

Flax Trust Music Awards Terms and Conditions

Application Process

Please note that the application forms along with all required enclosures must be received by The Flax Trust at Flax Trust Arts, 333 Crumlin Rd, Belfast BT14 7EA by Wednesday 31st May 2017 at 5pm. Incomplete or late entries will not be considered.

1. Application Form – Deadline 5pm Wednesday 31st May 2017

All entries must be **received by** The Flax Trust at Flax Trust Arts, Brookfield Business Centre, 333 Crumlin Rd, Belfast BT14 7EA by **Wednesday 31st May 2017 by 5pm. Incomplete or late entries will not be considered.**

All applicants must ensure they are available on **Wednesday 28th June 2017** for the competition heats, and **Friday 20th October 2017** for the FTMA Grand Final before entering.

All applicants must:

- ⤴ have completed or be completing their secondary education on the island of Ireland;
- ⤴ be aged 23 or below on the date of the competition heats on **Wednesday 28th June 2017**: age limits **MUST** be adhered to (please note that the copy of your proof of age document as required to be supplied with your application form will be securely destroyed once your entry has been validated);
- ⤴ be amateur or still in education;
- ⤴ have achieved grade 8 in their chosen instrument/voice.

Please note applicants will be required to send in a recording of two contrasting pieces along with a completed application form and other supporting documents. Subject to the below paragraph, these recordings will be adjudicated and once a decision has been made you will be contacted.

Please note that, in the event of receipt of a high volume of applications, the adjudicators will make all efforts to review all recordings submitted in addition to the applications forms and supporting documentation. The adjudicators reserve the right to prioritise review and consider the contents of the application form and signed reference over the review and consideration of any recordings. Please be advised that any such decision will be made in respect of all applications equally and as such all applications will be provided with equal consideration.

Recordings should be submitted via CD format. The recording of your two contrasting pieces should not be enhanced or tampered with - it is important that they are taken in a natural acoustic.

All CD's should have visible:

- Name
- Title of pieces
- Signature from referee

The applications and supporting documents/recordings will be independently reviewed by a panel of adjudicators.

The Flax Trust reserve the right to make any final decisions on the applicants entry requirements.

2. Heats – Wednesday 28th June 2017

There will be up to 24 applicants selected to compete in the heats on **Wednesday 28th June 2017 in Queen's University, Belfast - The Harty Room.**

There will be a piano available for rehearsal on the day of the heats. Pianists who are selected to compete in the heats will have an allowed time to practice on the grand piano in the performance space.

An INSTRUMENTAL applicant MUST perform **one movement from a concerto** (max. 15 minutes).

A VOCAL applicant MUST perform **one aria** (from an opera or oratorio) and **one contrasting art or folk song** (max. 10 minutes)

Applicants must adhere to the stipulated time limits.

The order of performers in the heats will be strictly adhered to except in exceptional circumstances.

All competitors within the heats will receive a comments sheet which they are free to collect at the end of the day.

Those through to the FTMA Grand Final on Friday 20th October 2017 will be contacted via email and will be allocated a dress rehearsal time.

3. Flax Trust Music Awards Grand Final – Friday 20th October 2017

There will be 3 finalists selected to compete in the FTMA Grand Final on **Friday 20th October 2017** at Holy Cross Church, Belfast.

All finalists will perform a 15-20 minute recital. Finalists must adhere to the stipulated time limits.

The following awards will be allocated amongst the three finalists:

First Place: £7,000 bursary to further the winner's musical development and the Flax Trust Music Award Trophy;

Second Place: £2,000 bursary to further the finalist's musical development;

Third Place: £2,000 bursary to further the finalist's musical development; and

Audience Award: There will also be an Audience Award of £1,000 which will be awarded to one of the three finalists.

All awards will be presented at the Grand Final on Friday 20th October 2017. Trophies may be retained by the winners until recalled.

Each finalist will be a featured soloist in the Flax Trust Concert Series 2017/18.

4. Accompanists

There will be official accompanists provided for the **heats and grand final**. If any performer wishes to use their own accompanist they may do so - provided this is clearly stated in the application form.

All music for the heats **must** be sent with your application for the official accompanists. They should be given a photocopy of your music, bound or sellotaped appropriately.

It is not acceptable to choose a different accompanist once the music has been sent.

5. Copyright Protection

The Flax Trust Music Awards would like to remind all competitors that it is illegal to photocopy music which holds copyright protection, without permission from the copyright holder.

At the beginning of the heats **all applicants** must provide an **ORIGINAL** copy of their music to a Flax Trust Arts Representative.

Accompanists should always be provided with a printed copy of the music.

The Flax Trust reserves the right to refuse any photocopied items where no proof of ownership/permission to copy is provided by the competitor.

In the event no proof of ownership/permission to copy music is provided by the competitor such competitor will be disqualified.

6. Adjudication

The Flax Trust reserves the right to change adjudicators at any stage of the competition.

Adjudicators have the right to stop a performance at any time.

7. Results

PLEASE NOTE THAT ADJUDICATORS' DECISIONS ARE FINAL AND NO CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE ENTERED INTO REGARDING RESULTS.

In all matters arising out of these terms and conditions the decision of the Flax Trust shall be final.

8. Limitation of Liability

EXCEPT FOR SUCH LOSSES WHICH CANNOT, BY LAW, BE EXCLUDED OR LIMITED THE FLAX TRUST SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OF PROFITS, REVENUES, GOODWILL, LOSS OF BUSINESS/ANTICIPATED SAVINGS OR ANY OTHER LOSS WHATSOEVER ARISING FROM OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY APPLICATION TO OR PARTICIPATION IN THE FLAX TRUST MUSIC AWARDS.

The Flax Trust takes no responsibility for any damage to, or theft of candidates property during the process of The Flax Trust Music Awards. This includes instruments and personal belongings.

9. Protecting Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- The Flax Trust Arts has a definitive Protecting Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy [click here](#).
- One or more registered chaperones will be available as required during the **heats** as a point of contact. Such registered chaperones will be clearly identifiable with their named licence clearly visible.
- Support and training for all Flax Trust Music Awards staff and volunteers will be provided in order to ensure a safe environment for all competitors and attendees including clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child to designated members of staff of the Flax Trust.
- All festival personnel will wear official Flax Trust Music Awards uniforms with named badges.
- For the duration of the Flax Trust Music Awards all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for their child and must provide continuous supervision.
- No unauthorised photography, audio or video recording will be permitted during the performances. There will be professional photography during the FTMA Grand Final, which will be highlighted within the application should there be any objection (please see further Section 3 of the application form “Audio-Visual and Photography Consent Form”).
- ALL parents/guardians/carers will be responsible for ensuring their child is not included in official photographs.
- For any competitor who has any specific requirements in order to compete in the festival we would ask that this be clearly stipulated in the application form. The Flax Trust Music Awards will actively seek to meet these needs, though this cannot be guaranteed on every occasion.
- By completing the application form all parents/guardians/carers/teachers of performers under 18 (or vulnerable adults of any age) confirm they have given (or obtained) the necessary consents for the performers to take part in the competition.

10. Equal Opportunities

The Flax Trust operates a strict equal opportunities policy whereby no person by reason of religious belief, political opinion, sex, marital status, race, colour, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or disability is treated less favourably nor is disadvantaged for those reasons by conditions or requirements which cannot be justified. The Flax Trust is committed to securing fair participation for any/all underrepresented groups and individuals.