



**10<sup>th</sup>** *International  
Competition  
of Duos with Harp*  
**12–14 April 2024 Cieszyn – POLAND**

# Competition rules

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honorary patronage



Ministry of Culture and National Heritage  
Republic of Poland

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## 10<sup>th</sup> International Competition of Duos with Harp 12-14 April 2024 in Cieszyn (Poland)

Place of the competition: Cieszyn Castle, 3 Zamkowa Street.

### COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition is organised by the Polish Center of Art Education in Warsaw and co-organised by the Polish Harp Society
2. The aim of the competition is to foster love of chamber music and to give harp duos the opportunity to present and compare their achievements internationally.
3. The competition is intended for pupils of Polish and foreign elementary and secondary music schools and students. The age of the participants must not exceed 26 years, and the age of all participants is determined on the day of the competition performance. The competition is open to duos of any composition involving the harp, and the age difference between the members of a duo may not exceed two years, for student duos it may not exceed three years. Determination of the age of the participant in each category of the competition applies to the harpist.
4. Competition auditions will be conducted in the following categories:
  - Category 1** – Duos of pupils aged up to 9 years  
– performance time 6 –10 minutes
  - Category 2** – Duos of pupils aged up to 13 years  
– performance time 8–12 minutes
  - Category 3** – Duos of pupils aged up to 16 years  
– performance time 10–15 minutes
  - Category 4** – Duos of pupils aged up to 19 years  
– performance time 12–17 minutes
  - Category 5** – Duos of students aged up to 26 years  
– performance time 15–20 minutes
  - Category 6** – Competition of new compositions  
(first public performances) - duration of work up to 10 minutes.Each participant has the opportunity to perform in any number of duos.

5. PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPETITION:
  - the programme for categories 1–2 is free,
  - The programme for categories 3–4 should include pieces (or parts thereof) from different eras and at least one piece must be original,
  - the programme for category 5 should include pieces (or parts thereof) from different eras, including a piece of 20th/21st century contemporary music, one transcription is allowed,
  - The piece submitted for the composition competition must have been written after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, and must not have been: awarded in any other competition, or publicly performed or published. The composition submitted to the competition must be signed with name and surname, saved in a score composition software, delivered as a PDF file to the competition office before 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at: [konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com](mailto:konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com).
6. The competition auditions are open to the public:
  - 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – auditions in categories 6, 5,
  - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – auditions in categories 1, 2, 3
  - 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – auditions in category 4.
7. The letter of the alphabet which will determine the alphabetical order of the performances of the competition duos separately for each category will be drawn in the presence of a notary 2 weeks before the date of the competition. The list will be published on the competition website [www.harfa.pl](http://www.harfa.pl).
8. In all matters not covered by the regulations, decisions are made by the Executive Board of the Polish Harp Society.
9. The participants' performances will be judged by a Jury consisting of 5 prominent Polish and foreign musicians and educators, approved by the Director of the Polish Center of Art Education. The decisions of the Jury are final and irrevocable. The Jury will evaluate competition performances in five criteria (A. interpretation and stylistic performance of works, B. intonation and quality of sound of the ensemble, C. selection and stylistic diversity of the repertoire performed, compliance with the statutory requirements concerning the selection of repertoire, D. cooperation of the musicians in the ensemble, stage presentation, E. musicality and artistic sensitivi-

ty) in each criterion, awarding points from 0 to 5. The laureates in each category are selected by the jury after deliberation on the basis of the scoring ranking (recorded in a summary scoring sheet drawn up for the jury by the secretary of the jury). The title of laureate goes to the winners (duos) of the first three places in each category and the Grand Prix, while the title of finalist goes to the runners-up.

10. The Polish Harp Society reserves the right to record the performances of participants, especially of works performed in category 6, and to publish these recordings as a CD (for its own archival purposes).

