



78th  
NUNEATON  
FESTIVAL OF  
ARTS  
2026

VOCAL  
SYLLABUS



**NB: THERE IS NO QUALIFIED  
FIRST AIDER ON SITE AT THIS  
EVENT.**

**Spectators' Admission:**  
Adults £2 Concessions £1 Children FOC



Affiliated to the British and  
International Federation of  
Festivals for  
Music, Dance and Speech

[www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk](http://www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 1041379



### Executive Committee

President: The Worshipful The Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Chair: Mrs Gwyn Evans

Email: [festival.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:festival.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Jane McConnell

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**Section Secretary: Priscilla Morris**  
6 Trafford Road, Hinckley. LE10 1LY  
Email: [priscilla@loudandclearuk.com](mailto:priscilla@loudandclearuk.com)

Tel: 07855 685124

**Assistant Secretary: Ann Shires**  
9 Sandy Crescent  
Hinckley LE10 0TG

Tel: 07932 606915



**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Competition: Thursday 30th April and Friday 1st May 2026**  
**Venue: Abbey Theatre, Pool Bank Road, Nuneaton CV11 5DB**

**Competition: Sunday 10th May 2026**  
**\*\*NEW\*\* Venue: Chilvers Coton Parish Community Hall,**  
**Nuneaton CV11 4NJ (off Coventry Road).**

***BACKING TRACKS: FOR CLASSES AT THE ABBEY THEATRE PLEASE SUBMIT FILES TO DROPBOX AND SEND THE LINK TO THE SECTION SECRETARY. SUBMISSIONS MUST BE MADE BY THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 2026. THESE WILL BE PLAYED THROUGH THE SOUND SYSTEM AT THE THEATRE. PLEASE BRING A LABELLED USB STICK OR COPY OF THE TRACKS ON AN ALTERNATIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICE AS A BACK UP IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES.***

***N.B. WHEN ENTERING AN 'OWN-CHOICE' CLASS PLEASE INCLUDE THE NAME OF THE SONG AND COMPOSER(S) ON THE ENTRY FORM. THIS CANNOT BE CHANGED ON THE DAY. YOU MUST SING YOUR SONG IN THE ORDER THAT IT IS ON YOUR ENTRY FORM***

**PLEASE NOTE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR EMAIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THREE WEEKS AFTER THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECTION SECRETARY.**

### **SAFETY OF PERFORMERS**

It is necessary for teachers and parents to be aware of their responsibilities in entering performers with limited physical or special needs, bearing in mind the limitations imposed by the stage and surrounding environment. It is also necessary for the teacher or parent to pass on to the Adjudicator, via the organiser, any such information that would impact on the Adjudicators' work.

**Adjudicator: Luise Horrocks. MA(Oxon), ARCM,PGCA,PGCE, HON TCL**



After studies at Oxford University and the Royal College of Music, Luise's career as a professional Soprano soloist took her throughout the UK, Europe, America and South Africa.

Luise has held teaching positions in both the Junior and Senior departments of Birmingham Conservatoire and as a visiting lecturer at Birmingham University. She runs an extensive private teaching practice and regularly gives masterclasses, choral workshops, presentations and teacher sessions both at home and abroad. She has worked as a mentor on the CT ABRSM panel and as a vocal coach on residential courses for singers. She has also trained and conducted the Wyre Forest Young Voices Choir. She has recently taken up an appointment as the singing teacher at Keble College, Oxford and has become a Vocal Health First Aider.

For many years as Associate Chief Examiner in music for Trinity College London, Luise has worked on syllabus setting and leading projects for diplomas, examiner training and teacher support. Publications include a series of books on Musical Theatre repertoire and graded songbooks. She is a highly experienced adjudicator member of the British & International Federation of Festivals and was privileged to be an adjudicator for the inaugural Olga and Jules Craen Young Musician of the Year award in Mumbai, India and for the first Maltese Islands Festival in Valletta, Malta as well as adjudicating and running workshops at the Singapore Performing Arts Festival.

