

SAPACS

SAPACS ACOUSTIC* SOLO INSTRUMENT SECTION 2026

Please note that the Instrumental Section has been shortened this year due to no convenor and funding limitations. Championships this year will be run over two classes only instead of three.

**ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE HAWKINS THEATRE,
RAY SMALL DRIVE, PAPA KURA**

** This solo section is open to competitors on any acoustic (non-electric) instrument, excluding pianoforte, which runs a separate section, and excluding all electronic keyboard instruments.*

Saturday and Sunday July 25th & 26th July

Please note that groups, duets & regional awards will run as a separate festival on Sunday 2nd August. Please see separate syllabus.

Enquiries to 027 922 9748 lynda@sapacs.nz

Adjudicator: Susan Bierre

(please see adjudicator profiles on our website as they become available)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to the 62nd annual SAPACS Festival!

If this will be your first Festival with us, then we are especially looking forward to hearing you play. We would ask that you take careful note of the following "Competition Protocols" and "General Rules".

Class Entry Fees:

\$12 Individual classes.

Online registration fee (covers all sections) \$20 per individual competitor.

Door Entry:

\$15 for venue hire and ancillary expenses is compulsory on your entry form. *This covers the competitor and one support person for one section.*

Koha at door for additional people.

\$25 Friends Pass covers all sections and can be selected on your entry form.

Online Entries close:

3rd May or until the festival is full.

If the form is still online, then there is hopefully still space.

The entry form will only be available for a short time - sometime in early April it will go live and you are urged to enter as soon as you can.

Age: Will be taken as at 25 June 2026 It is VERY important that you enter classes for your correct age as at the 25th June NOT at date of your section of the festival.

Note that competitors under the age of 5 years on the 25th June in the year of competition are not eligible to take part in any of the music sections.

Time Limit: Each class has a time limit shown in both the syllabus and programme. All items are timed and these are strictly enforced. (see penalty note below). Note that the bell may be rung if the item is excessively long. You may musically edit a longer piece to fit our time limits without any penalty.

Challenge Trophies & Points: Competitors MUST COMPETE in all Classes specified for the overall awards.

Recording:

Generally, a competitor may arrange for their performance to be recorded by an audience member. You are reminded that IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES may you record, on any device, another performer without their permission. Flash photography is not allowed DURING an item. Please use tripods with consideration for the audience and note that the adjudicator's view must not be obscured. Adjudicator's comments are not permitted to be recorded.

Prizes:

12 Years & Under & Restricted Classes - Medals

13 Years and Over – 1st \$12.00, 2nd \$10.00, 3rd \$8.00 unless otherwise stated.

15 Years & Over String Championship Classes have special prize money of 1st \$25, 2nd \$15, 3rd \$10. This prize money also applies to 12 Years & Over General Instrumental Championship Classes.

Any additional awards and donated prizes will be advised in the programme. Note that where classes are combined this may affect the prize money.

Entries: The Executive reserves the right to combine or cancel any classes where insufficient numbers of entries are received. Classes may be divided where there are large numbers of entries. ***Please note that each section of the festival has a maximum number of items that will fit in the allocated days. Once this number has been reached, you may find that the online entry form has been taken down.***

Payment for Entries:

All entries must be paid for as soon as your invoice is emailed to you to be included in the programme. Please pay by internet banking to 12-3031-0793879-00 or by a credit card. In the particulars, use your **reference number** and the **participant's name**. PLEASE DECIDE ON PAYMENT METHOD **BEFORE** ENTERING, as you can't access your form once submitted, and we don't want to have two forms with conflicting payment information.

Programme: There is no charge for a printed programme on your entry form, as each section's timetable will be available, free of charge, as a pdf download at www.sapacs.nz. Please check online from about 5 weeks prior to your section and contact lynda@sapacs.nz or phone 027 922 9748 if you need to know more urgently when you are likely to perform.

Registration: SAPACS uses ONLY online registration for our festival. There is no downloadable or printed entry form available, as ALL entries MUST be done via the SAPACS website. Please contact Lynda (details above) if you need assistance, however, please note that SAPACS is not able to do your online entries for you.

Teachers: please get your individual students to do their own entries. Your students will all get an invoice/summary of their classes entered for you to check. If for any reason teachers need to fill out the forms for their students, you **MUST NOT put your studio's details in the competitor's entry form boxes. All forms where the competitor and teacher contact details are the same, will not be entered into the system until manually checked.** These follow ups take up precious time. We MUST be able to personally contact every individual competitor entered.

Please **enter ALL titles and composers SPELT CORRECTLY.** Ensure that you do **NOT** enter the same piece in more than one class or enter a piece that has won you a first prize at **THIS** competition in the past 3 years.