11. PRIZES IN THE PERFORMANCE COMPETITION:

**Grand Prix** – cash prize for the ensemble PLN 2,000, statuette-sculpture

1<sup>st</sup> place in categories 1–2 cash prize for the ensemble 500 PLN

1<sup>st</sup> place in categories 3–6 cash prize for the ensemble PLN 1,000,

2<sup>nd</sup> place in categories 1–2 cash prize for the ensemble 300 PLN

2<sup>nd</sup> place in categories 3–6 cash prize for the ensemble PLN 600,

3<sup>rd</sup> place in categories 1–2 cash prize for the ensemble 150 PLN

3<sup>rd</sup> place in categories 3–6 prize money for the ensemble 300 PLN.

The winners honoured by the jury will perform in the “Stage of the Young” concert at the chamber music hall of the Polish National Symphony Orchestra in Katowice on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

AWARDS in the COMPOSITION COMPETITION will be awarded separately for student composers (up to 19 years old) and composers (adults):

1<sup>st</sup> place for the student creator - PLN 500 and a diploma,

1<sup>st</sup> place for the composer - PLN 1 000 and a diploma.

There will be certificates of honour for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

**Special award** for best children's piece (up to 13 years).

The jury may award non-statutory prizes.

Prizes and diplomas will be presented on the closing day of the competition at the Winners’ Concert, which will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 3 p.m. in the concert hall of the National House (Dom Narodowy) in Cieszyn. The selection of repertoire for the Prize Winner Concert is made by the Jury. The awarded duos are obliged to perform at the Laureate Concert.

The winner and finalist of the competition shall acquire the rights referred to, respectively, in Article 44zh of the Educational System Act of 7 September 1991, Article 132 of the Education Law Act of 14 December 2016 or the regulations issued pursuant to Article 162 of the said Act.

12. Participant applications in Polish or English are accepted until 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the latest in the e-mail box at: [konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com](mailto:konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com) The application form for participation can be downloaded at [www.harfa.pl](http://www.harfa.pl) In the event of a large number of applications, they will be processed in the order they are received by e-mail.
13. Student duos and foreign individuals who reside outside of Poland shall pay an entry fee of PLN 200 or EUR 40 to the bank account of the Polish Harp Society along with the application form, and the bank transfer costs shall be borne by the applicant. The title of the bank transfer should be “entry fee for the competition” and two names of the entrants. The entry fee and the participation card must be submitted no later than 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
14. Participants in the competition are required to send good quality scans of the scores of the works performed to: [konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com](mailto:konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com) by 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
15. Participants in the composition competition (category 6) are required to send an electronic version (PDF, max. 25 Mb) of the submitted work along with their application to the competition office e-mail address: [konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com](mailto:konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com) The receipt of the work (PDF file) to the competition office will be confirmed by return e-mail by 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
16. During the competition, the organisers make harps (lever, and pedal harps) available to participants for acoustic rehearsal and competition performance.
17. All participants in the competition consent to the processing of their personal data by the Polish Center of Art Education in Warsaw and the Polish Harp Society with its registered office in Cieszyn

Rynek 12 (data controller) exclusively for the purposes of conducting the competition, awarding prizes and organising two public concerts, in accordance with Article 13 (1)-(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). The relevant declarations by the participants of the competition regarding their consent to the processing of their personal data are included in the participation form published at [www.harfa.pl](http://www.harfa.pl)

18. All participants in the competition agree that the name and surname of the winners, their image, as well as the image recorded during the course of the Competition in the form of a photograph or a video, without territorial or temporal limitation, may be made public for information and promotional purposes of the Competition.
19. The Polish Harp Society reserves the right to make changes to these Regulations after obtaining the relevant approvals.
20. Participation in the Competition is tantamount to acceptance of these Rules.

Additional information on the competition (news) can be obtained from the Executive Board of the Polish Harp Society at [www.harfa.pl](http://www.harfa.pl), also by sending an e-mail to: [konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com](mailto:konkursduetowzharfa@gmail.com)