

# **THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL PIANO DUO COMPETITION, EŁK 2025**

**for students of primary and secondary music schools and of  
comprehensive music schools**

**May 22-24, 2025**

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Organisation of the Competition:
  - The competition is organized by The Centre of Art Education (Centrum Edukacji Artystycznej) co-organised by the The State Music Schools Complex in Ełk (Zespół Państwowych Szkół Muzycznych w Ełku)
  - The competition will be held under the patronage of the Mayor of Ełk and the Head of Ełk County.
2. The aim of the competition is to promote piano chamber music written for a duet. It also aims to showcase the artistic achievements of piano students, facilitate the exchange of pedagogical experiences, broaden knowledge of piano literature, and enhance the standard of piano performance artistry.
3. The competition has an international scope. Students of primary and secondary music schools and art institutions in Poland and their counterparts studying, abroad are eligible to participate.
4. Participation in the competition is free of charge for students from Poland. For international participants, the fee is 30 Euro per person. The payment should be made to the following account:  
Recipient: **Rada Rodziców przy ZPSM w Ełku**, ul. Armii Krajowej 21, 19-300 Ełk  
Account number: **PL 26 9339 0006 3001 0700 0553 0001**  
SWIFT code: **POLUPLPR**  
Bank name: **Bank Spółdzielczy w Olecku**.  
The transfer title should include the participant's first and last name with the note: 'Duety Fortepianowe'.
5. The competition consists of a single stage.  
The auditions will be held in the following age groups:

**Students of Primary Music Schools  
and Students of Grades I – VI of Comprehensive Music Schools:**

- **Group I** – Students of grades I-II (6-year cycle) or I (4-year cycle)  
Performance time: **up to 5 minutes**
- **Group II** - Students of grades III-IV (6-year cycle) or II-III (4-year cycle)  
Performance time: **up to 8 minutes**

- **Group III** – Students of grades V-VI (6-year cycle) or IV (4-year cycle)  
Performance time: **up to 10 minutes**

**Program:** Two or three pieces of varied character for four hands or two pianos, at least one of which is not a transcription or arrangement. Performing parts of cyclic works is permitted. Individual movements of classical sonatas and sonatinas should be performed without repetition, except for the trio form. The performance should not exceed the allotted time limit.

If a duet consists of students belonging to two different age groups, it will be classified in the group corresponding to the older participant.

### **Secondary Music Schools and Comprehensive Music Schools from Grade VII**

- **Group IV** – Students of Secondary Music Schools and Comprehensive Music Schools from Grade VII.

**Program:** Pieces for four hands, two pianos, or piano with another instrument, at least one of which is not a transcription or an arrangement. Individual movements of sonatas and sonatinas should be performed without repetition, except for the trio form. Performance of parts of cyclic works is permitted. The performance should not exceed the allotted time limit.

Performance time: **up to 15 minutes**

- The competition program can be performed **from sheet music or by heart**.
  - A duet may consist of students from different teachers.
6. The competition auditions will be evaluated by a Jury appointed by the Director of the Centre for Art Education, in accordance with §8 of the Regulation of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of November 21, 2019, on the organization and procedure of competitions for students of public schools and institutions (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 2328, as amended).
  7. The jury may not include persons whose student or students are participating in the competition or who are related to them – in accordance with §10(3) of the Regulation of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of November 21, 2019, on the organization and procedure of competitions for students of public schools and institutions (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 2328, as amended).
  8. The result of the Jury's work will be the awarding of prizes and distinctions to the best participants of the Competition.
  9. The Jury will evaluate on a scale from 1 to 25 points.
    - Grand Prix** – 25 pts
    - 1st place** – 23-24 pts or higher
    - 2nd place** - 22 pts or higher
    - III miejsce** – 21 pts or higher
    - Distinction** – 19 pts or higher

**10. Rights of the Laureates and Finalists**

**Competition Laureate** (i.e., a participant who has received the grand prix prize or first, second, or third prize, or first, second, or third place) conducted in accordance with the regulations issued under Article 22(6) of the Education System Act, organized by the Centre of Art Education, is granted the following rights:

1) Based on Article 44zh of the Act of September 7, 1991, on the Education System, they receive the highest positive annual classification grade in the relevant artistic educational subject. If the grade for these subjects is determined through a promotional or final exam, they are exempt from taking that exam.

