

XXIII De Girard International Young Pianists Competition

THE COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. The Competition is organized by the I.J. Paderewski Music Society in Żyrardów under the Honorary Patronage of the I.J. Paderewski 1st and 2nd degree National Music School in Żyrardów.
2. The Competition is held under the Honorary Patronage of the Mayor of the City of Żyrardów.
3. De Girard International Young Pianists Competition is a continuation of the Żyrardów Young Pianists Competition – next edition with an international scope.
4. The Competition auditions will be held on **22–24 May 2026** in the Resursa Hall in Żyrardów, at ul. 1 Maja 45.
5. The Competition is open to the students of Music Schools as well as Music Academies.
6. The Competition auditions will take place in the following groups:
 - group I – up until 10 years of age
 - group II – up until 13 years of age
 - group III – up until 16 years of age
 - group IV – up until 19 years of age
 - group V – up until 23 years of age

7. Programme requirements:

GROUP I – two works diversified in terms of their character and style, including a work of a French composer (optional)

duration: maximum 6 minutes

GROUP II

The programme of one's choice which includes at least one work of a Polish or French composer

duration: maximum 10 minutes

GROUP III

The programme of one's choice which includes at least one work of a Polish or French composer

duration: maximum 15 minutes

GROUP IV

The programme of one's choice which includes at least one composition by I.J. Paderewski or a work of a French composer

duration: maximum 17 minutes

GROUP V

The programme of one's choice which includes at least one composition by I.J. Paderewski or a work of a French composer

duration: maximum 20 minutes

All works shall be performed from memory.

The organizer provides the *Grand Prix* of the competition, a Special Award for the best performance of a work by Ignacy Jan Paderewski and the Philippe de Girard Award for the best performance of a work by a French composer.

8. Participants will be assessed by a Jury appointed by the organizer.

9. The Jury's decisions shall be final and irrevocable.

10. A non-extendable time limit assigned to groups I–V applies. Should it be exceeded, the Jury reserves the right to stop the performance.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpdxYX4-0Ob96mZBSH-z1TbRcZ5oI6qTqAwiUbvcADvjW3XA/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=115868733477910132863>

11. Application form, signed administrator's information and proof of payment of entry fee to the account:

66 1160 2202 0000 0002 2612 1069

BIC (Swift): BIGBPLPWXXX

IBAN: EN 66 1160 2202 0000 0002 2612 1069

Millennium Bank, 2A Żaryna St., 00-593 Warsaw

Recipient:

Żyrardowskie Towarzystwo Muzyczne im. Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego, 96-300 Żyrardów,
pl. Jana Pawła II 3.

Title:

"De Girard International Young Pianists Competition" in the amount of PLN 250 for Polish participants or € 70 for foreign participants,

should be sent only electronically via the application form posted on the Competition website:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/psmzyrardow/de-girard-international-young-pianists-competition-2026>

Deadline for sending applications: May 8, 2025.

Applications submitted after the deadline shall be rejected.

12. In the case of resignation, the enrolment fee will not be reimbursed.

13. By applying, the participant accepts the Competition Regulations.

14. The organizer reserves the right to limit the number of participants. If this is the case, qualification for the Competition will be based on the first come first served rule.

15. The costs of travel, accommodation and food shall be covered by the participant.

16. The exact timetable of the Competition will be published on the Competition's website by the 11th of May 2026.

17. All participants will receive Participation Diplomas.

18. Participants will perform in alphabetical order.

19. The Competition will end with a Concert of Laureates and the diplomas and awards ceremony.

20. The laureates are obliged to perform during the Concert of Laureates.