



springboard

brighton & hove performing arts festival

CELEBRATING 100+ YEARS

Strings Syllabus

Springboard 2025 Festival

Venues:

Saturday 8 March: Stanford Avenue Methodist Church. Stanford Avenue, Brighton, BN1 6FD

Sunday 9 March: To be confirmed

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

Section secretary: Jannet King (jannetking@gmail.com)

The Springboard Strings weekend is open to players of violin, viola, cello and double bass at all levels. In 2025 we are including the harp in our non-competitive performance classes for people aged 19 and under.

Please take time to read the rules below to ensure that you enter the appropriate class.

The deadline for entries is the close of 26 January 2025.

Rules

1 Age limit: Unless specified, the age limit is 19 years, based on the performer's age on 31 December in the year prior to the Festival. There are several classes open to adults.

2 Any piece of music may be played only once in the Festival.

3 Music chosen for the graded classes does not have to be from an exam syllabus but the adjudicator's decision as to the acceptable grading of the performer's chosen piece will in all cases be final. The Strings Secretary will be happy to give advice on this.

4 Time limit: Performers are asked to pay close attention to the time limit for each class. A performance that is over the time limit may not receive a mark in a competitive class. Repeats are not required unless Da Capo or Dal Segno is marked.

5 A copy of the music to be performed must be brought to the festival for the adjudicator to refer to during the performance. Photocopies are acceptable but will be destroyed after the class.

6 Performers are expected to announce the composer and title of the piece(s) they will be playing clearly and audibly at the start of their performance.

7 Accompanists: Unless an arrangement has been made by their teacher, performers must book and pay for their own accompanist, where needed. Please see <http://www.springboardfestival.co.uk/information/accompanists/> for a list of local accompanists.

8 All performers (excluding accompanists) must be amateurs (someone in full-time or higher education or who does not derive their main income from performance or teaching a string instrument).

9 PLEASE NOTE that Springboard reserves the right not to refund entry fees if an entrant decides to withdraw.

Adjudicator

Chika Robertson

Chika Robertson is a professor of violin at the Royal Academy of Music and for many years international Diploma Examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. She is much in demand globally as a music adjudicator, masterclass and workshop presenter, project director and conference speaker.

Chika has premiered numerous seminal works for eminent musicians as both violin soloist and chamber musician with world-class ensembles such as the London Sinfonietta & Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Sir Simon Rattle and Sir Neville Marriner; performed in a piano trio with Tchaikovsky Competition winner Peter Donohoe; and recorded on many film tracks (including 'Amadeus') both in concert and in the Hollywood and London film studios in many diverse styles ranging from Arvo Part to Ella Fitzgerald and Shirley Bassey.

A former student of Eudice Shapiro and Dorothy Delay, Dr Robertson is passionate about the involvement of music in education. As Chief Executive of the UK charity 'Music Mind Spirit Trust' (MMST), she directs award-winning programmes to promote intergenerational musical opportunities to enrich lives within communities. Her work forges new career paths for young musicians, particularly MMST's Young Artist Musical Ambassadors (YAMA) from the Royal Academy of Music, with a special focus on leadership, health & wellbeing for 21st century musicians. She and her husband, stage director Prof Mark Ross Clark, have recently founded and direct the British Opera Academy (BOA, UK).

AWARDS

RECITALS: Class 721: Awards £40/£20; Class 722: Awards £80/£40

CONCERTOS: Classes 723 & 724: Awards £20 & £40

VIOLA PRIZE: An award of £40 to the most promising viola player. Donated by Elliot Corner.

CECIL ARONOWITZ CUP: To celebrate the centenary in 2016 of the birth of one of Britain's most distinguished musicians, the viola player Cecil Aronowitz, his family have much pleasure in presenting a cup in his name to Springboard. This cup is awarded annually by the adjudicator to the most promising string player from all classes.

THE BRIGHTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AWARD: Two family tickets for the next BPO concert season to be awarded to two players of orchestral instruments living in Sussex who have taken part in the festival. www.brightonphil.org.uk. Prize is based on a 6-concert season ticket for a family of up to 4 people; confirmation of attendance will be required in advance, and tickets are not transferable.

JUNIOR STRINGS SYLLABUS

Saturday 8 March 2025

Beginner Strings Performances

Pupils will receive oral and written feedback from the adjudicator but no mark. Any style of music is welcome: e.g. classical music, jazz, folk, pop, film, own composition. Pupils may play in groups with more than one player on the same part.

700 VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS & HARP GRADES 1 & 2

Solo performance, duet, or student and adult duet

Fee £8.00

19 and under. Up to 2 mins.

701 VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS & HARP GRADES 3, 4 & 5

Solo performance, duet, or student and adult duet

Fee £9.00

19 and under. Up to 3 mins.