She is looking forward to adjudicating at the Nuneaton Festival of Arts in 2026

#### **BRITISH INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FESTIVALS (BIFF) Performing Arts Marking scheme**

<b>DEVELOPING</b>	<b>65 - 69</b>	A Performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency and artistry
<b>PROGRESSING</b>	<b>70 - 74</b>	A Performance showing development of technique and/or communications and commitment
<b>MERIT</b>	<b>75 - 79</b>	A Competent Performance, showing some artistic awareness and /or technical ability.
<b>COMMENDED</b>	<b>80 - 84</b>	A Convincing Performance, technically and artistically, with increasing stylistic and communication skills
<b>HONOURS</b>	<b>85 - 89</b>	An Excellent Performance, demonstrating fluent, technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
<b>OUTSTANDING</b>	<b>90 - 94</b>	An Impressive Performance, technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity and clear individuality.
<b>EXCEPTIONAL</b>	<b>95+</b>	A Superlative Performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.



## Trophies/Awards

**Trophies are awarded for a nominal year only. Please return by date on the Trophy receipt.**

The SEN Rainbow Award	Class 850	The Haddon Shield	Class 867
The SEN Choral Award	Class 851	The British Trane Award	Class 868
The Junior Choir Challenge Trophy	Class 852	The Madge Collins Challenge Trophy	Class 869
The Tom Evans Memorial Trophy	Class 853	The Duet Award	Class 870
The Loud & Clear Award	Class 854	The Trio Trophy	Class 871
The Young Singers Cup	Class 855	The Observer Cup	Class 876
The Evening Tribune Award	Class 856	The Centre Theatre Company Trophy	Class 877
The Winifred Griffiths Cup	Class 857	The Round Table Trophy	Class 878
The Kathleen Ferrier Cup	Class 858	The Amelia Wale Award	Class 879
The Joyce Brenchley Memorial Cup		The Lieder Award	Class 880
The Junior Film Shield	Class 859	The British Song Trophy	Class 881
The Farndon Cup	Class 860	The Krauth Award	Class 882
The Film shield	Class 861	The Biddle Award	Class 883
The Junior Show Trophy	Class 862	The Lawrence Jarvis Challenge Award	
The Derrice Laurence Memorial Cup	Class 863	The Woodhouse Cup	Class 884
The Musicals Cup	Class 864	The Len Type Rose Bowl	Class 885
The Lynn Hurley Cup	Class 865	The Abbey Grange Hotel Trophy	Class 886
The Lauren Samuels Musical Theatre Cup		The Gary Homes Award	Class 887
The Mary Nason Memorial Cup	Class 866	Trophy TBA	Class 888

The Joyce Brenchley Memorial Cup will be awarded, at the adjudicator's discretion, to the singer showing the most promise in classes 855, 856, 857 & 858.

The Laurence Jarvis Challenge Award will be given, at the adjudicator's discretion, to the singer giving the most outstanding performance in classes 877, 878, 880, 881 & 883.

The Lauren Samuels Musical Theatre Cup will be awarded at the adjudicator's discretion to the singer showing most promise in classes 862, 863, 864 & 865

### Dr and Mrs Plester Memorial Fund Award

**£50 will be awarded to the entrant in the VOCAL section which in the Adjudicator's opinion shows most potential**

**£50 will be awarded to the entrant 16 years and under who shows particular promise in the WOODWIND, STRINGS AND BRASS section**

In subsequent years the cash prizes will be awarded in other sections

These cash prizes will be awarded and accepted under the following rules and conditions:

1. The winners will be nominated by the Adjudicator of each of the relevant sections.
2. The prize money will be used by the recipients to purchase materials, tuition or other pursuant to their particular discipline
3. The recipients undertake to submit a written report to the Chair of the Festival Committee outlining the use to which the prize money has been or is intended to be used, no later than 31st July following the competition.

