolin,			
lute, etc.). Own choice. Enter up to 3 pieces. Piano accompaniment			
optional. N.B. Suitable arrangements may be used in this Class, but a			
copy of such must be available for the Adjudicator.			
Group of any size			
3830 DUET FOR ANY 2 STRINGED INSTRUMENTS (Amateur or	Any	Up to 10 mins	£10.00
Professional)			
Award: The Golden Jubilee Trophy			
Accompaniment optional. Any combination of 2 stringed instruments.			
Enter up to 3 pieces. Any age.			
Duet			
3840 DUET FOR ANY 2 STRINGED INSTRUMENTS (17yrs and under)	17 and under	Up to 8 mins	£10.00
Accompaniment optional. Combination of any 2 stringed intruments. Enter			
up to 3 pieces. Own choice.			
Duet			
3850 DUET FOR ANY 2 STRINGED INSTRUMENT (12yrs and under)	12 and under	Up to 8 mins	£10.00
Accompaniment optional. Any combination of 2 stringed instruments.			
Enter up to 3 pieces. Any age.			
3860 STRINGS CHAMBER MUSIC	Any	Up to 10 mins	See notes for group fees
Award: The Helen Thatcher Challenge Trophy			
Any combination of 3 or more players, one performer to a part, not			
conducted. Stringed instruments only, including plucked, with or without			
piano. Own choice. Enter up to 3 pieces. Arrangements allowed.			
Group of a minimum of 3 people			

### **NOVICE CLASSES AND NON-COMPETITIVE CLASSES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3870 NON-COMPETITIVE MEMORY CLASS	Any	Up to 8 mins	£8.50 (Under 18 £7.50)
An opportunity to test your memorisation skills in a non-competitive			
situation, playing one piece of your own choice.			

#### **DUETS & ENSEMBLES**

Class	Age	Time	Fee
3880 DUET FOR ANY STRINGED INSTRUMENT AND PIANO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£10.00
Both performers will be adjudicated. Own choice.			
Duet			