



THE LEEDS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

JURY VOTING PROCESS 2024

1. DUTIES OF THE JURY

- 1.1. The Artistic Director sits at all stages of The Leeds International Piano Competition. The Artistic Director has the authority, as approved by the Board of Trustees, to appoint the Chair of the Jury for the Second Round, Semi-finals and Finals (Leeds Rounds). The Artistic Director also appoints the members of the Pre-selection Panel and International Jury and acts as Chair for both these juries.
- 1.2. In consultation with the Chair of the Jury, the Artistic Director appoints the Jury members for the Leeds Rounds. The composition of the Panel/Jury differs between the Pre-Selection (4 members), the International First Round (4 members) and The Leeds rounds (9 members), but each Panel member/ Juror attends the whole of the round to which they have been appointed.
- 1.3. The duties of the Chair of the Jury include presiding over the Jury's work and representing the Jury for the Leeds Rounds. The Chair of the Jury also advises the Artistic Director on the composition of the Jury members, on the repertoire for the different rounds, and on the choice of artistic collaborators. The Chair of the Jury will also be responsible for announcing the results of the Leeds Rounds.
- 1.4. The sole purpose of the Jury is to listen to and assess every Competitor at all stages for which they are appointed. The Jury must base their decisions solely on the performances heard in this Competition and not on any previous performances, on Competitor's reputations, their teachers or other matters of which they may be aware.
- 1.5. All members of Panels and Juries are required to sign a Code of Conduct which ensures that Jurors undertake their duties in a neutral and fair manner.
- 1.6. In accordance with our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, all members of Panels and Juries are required to take Anti Bias Training, which is aimed at eliminating both conscious and unconscious bias in order to promote a more equal environment for all Competitors.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1. Members of the Jury may not vote for a Competitor who is, or has been, one of their pupils, is a family relation, or with whom they have/ had a personal relationship. A Competitor is deemed a pupil if they have had three or more private lessons in the last six years, from a pianist on the Jury. For example, a Competitor is not deemed to be a pupil if they have participated in a masterclass with a pianist on the Jury. In case of doubt, please refer the matter to the Artistic Director whose decision will be final.
- 2.2. A list of all the Competitors who will be progressed through to the International First Round and subsequently to the Second Round of The Leeds will be given to the respective Jury members. The Jury members will then sign the following declaration:

I, the undersigned, appointed as Jury Member for The Leeds 21st Edition 2024, declare that I have read the rules of the Competition and declare that I accept them, including the collection, processing and transmission of my personal data. I agree to abide by these rules and declare that EITHER

(i) there is no consideration required in relation to Section 2 of these rules

OR

(ii) that Competitor.....is (has been) my pupil as defined in Section 2 of these rules.

OR

(iii) I have a relationship to the Competitor that may compromise my ability to be independent, impartial and fair within the role required of me.

- 2.3. If the declaration in Section 2.2 (ii) is shown to be untrue, the signatory will be excluded from the Jury.
- 2.4. If the declaration in Section 2.2 (iii) is shown to be true, the Juror must resign from their place on the Jury.

3. JURY PROCEDURES

- 3.1. Deliberations of the Jury will be strictly PRIVATE except for the attendance of the CEO as 'Voting Official', and Competitor Director as 'Verifier.'
- 3.2. The Leeds relies on the personal and individual judgement of each member of the Jury. Accordingly, members of the Jury will not discuss,

- confer, or consult with each other or any other person regarding the Competitors or their votes for the duration of the Competition.
- 3.3. Throughout the entire Competition, the members of the Jury shall refrain from having any contact, direct or indirect with any Competitor.
 - 3.4. Throughout the entire Competition, the members of the jury will refrain from entering into discussion or consultation about any Competitor or any other aspect of the Competition with members of the public or any other external parties, either directly, indirectly or via social media.
 - 3.5. Key factual biographical information will be provided about Competitors, but no subjective detail will be shared, such as references or reviews.
 - 3.6. Music scores in electronic format will be available on the competition G-Drive.
 - 3.7. Daily orders of performance, repertoire and notebooks will be provided. Jurors may also keep notes on their own private electronic devices. All notes must be kept secure and private throughout.
 - 3.8. The decisions of the Jury in each Round will be recorded in confidential minutes signed by the CEO & Competitor Director and data will be retained for statistical analysis only by LIPC.
 - 3.9. The Chair of the Jury will announce the results of all the public Rounds of the Competition held in Leeds and Bradford, accurately reflecting the decision of the Jury.
 - 3.10. After the Second Round and Semi-finals, all members of the Jury will attend scheduled feedback sessions with eliminated Competitors. All feedback will be shared in confidence.