## Vocal Section Rules & Conditions of Entry: Amateur only!

- **Entry:** Competitors must send their entry form and fee to the section secretary by the closing date. To comply with safeguarding procedures, the official Nuneaton Festival of Arts entry form must be completed and signed. (entry forms are available to download from the Festival website). **NB: 'CLASS' REFERS TO THE FESTIVAL CLASS NUMBER.**
- **Email entries:** This must give all the information requested on the entry form. However, the entry fee, together with the signed declaration on the entry form MUST also be sent to the section secretary by the closing date.
- **Payment: By BACS: NUNEATON FESTIVAL OF ARTS (Business account)**  
LLOYDS BANK PLC Sort code:30-96-26 Account number: 80044268

PLEASE ADD THE PREFIX 'VO' IN THE REFERENCE SECTION AND THE ENTRANT'S SURNAME so that your payment can be correctly allocated.

- **Multiple entries:** There is no limit to the number of classes a competitor can enter but you cannot perform more than once in each class or sing the same song in more than one class.
- **Time limit:** Songs must be no longer than 3 minutes 30 seconds in length, including the introduction. Marks may be deducted if this limit is exceeded.
- **Late entries:** These will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the section secretary.
- **Own-choice titles:** These must be given on the entry form. The Festival is under a legal obligation to supply to the Performing Rights Society details of all the items performed at the Festival. The cooperation of teachers and competitors in sending information at the correct time would be very much appreciated.
- **Music:** In the classical song section, a copy of the piece of music MUST be made available for the use of the adjudicator.

For Musical theatre and Pop Songs, lyrics may be provided instead if the musical score is unavailable.

- **Accompanist:** The fee for each song is £4.50 to cover the official Federation rate of payment. Competitors requiring this service should forward a copy of all music **by 31 March 2026** to **Mrs Rosemary Robinson email: [rosemary.swissfamily@ntlworld.com](mailto:rosemary.swissfamily@ntlworld.com)**  
Post: **169 Clifton Road, Rugby, CV21 3QN**  
Please ensure you write the competitor's name and class number on each copy.  
Where there is more than one page of music, please DO NOT staple them together. They should be sellotaped in lengths of not more than 4 sheets. Also check that the quality of print is good.
- **Backing tracks: Please refer to the new information on page 2.**
- **Photography:** No photography, recording or filming of any kind, including mobile phones, is allowed during the performances or adjudication.
- **Costume:** This is allowed but is not a requirement and the adjudication will not take it into account.

### Federation Rules on copyright/performing rights.

- Competitors are advised that it is in their own interest to note carefully the general rules as well as any section rules. **Amateurs only!**
- **'Own Choice'** - Titles and composers of 'own choice' pieces MUST be given on the entry form.  
**Copyright** - The festival is under a legal obligation to supply to the Performing Arts Society details of ALL items performed at the Festival and the co-operation of teachers and competitors in sending information at the correct time would be appreciated. All performances must comply with the copyright arrangements detailed below.
- The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech (BIFF) has negotiated group licensing arrangements with the Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL) for Music (PRS), Music Publishers Association (MPA), Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) and Author's Licensing and Collecting Society (ALCS). Further information regarding copyright permission may be obtained from the BIFF at [w.federationoffestivals.org.uk](http://w.federationoffestivals.org.uk)
- The Committee reserve the right to exclude material which may cause offence, or could be considered prejudicial or discriminatory in any way.

**Nuneaton Festival of Arts Disclaim all responsibility for copies of copyright works used without permission of the copyright owners.**

Copies of the full rules/safeguarding/GDPR/Privacy Policy can be found in the main syllabus/from the website ([www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk](http://www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk)) Any queries should be addressed to the Festival Secretary: [secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

**YOUNG PERFORMERS CLASSES Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 1st May.**

**ABBEY THEATRE**

**NB: THERE IS NO PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT AT THE ABBEY THEATRE**

**Time limit for songs: 3 minutes 30 seconds, including introduction**

<b><u>CLASS</u></b>	<b><u>ENTRY FEE</u></b>
<b>850 SEN Solo – open</b> Any song from any genre. Age 18 or under <b>SEN Competitors Rainbow Award</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>851 Special Educational School Choir Age 18 or under – open</b> 2 own choice songs <b>SEN Choral Award</b>	<b>£15.00</b>

For these two classes, please send information with the entry outlining any special requirements. The Festival is happy to make this a closed session and will allocate additional time if required. The venue is wheelchair friendly.