Missing or Changing Information: Please contact Lynda if you need to change or add any information about your performances once entered. **DO NOT ENTER AGAIN.** You will be permitted to make changes until the programme is published online. (see below for further details about this).

Printed Music/Points Penalties:

A good quality photocopy (or legal download/original) **MUST** be provided for the Adjudicator. The top right hand corner is to show Competitor's name, Class and Number in that Class. ***Solo instruments should submit music with accompaniment (where applicable), not just the line being played.***

There will be a penalty of 3 points applied for a change of title once the Programme has been placed online. The same penalty will be applied for exceeding the stated time limit by more than ten seconds at the festival. The deduction will be shown clearly on all Report Sheets e.g. 82 - 3 = 79. Please also note that the bell will be rung if the item is excessively long.

Competitors are reminded that they **MUST** use a published or legally downloaded copy of the music when performing, to comply with copyright laws. A disqualification may apply if you play from photocopied music. If playing from memory, your original copy must be available for inspection if asked for.

Note to competitors: you may only play one piece in each solo class unless your pieces are directly related to each other e.g., two movements of a work or selections from a suite. Do not play two unrelated pieces just to make up the time limit.

PLEASE BRING YOUR JUDGE'S COPY WITH YOU. DO NOT RELY ON A PHOTOCOPIER BEING AVAILABLE AT THE VENUE. Please Note: There will be no practice permitted on stage with the festival piano before your performance.

Backing Tracks MAY be used for Popular/Light Entertainment solo, duet and group items in appropriate classes. Backing Tracks should **not** be used in Classical classes. **Please advise in advance that you will be using a backing track, as it may need to be emailed into our technician.**

Accompanist: There is NO Official Accompanist for Instrumental. However, please do contact us if you are in need of an accompanist as we may be able to direct you to someone. **If you ARE an accompanist and would like referrals from competitors, please advise Lynda. Currently advised as accepting referrals is Elizabeth Lau 021628313.**

Restricted Classes – Own Selection

Open to competitors who have **not received a First Placing on entered instrument in THIS FESTIVAL or ANY OTHER Performing Arts Competition** at the time of entry, regardless of age. e.g. if you won a 1st prize at age 8 and are now 15, you are **not** eligible to compete. Note that you cannot enter a piece in the restricted class and then perform it again in another class during the same festival.

20th Century to Present Day category: The music in these classes should be post-romantic in style and by a composer who was alive in 1930 or up to the present day. **(Please note this clarification of the style of music to be presented in these classes.)** You may also perform traditional fiddle music as an option in the string classes.

STRING CLASSES: (Bowed Strings) Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass and any non-classical/traditional instruments which are bowed.

GENERAL INSTRUMENTAL: All other acoustic instruments – brass, woodwind, harps, guitars etc. – but excluding piano and electronic keyboards.

CURRENT SPONSORS OF THE ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENT SECTION

Miniatures, Medals, Advertising and Cash Prizes

We extend sincere thanks to our Section sponsors.

Major Sponsors (\$50 or more): South Auckland Marine, Easy Store (Pukekohe), ABRSM (Auckland region), the Bray Family, Clevedon Valley Music Foundation Trust.,

General Sponsors: Sarah McDowall, Music Mania (Pukekohe), Scott McDowall, Paul Radden, Patricia Appleton, Karen Yang, Majors 'n' Minors, Pukekohe South Doctors, Dora Green, Callum Nielsen

RESTRICTED CLASSES (all Own Selection)

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER CLASSES 151, 157, 161 or 165 IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY WON A 1st PLACING (solo), at any age, on entered instrument at time of entry e.g. if you won a 1st prize at age 8 and are now 15, you are **not** eligible to compete. Note that you cannot enter a piece in the restricted class and then perform it again in another class during the same festival. Classes may be divided by age if there are a large number of entries. All restricted class pieces are Own Selection.

**CLASS 151 ELEMENTARY Restricted Solo. Time Limit 3 minutes. 7 Years & Under
SAPACS ELEMENTARY RESTRICTED CUP**

**CLASS 157 PRIMARY Restricted Solo. Time Limit 4 minutes. 8, 9 & 10 Years
SAPACS PRIMARY/JUNIOR RESTRICTED CUP**

**CLASS 161 Intermediate Restricted Solo. Time Limit 4 and a half minutes.
11, 12 & 13 Years.
SAPACS INTERMEDIATE RESTRICTED CUP & RUNNER UP AWARD**

**CLASS 165 Senior Restricted Solo. Time Limit 5 minutes. 14 Years & Over.
COX FAMILY TRUST TROPHY Highest Mark**

ELEMENTARY STRING CHAMPIONSHIP – 8 YEARS OF AGE & UNDER

Bowed Strings

SAPACS ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

You MUST compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time limit: 3 minutes per piece. *Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.*

**CLASS 315 Elementary String Solo. Own Selection
SAPACS CUP ELEMENTARY STRINGS AWARD for winner of this class.**

**CLASS 316 Elementary String Solo. *20th Century to Present Day OR traditional Irish American fiddle music (please see definition)
SAPACS CUP ELEMENTARY CONTEMPORARY STRINGS AWARD for winner of this class.**

SAPACS ELEMENTARY STRINGS MOST PROMISING CUP

A most promising string competitor – adjudicator's choice – but not to be the age-group winner – 8 years & Under

PRIMARY STRING CHAMPIONSHIP – 9 & 10 YEARS OF AGE ONLY

Bowed Strings

SAPACS PRIMARY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

You **MUST** compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time limit: 4 minutes per piece. Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.

