



Worcester Competitive Arts Festival

VOCAL Syllabus

The vocal classes are intended to take place on Saturday 9th March 2024. A change for this year is that alongside the competitive and non-competitive classes, there will also be workshops taking place throughout both the music day and the Musical Theatre day. We will ensure that timings work so that workshops do not clash with classes that individuals have entered into. Please note that the Musical Theatre classes will take place as part of the Musical Theatre day on Sunday 3rd March. Please see the Musical Theatre section syllabus for details. *Times and dates of all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes dependent upon the number of entries received*

Performers should introduce their own choice of piece(s) at the beginning of their performance. Timings should include introduction and any breaks between pieces. A copy of all own choice pieces must be provided for the adjudicator. Unless otherwise stated, these are competitive classes and places will be awarded. Non-competitive classes can be found at the end of this section.

Classical Vocal

Own choice of classical song (not Jazz, Musical Theatre or Rock 'n Pop), not to include movement, props or costume. In classes where the time limit is 5 minutes or less, ONE piece is to be performed. Where the time limit is 6 minutes or more, one OR two pieces may be performed within the time limit for the class.

All performances in these classes should be accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is preferred. However, if you use a backing track this must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by Monday 19th February 2024. Backing tracks should not include any vocals. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Classical Vocal Solo

Solo performers may enter only the class most appropriate for their singing standard and the open class in each competitive section. Non-competitive classes may be entered in addition. Different piece(s) must be performed for each entry.

In addition, performers may wish to enter the following special classes:

- Singers aged 6 years or under may wish to enter the Party Piece class.
- Solo singers who are Grade 6 standard or above AND were aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2023 may also wish to enter the Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup class.
- Solo singers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2023 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music.
- Singers who are grade 6 standard or above may also wish to enter the William Lewis Recital Prize

and Salver class.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
600 NOVICE CLASSICAL VOCAL SOLO (UP TO APPROX. GRADE 1)	Any	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
601 BEGINNER CLASSICAL VOCAL SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 1-3) Award: 111 Glover Memorial Trophy	Any	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
602 INTERMEDIATE CLASSICAL VOCAL SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 4-5) Award: 7 Gillian Sharpe Award	Any	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
603 ADVANCED CLASSICAL VOCAL SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 6-8) Award: 170 The Robert Vale Trophy	Any	Up to 6 mins	£10.00
604 OPEN CLASS FOR CLASSICAL VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00
605 BOY TREBLE SOLO Award: 141 WCAF Cup For unchanged voices	16 and under	Up to 6 mins	£10.00
606 OPEN CLASS FOR ORATORIO/SACRED WORK	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00
607 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERA Award: 75 Idris Parry Memorial Trophy	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00
608 OPEN CLASS FOR LIEDER Award: THE SUSAN ELLIS LIEDER PRIZE The prize will be £50, providing the winner gains a Distinction or Honours certificate.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00

Classical Vocal Duets

Performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and the open class in this section. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
615 CLASSICAL VOCAL DUET - 12 YEARS AND UNDER Award: 105 Kimberley Cup	12 and under	Up to 4 mins	£15.00 per duo
616 CLASSICAL VOCAL DUET - 16 YEARS AND UNDER	16 and under	Up to 6 mins	£15.00 per duo
617 OPEN CLASS FOR CLASSICAL VOCAL DUET	Any	Up to 8 mins	£15.00 per duo

Folk Song

Own choice of folk song, not to include movement, props or costume. In classes where the time limit is 5 minutes or less, ONE piece is to be performed. Where the time limit is 6 minutes or more, one OR two pieces may be performed within the time limit for the class. Timings should include introduction and breaks between pieces. Competitors may enter only the class most appropriate for their singing standard and the open class in each section.

Performances may be unaccompanied, self-accompanied or accompanied. If accompaniment is used, 'live' accompaniment is preferred. However, if you use a backing track this must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by Monday 19th February 2024. Backing tracks should not include any vocals. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

In addition, performers may wish to enter the following special classes:

- Singers aged 6 years or under may wish to enter the Party Piece class.
- Solo singers who are Grade 6 standard or above AND were aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2023 may also wish to enter the Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup class.
- Solo singers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2023 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music.
- Singers who are grade 6 standard or above may also wish to enter the William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver class.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
610 NOVICE FOLK SONG SOLO (UP TO APPROX.GRADE 1)	Any	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
611 BEGINNER FOLK SONG SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 1-3) Award: 28 The Hanbury Cup	Any	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
612 INTERMEDIATE FOLK SONG SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 4-5) Award: 89 WCAF Cup	Any	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
613 ADVANCED FOLK SONG SOLO (APPROX. GRADES 6-8) Award: 72 Jubilee Cup	Any	Up to 6 mins	£10.00
614 OPEN CLASS FOR FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00