**CHOIRS**

<b>852 Infant School Choir up to year 2</b>  Two contrasting songs. <b>The Junior Choir Challenge Trophy</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>853 Junior School Choir years 3 to 6</b> Two contrasting songs. <b>The Tom Evans Memorial Trophy</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>854 Mixed Age School Choir</b> Two contrasting songs. <b>The Loud &amp; Clear Award</b> (N.B. this class may take place on 11 May)	<b>£15.00</b>

**A CLASSICAL, FOLK OR TRADITIONAL SONG**

May be sung unaccompanied or with a backing track. May also be self-accompanied on guitar.

<b>855 Solo 8 years and under</b> The Young Singers Cup	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>856 Solo 9 to 11 years</b> <b>The Evening Tribune Award</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>857 Solo 12 to 14 years</b> <b>The Winifred Griffiths Cup</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>858 Solo 15 to 18 years</b> <b>The Kathleen Ferrier Cup</b>	<b>£7.00</b>

**The Joyce Brenchley Memorial Cup will be awarded, at the adjudicator's discretion, to the singer showing the most promise in classes 855, 856, 857 & 858.**

Cont/:

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>ENTRY FEE</u>
<b><u>A SONG FROM A FULLY ANIMATED FILM</u></b>	
859 Solo 11 years and under The Junior Film Shield	£7.00
860 Solo 12 to 14 years The Farndon Cup	£7.00
861 Solo 15 to 18 years The Film Shield	£7.00
<b><u>A SONG FROM MUSICAL THEATRE</u></b> Props and costumes allowed	
862 Solo 11 years and under From live action film or stage show The Junior Show Trophy	£7.00
863 Solo 12 to 14 years From live action film or stage show The Derrice Laurence Memorial Cup	£7.00
864 Solo 15 and 16 years From live action film or stage show The Musicals Cup	£7.00
865 Solo 17 and 18 years From live action film or stage show The Lynn Hurley Cup	£7.00
The Lauren Samuels Musical Theatre Cup will be awarded at the adjudicator's discretion to the singer showing most promise in classes 862, 863, 864 & 865	
<b><u>A POP SONG</u></b> A radio mic will be available	
866 Solo 11 years and under The Mary Nason Memorial Cup	£7.00
867 Solo 12 to 14 years The Haddon Shield	£7.00
868 Solo 15 to 18 years The British Trane Award	£7.00
<b><u>A SONG FROM FILM, MUSICAL THEATRE OR POP</u></b>	
869 Solo 19 to 21 years The Madge Collins Challenge Trophy N.B. this class may take place on 11 May	£7.00
870 Open duet The Duet Award	£12.00
871 Open trio The Trio Trophy	£14.50
872 Open Jazz Solo 18 and under (Trophy TBA)	£7.00

Cont/:

