

2021 BDRS Composition Competition: Information for Applicants

COMPETITION INFORMATION

The competition is open to any UK resident, any UK national living overseas, any BDRS member (irrespective of nationality or country of residence), and anyone who is currently studying or has previously studied in the UK (irrespective of nationality or current country of residence). There is no minimum or maximum age limit.

Applicants should submit a short biography including information on their background, and two of their works composed in the previous two years to demonstrate their recent or current style. These works should be as relevant as possible, both in scale and instrumentation, to the works to be commissioned.

The panel will apply a two-stage judging process. All applicants, including those under 19, will be considered for each of the two open prizes. The only prize that will be restricted to a subset of applicants is the under-19 prize.

The panel reserves the right not to award a prize if none of the entries is of sufficient quality.

Winners are expected to be announced and commissions awarded from November 2021. For each prize, 50% of the prize money will be paid when the commission is awarded. The other 50% will be paid on delivery of the completed work.

Each winner will have four months to write their commissioned work and will receive two one-hour consultations with their respective premiere performer during this time. The under-19 winning composer will also be offered two hours' worth of composition mentoring. The consultations and mentoring sessions will be held either in person or online by mutual agreement.

The completed works will be premiered to a live audience at a BDRS day in 2022 which will be no earlier than late April. It is hoped that the premieres can be recorded and/or live-streamed, with the performers' permission. It is preferred that the winners attend the premiere, if possible.

The completed works will be published by Emerson Edition Ltd, who will hold the publishing rights. Winners will receive a share of any sheet music sales royalties from the BDRS.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application form should be completed and submitted by 23:59 (BST) on the competition closing date for the application to be valid.

You should provide your details and make all your file submissions via the application form. All file submissions are to be provided via links. (See the 'Submissions' section below for further details.)

We may contact you if something is missing.

Notes for applicants who are under 18

You should obtain your parent/guardian's consent to apply and provide their details on the application form, as directed. The email and phone number you provide in the application form should be that of your parent/guardian.

Please cc your parent/guardian if you contact us. Any email correspondence from the BDRS regarding your application will be addressed to your parent/guardian or will be a 'reply all' to an email you have sent us, to include your parent/guardian.

APPLICATION FORM

Applicant details - eligibility

The eligibility check-boxes are intended to ensure that the application form cannot be submitted if the prospective applicant does not meet at least one of the stipulated criteria. Please tick all that apply, including that concerning UK residency, even though we already have your address elsewhere on the form. (Applicants who satisfy more than one of these criteria will have no advantage in the competition.)

BDRS members, please ensure your membership is still current on the date that you apply.

Under-19s, please ensure that you submit the form before your 19th birthday. We require your date of birth to verify eligibility for the Under-19 prize. The winner of the Under-19 prize will be asked to provide proof of date of birth.

Submissions

All file submissions are to be provided via links, rather than sending actual files.

You should submit a link to a Dropbox or Google Drive folder containing your biography, identifiable scores, and any sound file for which a direct link is not provided. You have the option of providing links to either or both of your sound files, rather than the files themselves.

Having assembled the files you wish to submit, you should decide for each sound file whether to provide as a direct link or file itself, and then prepare your Dropbox or Google Drive folder accordingly.

Please note: All links provided must remain valid until the end of October 2021 to allow for judging. In addition for the Dropbox or Google Drive folder link, please make sure all permissions settings are set such that anyone with the link may view the folder and files. This link will only be made available to those administering or judging the competition.

Information and files required

All files to be submitted should include your name in the filename.

Your short biography (maximum 250 words) should be submitted as a PDF, Word, or text file. If you have indicated in the entry criteria question on the application form that you are currently studying in the UK, or have previously studied in the UK, please include details in your biography.

For each of your two works, you should provide:

1. The title and date of composition. The date of composition should specify the year, which should not be earlier than 2019, and the approximate month of composition if known. Enter this information via the form.
2. A PDF file of the score. Your name should be shown on the score.
3. The sound file of the work. This may be a recording of an actual performance, or a file created digitally from the score's source file.
 - a) If submitting the file itself, via your Dropbox or Google Drive folder, mp3 files are preferred, but midi files are also acceptable*.
 - b) If submitting a link to the file instead, the link may be to your website, YouTube clip (this should be **unlisted**), Soundcloud, or similar. Links to sound files must remain valid until the end of October 2021 to allow for judging.

* If you require advice on conversion from other audio file formats to mp3 or midi, please email website@bdrs.org.uk.
