

Australia – New Zealand Region |

Preliminary Round Registration Now Open

2026 Vivace International Piano and String Competition (France)



The poster features a large red shape on the left with the text "VIVACE INTERNATIONAL PIANO & STRINGS COMPETITION" and "AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND REGION". To the right, there is a smaller logo for the 8th Vivace International Piano & Strings Competition, Paris 2026. Below the logo, the following information is listed:

[Australia–New Zealand Grand Final time]	2026.9.27
[Australia–New Zealand Grand Final venue]	Sydney Conservatorium of Music
[Australia–New Zealand Preliminary Round time]	2026.6

Organizer / Sino-French Art Practice Association
Australia–New Zealand Organizer / Aster Echo Culture Ltd

Logos at the bottom include: Association de la Pratique Artistique Sino-Française (A.P.A.), Aster Echo Culture, Bloombracket music, and Shining Music Studio.

RULES OF PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

— Registration Channel —

<https://pianocompetition.azurewebsites.net/>

Enter the link

Complete the registration form and payment

(Registration deadline: 15 June 2026)

*Fees are non-refundable once payment has been made

— Preliminary Round Video —

Video Recording Requirements:

1. Please use a well-tuned instrument.
2. The video must be recorded using a single, fixed camera.
3. The frame must clearly capture the performer from head to feet, including clear hand movements on the instrument. All pieces must be recorded continuously without any cuts or edits.
4. The performer must wear formal attire or performance dress.

Video Submission Requirements:

1. Upload the performance video to YouTube and provide the correct video link in the registration form.
2. When submitting the video, a PDF version of the sheet music must be included.

Sheet Music Submission Requirements:

1. The score must be clear and neat, with no markings other than the original musical notations.
2. The score must be properly aligned for easy review by the judges.
3. Pages must be in the correct order.
4. The file must be in PDF format, and the title of the work must be in English.

— Competition Rules —

1. All participants must perform from memory. A 20% deduction will be applied to the total score for non-memorized performances. In the piano competition, four-hand duet and ensemble categories are exempt from memorization. In the string competition, ensemble and sonata categories are also exempt.
2. Repeats are not allowed in the repertoire, except for D.C. (Da Capo) and D.S. (Dal Segno).
3. String instruments eligible for the competition include violin, viola, cello, and harp. The harp category is limited to chamber music and string ensemble only.
4. The jury's decision is final regarding all competition results.

GROUP SETTINGS

— String Competition —

String – Children's Division

- **Group A (Ages 5 and under)**
Date of birth: after 1 January 2021
- **Group B (Age 6)**
Date of birth: 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece, total performance time within 3 minutes.

Final Round:

One free-choice piece, total performance time within 3 minutes.
(The piece may be the same as the preliminary round repertoire.)

String – Junior Division

- **Group A (Age 7)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2019 – 31 Dec 2019
- **Group B (Age 8–9)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2017 – 31 Dec 2018
- **Group C (Age 10–11)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2015 – 31 Dec 2016

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 4 minutes.

Final Round:

One to two free-choice pieces within 6 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

String – Youth Division

- **Group A (Age 12–14)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2012 – 31 Dec 2014
- **Group B (Age 15–17)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2009 – 31 Dec 2011

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 5 minutes.

Final Round:

One to two free-choice pieces within 8 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

String – Young Artist Division

- **Age 18–23**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2003 – 31 Dec 2008

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 7 minutes.

Final Round:

One to two free-choice pieces within 10 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

String – Professional Division

- **Professional A (Age 11 and under)**
Date of birth: after 1 Jan 2015
- **Professional B (Age 12–14)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2012 – 31 Dec 2014
- **Professional C (Age 15–18)**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 2008 – 31 Dec 2011

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 10 minutes.

Final Round:

One to two free-choice pieces within 15 minutes, in different styles.

String – Artist Division

- **Age 18–32**
Date of birth: 1 Jan 1994 – 31 Dec 2008

Preliminary Round:

Two free-choice pieces within 15 minutes.

Final Round:

Within 20 minutes:

- 1. A concerto (any movement: 1st OR 2nd/3rd movement)
 - 2. One free-choice piece (may repeat repertoire from preliminary round)
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String – Thematic Divisions (Age Unlimited)

Baroque / Sonata / Etude / Caprice / Chinese Works / French Works

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 8 minutes.

Final Round:

One free-choice piece within 8 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

String – Chamber Music / Ensemble Division (Age Unlimited)

2–9 performers

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 10 minutes.

Final Round:

One free-choice piece within 10 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

String – Orchestra Division (Age Unlimited)

10 performers or more

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece within 10 minutes.

Final Round:

One free-choice piece within 10 minutes.
(Repertoire may be the same as the preliminary round.)

