

Flax Trust Music Awards 2019 Terms and Conditions

Application Process

All application forms along with required enclosures must be received by Flax Trust Arts at Flax Trust, Brookfield Business Centre, 333 Crumlin Rd, Belfast, BT14 7EA by Thursday 6th February, 12noon. Incomplete or late entries will not be considered.

1. Application Form

All applicants must:

- have completed or be completing their secondary education on the island of Ireland;
- Vocalists must be aged 27 or below, on the date of the FTMA Grand Final. 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, will be securely destroyed once your entry has been validated);
- be amateur or still in education;

Applicants will be required to send in a recording of three pieces comprising of a Lieder/Art song, an Operatic Aria and one Irish Folk song, along with a completed application form and other supporting documents (reference and proof of age). 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 on CD format AND digitally via WeTransfer.com to ftmawards@gmail.com. The recording of your **three 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 all pieces
- Signature from referee

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

All applicants must ensure they are available on Friday 6th March, 2020 for the competition heats before entering.

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

Please note our office hours are: Monday & Friday : 10am-1pm

Tuesday-Thursday : 10am-5pm (closed 1-2 for lunch)

2. Heats

There will be up to 20 applicants selected to compete in the heats on Friday 6th March 2020 in the Harty Room, Queen's University Belfast.

There will be a piano available for rehearsal on the day of the heats.

All competitors are welcome to perform a **maximum of 15 minutes**. Applicants are asked to provide a programme consisting of three pieces in which the adjudicating panel will choose two pieces to hear from on the day of the heats. The programme should include repertoire from the following genres: one Lieder/Art song, one Irish folk song and one operatic Aria.

We understand the time limit may incur cuts to the music and we accept these - provided they are clearly labelled.

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 from the adjudicators.

Those through to the FTMA Grand Final will be announced after the adjudicators deliberation at the end of the Heats.

3. FTMA Grand Final

There will be 3 finalists selected to compete in the FTMA Grand Final on Saturday 9th May in the **Harty Room Queen's University, Belfast**, with rehearsals taking place that afternoon.

Finalists will need to propose a programme to Flax Trust Arts by Thursday 9th April. This should consist of a mix between opera and Art Song and **must include one Irish Folk song**. Finalists will be accompanied by Flax Trust Arts official accompanist or they may use their own accompanist if they wish.

Each programme will be restricted to a minimum time limit of 15 minutes and a maximum time limit of 25 minutes: **time limits must be adhered to**.

The following awards will be allocated amongst the three finalists:

First Prize: £3,000 bursary to further the winner's musical development and the Flax Trust Music Award Trophy;

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

Third Prize: £1000 bursary to further the finalist's musical development.

All awards will be presented at the Grand Final: Trophies may be retained by the winners until recalled.

Each finalist will be a featured soloist in the Flax Trust Concert Series 2020/21.

4. Accompanists

There will be official accompanists provided for the **Heats and the 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; in the format of single-sided A4 pages.

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 in the heats.

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.

Once a competitor has reached the FTMA Grand Final, they will no longer be eligible to apply for this competition.

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.
- 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.