Competitive Classes

The adjudicator will give oral and written feedback and marks will be assigned.

704 GRADES 2 AND 3 VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £9.00

19 and under. Up to 3 mins.

705 GRADES 4 & 5 VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £9.50

19 and under. Up to 4 mins.

706 JAZZ VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

A piece in a jazz style. Up to and including Grade 5. Performances may include improvisation but this is not obligatory.

Fee £9.50

19 and under. Up to 4 mins.

SENIOR STRINGS SYLLABUS

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 March 2025

Advanced Strings Performance

Pupils will receive oral and written feedback from the adjudicator but no mark. Any style of music is welcome: e.g. classical music, jazz, folk, pop, film, own composition.

707 VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS & HARP GRADES 6, 7 & 8

Solo performance, duet, or student & adult duet.

Fee £10.50

19 and under. Up to 5 mins.

Adult Learners Classes - Non-competitive

The following classes are for amateurs only, as defined in Rule 1 of the Festival General Rules and Regulations:

1. Springboard is a festival for amateur performers. For this purpose, an amateur is defined as one who is in full-time or higher education or is over the age of 22 and does not derive fees from performance or teaching of the subject of the class for which the entry is made. Professionals may only participate as accompanists or conductors or where otherwise specifically stated.

708 ADULT LEARNERS - VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Grade 5 and under

Fee £10.50

19 and over. Up to 5 mins.

709 ADVANCED ADULT LEARNERS - VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Grade 6 and above

Fee £11.00

19 and over. Up to 6 mins.

Non-Competitive Classes

Open to students of any age. The adjudicator will give oral and written feedback but no mark.

710 SOLO BACH

Fee £10.50

Up to 5 mins.

711 SONATA

Fee £13.00

Up to 8 mins.

Competitive Classes

The adjudicator will give oral and written feedback and marks will be assigned.

712 GRADES 6 AND 7 - VIOLIN AND VIOLA

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £10.50

19 and under. Up to 5 mins.

713 GRADE 8 - VIOLIN AND VIOLA

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £11.00

19 and under. Up to 6 mins.

714 GRADES 6 AND 7 CELLO AND DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £10.50

19 and under. Up to 5 mins.

715 GRADE 8 CELLO AND DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £11.00

19 and under. Up to 6 mins.

716 JAZZ MUSIC VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Award: Festival medal.

Grade 6 and above

Fee £11.00

19 and under. Up to 6 mins.

717 SOLO BACH - 15 YEARS & UNDER

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £10.50

15 and under. Up to 5 mins.

718 SOLO BACH - 16 TO 19 YEARS

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £12.00

Age 16 - 19. Up to 7 mins.

719 SONATA (GRADES 6 & UNDER)

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £12.00

19 and under. Up to 7 mins.

720 SONATA (GRADES 7 AND 8)

Award: Festival medal.

Fee £13.00

19 and under. Up to 8 mins.

Recitals

Performers should select two or three pieces, contrasting in style or period, and prepare a short verbal introduction to the works they are going to perform. Choice of programme will be taken into consideration.

721 RECITAL CLASS I - UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 8

Award: Winner £40 and Runner-up £20 awarded by Rita French. Class sponsored by the Ellis family.

Fee £18.00

19 and under. Up to 12 mins.

722 RECITAL CLASS II - POST-GRADE 8

Award: Corin Long Cup; Winner £80 and Runner-up £40 awarded by Maeve Jenkinson. Class sponsored by the Ellis family..

Fee £22.00

19 and under. Up to 15 mins.

Concertos

One or more movements of a concerto or a piece with orchestra of similar stature. Orchestral parts must be played as a piano arrangement. Only the performance of the soloist will be adjudicated.

723 CONCERTO - 14 years and under

Award: Festival medal. Winner: £20 awarded by Gail Greaves.

Fee £22.00

14 and under. Up to 15 mins.

724 CONCERTO - 15-19 years

Award: Winner: £40 awarded by Jannet King.

Fee £22.00

Age 15 - 19. Up to 15 mins.

Chamber Music and Ensembles: Non-Competitive

For the purposes of this festival, chamber music is defined as non-directed works for three or more players, one person per part. Performances of concertos are not acceptable in this class.

At least one player must be a string player (the others can be a pianist, brass or woodwind players).

All players must conform to the stipulated age limit.

The performance of the ensemble as a whole will be adjudicated based on the standard of ensemble playing and on evidence of listening to each other rather than the difficulty of the music performed.

725 JUNIOR ENSEMBLE

Minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 performers.

Fee £16.00

Group of 3 to 12 people

13 and under. Up to 10 mins.

726 SENIOR ENSEMBLE

Minimum of 3 performers

Fee £22.00

Group of 3 to 20 people

13 and over. Up to 15 mins.