4. VOTING PROCESS

- 4.1. All voting and tallying operations are carried out in secret. Details of the Jury members' individual voting is confidential and at no stage is revealed to other members of the Jury or the public.
- 4.2. The Panel/Juries will vote on the following:
 - The 60 Competitors to progress to the International First Round
 - The 24 Competitors to progress to the Second Round
 - The 10 Competitors to progress to the Semi-finals
 - The 5 Competitors to progress to the Finals
 - The ranking of the 5 Finalists
 - The Yaltah Menuhin Prize for Chamber Music
 - The Alexandra Dariescu Prize for the best performance of a work by a woman composer
 - The Henle Music Prize, for a semi-finalist of outstanding promise not selected to progress to the Finals

- 4.3. Each jury member will cast a vote for the required number of candidates, accompanied by the score 1 - 10 allocated to each candidate voted for (for details of scoring see Guidelines from the Artistic Director). The score will only be used in the event of a tie as outlined below.
- 4.4. An appointed chamber musician and the conductor of the Finals will offer short feedback about the Competitors prior to voting for the Semi-finals and Finals.
- 4.5. Jurors should use their scores and notes to help them decide who to give their votes to. Apart from the Finals, ranking should not be used - eg we are looking for 10 Semi-finalists, not a ranking of eventual prize-winners.
- 4.6. If there are two candidates with equal scores competing for one place and one is a woman candidate, we ask the Juror to consider advancing her first.
- 4.7. Votes are recorded on the ballot paper provided and signed. It is the responsibility of the CEO to check that each ballot paper has been correctly completed. Following final validation, ballot papers will be placed securely in the organisational archives by the CEO.
- 4.8. Any Jury member who has a pupil competing in the Competition is not qualified to cast a vote for that Competitor (subject to Rule 2). The process is as follows:
 - That member shall mark an X in the appropriate voting paper should they feel that the Competitor merits a place in the next round, rather than recording a vote for another Competitor. That X will not be counted as a vote.
 - The number of votes cast for each Competitor is entered electronically onto the electronic voting sheet by the CEO and supervised by the Competitor Director.
- 4.9. In the event of a tie for the last places to be filled, a second ballot will be held for those Competitors in the tie to select the required number of Competitors. Each juror will have the number of votes equal to the number of places remaining to be filled, again subject to the provision of Rule 2. If the result is still indecisive, the Competitor(s) with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated and another ballot held for the remaining Competitors. This process will be continued until all remaining places are filled. If an exactly similar tie results after two successive ballots, The Chair of the Jury shall use a casting vote to decide between the tied Competitors.
- 4.10. In the event that a tie for the last places to be filled involves a Competitor who is a pupil of a jury member, that jury member will

abstain from the second ballot. If the second ballot still results in a tie, the Chair of the Jury will have the casting vote.

- 4.11. For the Pre-Selection Round and International First Round, the results of the voting will be communicated to the selected Competitors by the Competitor Director in the week following the ballot.
- 4.12. For the Leeds & Bradford Rounds, (Second Round, Semi-finals and Finals) the Chair of the Jury will announce the final results of each of the three stages to the Jury. If this voting results in a single gender outcome or an outcome that significantly reduces the ratio of women to men in the Competition, there will be the possibility for a revote (see 4.20 and 4.22). For the Second Round and Semi-finals, the names of the successful Competitors shall be announced in alphabetical order without any indication of the number of votes cast or of percentages of ranking within the list. For the Finals the names will be announced in reverse order of ranking.
- 4.13. The Jury's decision is final. However, prior to the final validation of results, the CEO reserves the right to initiate a Jury discussion if a vote is subject to misinterpretation, or in the instance of a single gender result.

Pre-selection

- 4.14. The Competitor Director in consultation with the Artistic Director will check that each audio file meets the stated requirements in order to ensure that the recording is genuine and that it is of adequate quality for the Pre-selection Panel to evaluate the applicant's ability.
- 4.15. A panel of 4, chaired by the Artistic Director, will be responsible for selecting the 60 Competitors to advance to the First Round from the applications received. A maximum of 3 reserves will be held. This assessment will be made 'blind' in which a randomly generated name will be assigned to each recording and no further information given to the panel.