— Piano Competition —

Piano - Children's Division

- **Group A (5 years old and under)**
Born after Jan 1, 2021
- **Group B (6–7 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2019 – Dec 31, 2020

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece, total duration within 3 minutes

Final Round:

One or two free-choice pieces (may repeat preliminary repertoire), total duration within 5 minutes

Piano - Junior Division

- **Group A (8–9 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2018
- **Group B (10–11 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2015 – Dec 31, 2016

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece, within 5 minutes

Final Round:

One or two free-choice pieces (may repeat preliminary repertoire), within 8 minutes

Piano - Youth Division

- **Group A (12–14 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2012 – Dec 31, 2014
- **Group B (15–17 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2009 – Dec 31, 2011

Preliminary Round:

One free-choice piece, within 8 minutes

Final Round:

Two free-choice pieces (may repeat preliminary repertoire), within 15 minutes

Piano - Young Artist Division (18–23 years old)

- **Born between Jan 1, 2003 – Dec 31, 2008**

Preliminary Round:

Two works from different musical periods, within 10 minutes

Final Round:

Two works from different musical periods (may repeat preliminary repertoire), within 15 minutes

Piano - Professional Division

- **Group A (11 years old and under)**
Born after Jan 1, 2015
One or two free-choice pieces
- **Group B (12–14 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2012 – Dec 31, 2014
 1. Chopin Etudes (excluding Op.10 No.3 & No.6; Op.25 No.7)
Rachmaninoff Etudes-Tableaux (excluding Op.39 No.2)
Debussy Etudes
Liszt Etudes
Scriabin Etudes
 2. One free-choice piece
- **Group C (15–18 years old)**
Born between Jan 1, 2008 – Dec 31, 2011
 1. Chopin Etudes (excluding Op.10 No.3 & No.6; Op.25 No.7)
Rachmaninoff Etudes-Tableaux (excluding Op.39 No.2)
Debussy Etudes
Liszt Etudes
Scriabin Etudes
 2. One fast movement from a sonata

Preliminary Round:

Total duration within 12 minutes

Final Round:

Total duration within 15 minutes

Piano – Artist Division (18–32 years old)

- Born between Jan 1, 1994 – Dec 31, 2008

Preliminary Round (within 15 minutes):

1. Chopin Etudes (excluding Op.10 No.3 & No.6; Op.25 No.7)
Rachmaninoff Etudes-Tableaux (excluding Op.39 No.2)
Debussy Etudes
Liszt Etudes
Scriabin Etudes
2. One Romantic-period work

Final Round (within 20 minutes, may repeat preliminary repertoire):

1. Two works from different musical periods
 2. One French work or one modern work (post-1900)
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Piano – Thematic Division (No age limit)

Preliminary Round: Total duration within 8 minutes

- Chopin Category / Sonata Category
 - Bach Category / Etude Category
 - Chinese Works Category / French Works Category
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Final Round: Total duration within 8 minutes (may repeat preliminary repertoire)

- Chopin Category / Sonata Category
- Bach Category / Etude Category
- Chinese Works Category / French Works Category

** The Thematic Division may be entered independently or in combination with other divisions.*

Piano - Chamber Music Division (No age limit)

- Four-hand piano / Ensemble

Preliminary Round:

one free-choice piece, within 10 minutes

Final Round:

one free-choice piece, within 15 minutes

AWARD SETTINGS

— Preliminary Round Awards—

- **First Prize:**
Score of 90 and above
Awarded First Prize Certificate and qualified for the Final Round
- **Second Prize:**
Score of 80 – 89.9
Awarded Second Prize Certificate and qualified for the Final Round
- **Third Prize:**
Score of 70 – 79.9
Awarded Third Prize Certificate (not qualified for the Final Round)
- **Excellence Award:**
Score of 60 – 69.9
Awarded Excellence Certificate (not qualified for the Final Round)

Note: Participants who do not advance to the Final Round may still register for a series of festival activities, including performances, masterclasses, interactive seminars, and visits, providing opportunities to showcase their talents and interact with masters and top-level participants.

— Awards for Instructors (Preliminary Round)—

- **Teachers of First and Second Prize winners will receive an Outstanding Instructor Certificate (Preliminary Round).**

OTHER PRECAUTIONS

1. The competition is open to participants of all nationalities.
2. Participants must compete in the appropriate division according to their age as stated in their passport and the official age eligibility cut-off dates set by the competition. If any discrepancy is found, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to disqualify the participant and revoke their results.
3. All audio, video, and image rights related to participants' performances and participation in any part of the competition and its associated events are owned by the Organizing Committee and may be used for promotional purposes.
4. The Australasian Region Organizing Committee reserves the right of final interpretation of the competition regulations.

— Contact Information—

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