Non-competitive Vocal Solo

These are non-competitive classes for all abilities, where constructive comments on the performances will be given by the adjudicator, but no places awarded or comparison made between performances. Any style of song can be chosen. Performances in these classes may be accompanied and if so, 'live' accompaniment is preferred. However, if you use a backing track this must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by Monday 19th February 2024. Please note the additional information as you make the entry. Performers may play one or more piece(s) within the time limit for the class.

Performers may also enter the Party Piece class on the same or a different instrument if aged 6 or under and anyone may also enter competitive classes. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
625 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - 8 YEARS AND UNDER	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
626 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - 12 YEARS AND UNDER	12 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
627 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - 16 YEARS AND UNDER	16 and under	Up to 6 mins	£10.00
628 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - OPEN	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.00
629 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL DUET	Any	Up to 5 mins	£15.00

Choirs

We welcome all choirs to come and take part, singing any style of music. This year, we are pleased to announce that the WCAF Junior Choir of the Year Trophy and the WCAF Senior Choir of the Year Trophy will be presented for the first time. These will be presented at the adjudicator's discretion to one choir in either the 8 years and under or the 10 years and under sections and one choir in the 12 years and under or 15 years and under sections. Each trophy will be accompanied by a prize of £50. Trophy winners must get a distinction or honours mark and will be invited to sing at the Festival Concert on Saturday 23rd March 2024.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AGES STATED ARE ON THE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2023, TO ALIGN WITH THE ACADEMIC YEAR. Previous entrants may notice that the age groups are slightly different this year. Please ensure that the number of singers and the minimum and maximum ages of singers in your choir are given (if applicable) when making the entry. If a large number of entries are received this information will enable classes to be split as fairly as possible, by size of the choir and/or by age. If you have any queries at all about your choir entry, please do not hesitate to drop us a line: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Up to 2 contrasting pieces (own choice) should be performed within the time limit for the class (including the introduction and breaks between pieces). Choirs may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the choir on 1st September 2023 and/or the open class in this section.

Please ensure that the age of the eldest performer is given in all except Open classes. This will enable classes to be split fairly if there are too many entries. Different pieces must be played or performed for each entry. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one choir. The age groups are approximate and an indication of school years is given. The maximum number of singers performing in each choir cannot be exceeded. Individual performers may sing as part of more than one choir.

Performances in these classes may (but do not have to be) accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is always preferred to a backing track. If you choose to use a backing track rather than a live accompanist, the backing track must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by Monday 19th February 2024. Any backing track must not contain vocals. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
618 CHOIRS - 8 YEARS AND UNDER (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) This is usually for children in school year 4 and below. Group of 3 to 40 people	8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£25.00 per group
619 CHOIRS - 10 YEARS AND UNDER (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) Award: 169 The Robert Vale Cup This is usually for children in school year 6 and below. Group of 3 to 40 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£25.00 per group
620 CHOIRS - 12 YEARS AND UNDER (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) This is usually for children in school year 8 and below. Group of 3 to 40 people	12 and under	Up to 6 mins	£25.00 per group
621 CHOIRS - 15 YEARS AND UNDER (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) This is usually for children in school year 11 and below. Group of 3 to 40 people	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£25.00 per group
622 CHOIRS - 19 YEARS AND UNDER (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) Award: 65 The Edith M. Newth Cup for Singing Group of 3 to 40 people	19 and under	Up to 10 mins	£25.00 per group
623 OPEN CLASS FOR CHOIRS (INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHOIRS) Award: 6 The Helena Cass Cup Group of 3 to 40 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£25.00 per group

Non-competitive Choirs

Individual singers may perform as part of more than one choir. Choirs may also wish to enter the competitive choir classes. Different piece(s) must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
624 OPEN CLASS FOR CHOIRS (NON-COMPETITIVE) Group of 3 to 40 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£25.00 per group
630 CHOIRS - 19 YEARS AND UNDER (NON-COMPETITIVE) Group of 3 to 40 people	19 and under	Up to 10 mins	£25.00 per group