**ADULT CLASSES SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> May - Chilvers Coton Parish Community Hall**

Piano accompaniment available – fee £4.50

**Time limit for songs: 3minutes 30 seconds, including introduction**

<b><u>CLASS</u></b>	<b><u>ENTRY FEE</u></b>
<b>875 Non-competitive. Written adjudication only</b> Own choice solo, any genre	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>876 Novice.</b> Own choice solo Competitors over 18 years of age who have never won a class at a festival affiliated to The British and International Federation of Festivals. <b>The Observer Cup</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>877 Ladies Classical, Operetta or Art Song</b> Own choice solo <b>The Centre Theatre Company Trophy</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>878 Men's Classical, Operetta or Art Song</b> Own choice solo <b>The Round Table Trophy</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>879 A Film, Musical Theatre or Pop Song</b> Over 21 own choice solo <b>The Amelia Wale Award</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>880 Lieder Song</b> Over 18 own choice solo <b>The Lieder Award</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>881 A Classical Song by a British Composer</b> Over 18 own choice solo <b>The British Song Trophy</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>882 Open Recital Class</b> Three songs of varying styles, not to exceed 12 minutes. <b>The Krauth Award</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>883 Open Aria</b> Any aria or recitative and aria to be chosen from sacred cantata, oratorio or opera. Own choice solo. <b>The Biddle Award</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>884 Open unaccompanied folk song</b> Own choice solo <b>The Woodhouse Cup</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<p><b>The Laurence Jarvis Challenge Award</b> will be given, at the adjudicator's discretion, to the singer giving the most outstanding performance <b>in classes 877, 878, 880, 881 &amp; 883.</b></p>	
<b>885 Adult Choirs – ladies, gentlemen or mixed voice</b> Any number, accompanied or unaccompanied. Two contrasting songs, both including some part singing. <b>The Len Type Rose Bowl</b>	<b>£20.00</b>
<b>886 Adult Barber Shop Group</b> Any number, two own-choice songs. <b>The Abbey Grange Hotel Trophy</b>	<b>£20.00</b>
<b>887 A Classical, Folk or Traditional Duet</b> Own choice <b>The Gary Homes Award</b>	<b>£13.00</b>
<b>888 A Classical, Folk or Traditional Trio</b> Own choice <b>Trophy TBA</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>889 Jazz Solo</b> Own choice Over 18 years. <b>Trophy TBA</b>	<b>£8.00</b>

Cont/:

VOCAL ENTRY FORM. See page two for backing track details.

ENTRY BY ELECTRONIC SPREADSHEET AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM THE WEBSITE: [nuneatonfoa.org.uk](http://nuneatonfoa.org.uk)  
BACS PAYMENT PREFERRED.

Name of Entrant: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Tel No: ..... Email: .....

School Name (if applicable) .....

Age limit for individuals: First day of section competition.

Age limit for group entries: 1st September following Festival or school year group.

Method of Payment, please tick: Bank transfer\*  Cash

\*ADD THE PREFIX 'VO' AND YOUR SURNAME/NAME OF SCHOOL TO YOUR PAYMENT REFERENCE.

Sort code: 30-96-26 A/C: 84667860

Tick box 'B' overleaf. Official accompanist fee = £4.50  
.....Vocal section programme @£1.50 + £1.50 p+p = £3.00

..... All sections programme @£2.50 + £1.50 p+p = £4.00  
Balance brought forward from page 2: £

TOTAL: £ .....

NOTES: Programmes are also available on the door.

- a) SCHOOLS and GROUPS - enter the number of competitors in any group, ensemble etc, in the box marked 'A' overleaf.
- b) If applying for an entry form/syllabus by post, please enclose a sae. **Send the complete form and fees to the section secretary by the closing date for the section (see syllabus or website)**

PRIVACY STATEMENT

1. I have read and understand the Privacy Policy on page 73 of the main syllabus/website and agree that the Festival may use the information on this form in accordance with that Policy. YES/NO
2. I have read and accept both the general and section rules of entry and I have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the NFoA's safeguarding policy YES/NO
3. From time to time we take photographs/video footage of participants and /or entries for use with promotions including but not limited to syllabus and programme production, newspaper articles, banners and flyers as well as websites, Facebook etc including use by other forms of social media.

I agree to allow NFoA usage of photographic image +/- or video for other purposes as stated above. YES/NO

Signed .....(Entrant/parent/guardian/carer) Date .....

Teachers of pupils under 18 years must sign below as well if appropriate

I have ensured consent from all parents/guardians of pupils named on this entry for, except for the pupils indicated overleaf.

Signed ..... Teacher Date .....