International First Round

- 4.16. A Jury of 4 members under the Chair of the Artistic Director will listen to the 60 Competitors audio-visual recordings online and remotely.
- 4.17. The Jury will view and listen to the audio-visual recordings during a period of 14 days following the filming and will vote online. Jury members will not view or listen to these recordings more than once.
- 4.18. In the ballot at the end of the First International Round, all four members of the Jury will have 24 votes, all of which must be used. No Competitor can receive more than 1 vote by any member of the Jury.

Second Round

- 4.19. For the Second Round, a Jury of 9 members will listen to the Competitors live in Leeds.
- 4.20. Following the final Competitor performance of the Second Round, the members of the Jury will vote for the 10 Competitors they wish to progress to the Semi-finals as follows:
- 10 votes are cast by each Juror for the Competitors of their choice; each vote includes a score 1-10.
 - In the instance of a single gender outcome or an outcome that significantly reduces the ratio of women to men in the Competition, there will be a revote for all places.
 - In the event of a tie, the gender balance will be revealed of the Competitors progressing to the next round, followed by the vote for the remaining place/s as described in 4.9 & 4.10.
 - The names of the 10 Competitors advancing to the Semi-finals will be revealed after results have been verified.

Semi-finals

- 4.21. For the Semi-finals a Jury of 9 members will listen to the Competitors live in Leeds.
- 4.22. Following the final Competitor performance of the Semi-finals Round, the members of the Jury will vote by secret ballot for the 5 Competitors they wish to progress to the Finals as follows:
- 5 votes are cast by each Juror for the Competitors of their choice; each vote includes a score 1-10.
 - In the instance of a single gender outcome or an outcome that significantly reduces the ratio of women to men in the Competition, the 3 Competitors with the highest number of votes cast will be accepted and names revealed, and there will be a revote for places 4 & 5 from the remaining 7 Competitors.
 - In the event of a tie, the gender balance will be revealed of the Competitors progressing to the next round, followed by the vote for the remaining place/s.
 - In the instance of this still resulting in an all-male selection, there will be a Jury vote to accept the result. A majority 'no' vote will trigger a final revote for places 4 & 5. The result of this vote will be accepted as final.
- 4.23. The Jury will also vote at this stage for:
- The Yaltah Menuhin Prize for Chamber Music
 - The Alexandra Dariescu Prize for the best performance of a work by a woman composer

- The Henle Music Prize, for a semi-finalist of outstanding promise not selected to progress to the Finals

The winners of these Prizes will not be revealed to the Jury until after the Finals Prize voting is complete.

- 4.24. Appointed representatives of the RLPO will vote for the winner of the RLPO Award for contemporary performance.
- 4.25. The names of the 5 Competitors advancing to the Finals will be revealed after results have been verified.

Concerto Finals

- 4.26. For the Finals a Jury of 9 members will listen to the Competitors live in Bradford.
 - 4.27. In voting for all prizes in the Finals, the jury is asked to take into consideration all performances in the final three stages of the Competition, and not just the Finals.
 - 4.28. After the performances of all finalists, the Jury will vote for each prize in order of ranking, from First Prize to Fifth Prize.
 - 4.29. First Prize and Waterman Gold Medal:
 - The Jury votes first for the winner of the First Prize only, each member of the Jury having one vote subject to the provision of Rule 2. The Competitor with the highest number of votes will be declared as the First Prize-winner.
 - In the event of a tie between two or more Competitors, a second ballot will be held for those Competitors involved in the tie to select the First Prize winner. If an exactly similar tie results after two successive ballots, the Chair of the Jury shall use a casting vote to decide the First Prize-winner.
 - 4.30. Second and subsequent prizes: Similar ballots are held for the remaining prizes, each prize having a separate ballot with the same provision made for ties. These procedures will continue until all prizes have been awarded.
 - 4.31. Other Prizes will be revealed after Prizes 1-5 are confirmed:
 - Henle Prize
 - Alexandra Dariescu Prize
 - Yaltah Menuhin Prize
 - Medici.tv Audience Prize: voted online by members of the public worldwide
 - Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra Award
 -
-

Any questions, concerns or grievances about these rules, processes or any other aspect of the competition should be raised in confidence with the CEO.

All information is, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of publication. The Leeds International Piano Competition reserves the right to make changes.