2) Based on Article 132 of the Act of December 14, 2016 – Education Law, they receive priority in the admission process to a public secondary school..

**Competition Finalist** of a competition organized by the Centre for Art Education (i.e., a participant who qualified for the highest stage of the competition or, in the case of a single-stage competition, received a distinction) is granted the rights specified in the regulations issued under Article 162 of the Act of December 14, 2016 – Education Law, regarding the conversion of individual criteria into points during the admission process to secondary schools.

**11.** The Jury's decisions are final and indisputable.

**12.** Applications (filled out in block letters or typed) must be submitted by **April 30, 2025**, to the school office at [sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl](mailto:sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl). The qualification of a duet into the Competition will be determined by the order of received applications. The number of participants is limited.

**13.** Detailed information regarding the list of participants, the audition schedule, and rehearsals will be posted on the school's website [www.gov.pl/web/zpsmelk](http://www.gov.pl/web/zpsmelk) and sent to the school addresses provided in the applications.

**14.** All participants will receive certificates of participation, while laureates and distinguished duets (Finalists) will receive diplomas and prizes.

**15.** The list of laureates, in alphabetical order, will be announced after the auditions of each group. The results of the competition and the award ceremony will take place during the Concert of Laureates.

**16.** The laureates of the Competition are required to participate in the Concert of Laureates.

**17.** Participants are responsible for covering their own travel, accommodation, and meal expenses.

For any additional information, please contact  
School office  
Zespół Państwowych Szkół Muzycznych w Ełku, ul. Armii Krajowej 21, 19-300Ełk,  
[www.gov.pl/web/zpsmelk](http://www.gov.pl/web/zpsmelk)

phone/fax +48 87 61 03 623 email [sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl](mailto:sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl)

## **Information from The Centre of Art Education regarding the organization of competitions**

In accordance with Article 13, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation, Official Journal of the European Union L. 2016.119.1 of May 4, 2016), hereinafter referred to as GDPR, I inform you:

The joint controllers of the personal data being processed are:

- a) The State Music Schools Complex in Ełk (Zespół Państwowych Szkół Muzycznych w Ełku),  
19-300 Ełk ul. Armii Krajowej 21  
represented by the headteacher.

Contact: phone 87 61 03 623, email: [sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl](mailto:sekretariat@zpsmelk.pl)

Data Protection Officer:

Dorota Berndt [iodo@zpsmelk.pl](mailto:iodo@zpsmelk.pl)

is the administrator of all personal data necessary for the preparation and conduct of this competition.

- b) The Centre of Art Education (Centrum Edukacji Artystycznej) ul. Mikołaja Kopernika 36/40,  
00-924 Warszawa, represented by the director.

Contact: phone 22 42 10 621, email: [sekretariat@cea.art.pl](mailto:sekretariat@cea.art.pl)

Data Protection Officer: <https://www.gov.pl/web/cea/ochrona-danych-osobowych>

is the administrator of all personal data necessary to carry out the tasks of the competition organizer as defined by law<sup>1</sup>, including data related to the reporting obligations of the organizer.

Other rights available to the individual can be found at: <https://www.gov.pl/web/cea/ochrona-danych-osobowych>

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<sup>1</sup> The Act of September 7, 1991, on the Education System (Journal of Laws 2020, item 1327), and the Regulation of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of November 21, 2019, on the organization and procedure of competitions for students of public art schools and institutions (Journal of Laws 2019, item 2328), as amended.