CLASS 178 Primary String Solo. Own Selection

SAPACS CUP OWN SELECTION STRINGS AWARD for winner of this class.

CLASS 179 Primary String Solo. *20th Century to Present Day OR traditional Irish American fiddle music (please see definition)

SAPACS CUP CONTEMPORARY STRINGS AWARD for winner of this class.

SAPACS PRIMARY STRINGS MOST PROMISING CUP

A most promising string competitor – adjudicator's choice – but not to be the age-group winner – 9 & 10 Years

JUNIOR STRING CHAMPIONSHIP – 11 & 12 YEARS OF AGE ONLY

Bowed Strings

MERRALL FAMILY TROPHY

You **MUST** compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time limit: 4 and a half minutes per piece.

Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.

CLASS 158 Junior String Solo. Own Selection

CLASS 159 Junior String Solo. *20th Century to Present Day OR traditional Irish American fiddle music (please see definition)

SARAH McDOWALL TROPHY

A most promising string competitor – adjudicator's choice – but not to be the age-group winner – 11 & 12 Years

INTERMEDIATE STRING CHAMPIONSHIP

13 & 14 YEARS ONLY- MUSIC MANIA (PUKEKOHE) TROPHY

Bowed Strings

You **MUST** compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time Limit: 5 mins per piece. Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.

CLASS 166 Intermediate String Solo. Own Selection.

CLASS 167 Intermediate String Solo. *20th Century to Present Day OR traditional Irish American fiddle music (*please see definition*)

KAREN YANG TROPHY

A most promising string competitor – adjudicator's choice - but not to be the age-group winner 13 & 14 years

SENIOR STRING CHAMPIONSHIP – 15 YEARS OF AGE & OVER

Bowed Strings PATRICIA APPLETON TROPHY

You MUST compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time Limit: 6 mins per piece. *Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.*

CLASS 172 Senior String Solo. Own Selection.

CLASS 173 Senior String Solo. * 20th Century to Present Day OR traditional Irish American fiddle music (*please see definition*)

SAPACS CUP MOST PROMISING SENIOR STRING PLAYER – 15 YEARS & OVER
(not to be the age group winner)

JUNIOR GENERAL INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - 11 YEARS & UNDER

All instruments excluding piano, electronic keyboards and bowed strings.

Classical guitars and harps should enter these classes

SAPACS JUNIOR GENERAL INSTRUMENTAL SHIELD

You MUST compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time limit: 4 minutes per piece. *Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.*

CLASS 162 Junior General Instrumental Solo. Own Selection

CLASS 164 Junior General Instrumental Solo.

A piece composed after 1900 – Jazz/Blues, Contemporary/Popular etc.

SAPACS JUNIOR CONTEMPORARY AWARD for winner of this class.

SENIOR GENERAL INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - 12 YEARS & OVER

All acoustic instruments excluding piano, electronic keyboards and bowed strings. Classical guitars and harps should enter these classes

HUTCHISON FAMILY TROPHY

You MUST compete in both classes below to be eligible for the championship. You may, however, choose to play in just one class.

Time limit: 6 minutes per piece.

Please also see Restricted & Duet/Ensemble Classes for further performance opportunities for all age groups.

CLASS 175 Senior General Instrumental Solo. Own Selection

CLASS 177 Senior General Instrumental Solo.

A piece composed after 1900 – Jazz/Blues, Contemporary/Popular etc.

Overall Awards

SAPACS GOLDEN JUBILEE CUP

Highest Mark over all the 20th Century / Contemporary Classes

SCOTT McDOWALL CUP

Most outstanding woodwind competitor

DORA GREEN CUP FOR EXCELLENCE IN CELLO

Any age group championship class

IMPORTANT: TO THOSE COMPETITORS WHO HOLD CUPS OR TROPHIES

Please return the trophies, engraved with your name as the 2025 winner, at least 6 weeks prior to the commencement of your section. These can be returned to the convenor of your section or someone on our “Drop Off” list. This list can be obtained from lynda@sapacs.nz.

PLEASE DO NOT POST TROPHIES. For a courier address, please also contact Lynda.