

Entrance Rules for Virtual Festival

1. Professionals/Novices

CFMDS is a festival for amateur performers. For this purpose, an amateur is defined as one who is in full-time or higher education or is over the age of 22 and does not derive fees from performance or teaching of the subject of the class for which the entry is made. Professionals may only participate in 'Open' classes or as accompanists or conductors. Professionals entering classes not marked as 'Open' will not be adjudicated.

A novice is classed as someone who has not taken part in a Festival previously.

2. Entry

Entries, accompanied by the entry fee, must be made no later than 31 December 2020. Entries will not be accepted after this date. Videos may be added after this date but no later than 3 weeks prior to the date of the relevant class. No entry will be accepted unless accompanied by the full entry fee. No entry fees can be refunded.

The Committee shall have the right to transfer an entry to any other class or, if expedient, to reject it. Any class may be withdrawn if, in the opinion of the Committee, there are not sufficient entries.

3. Age Limits

Age limit in individual classes is governed by the competitor's age on **1 SEPTEMBER 2020 with the exception of Junior Singing**. It does not apply to accompanists. **For Junior Singing the age limit is as on the day of the competition.**

4. Viewing of classes

a. Speech and Music classes.

A timetabling email will be issued to all competitors and their teachers which will provide a link invitation to the Zoom meeting for their particular class. This will enable them to watch each performance and hear the adjudication.

b. Dance Classes

A timetabling email will be issued to all competitors (via the email given on entry) which will provide a link invitation to the Zoom meeting for the adjudication for their particular class. The Zoom meeting will consist of a short adjudication and shared viewing of the winning entry for each class.

5. Acceptance of Entries

The Committee reserves the right, at its unfettered discretion, to decline to accept an entry, without giving any reason.

6. 'Own Choice' Pieces

Music and Speech: A copy of the item(s) to be performed, must be uploaded at the same time as the video. Note: The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who fails to comply.

7. Copyright

The Festival is affiliated to the British Federation of Festivals and is covered by its group licence for PRS and PPL. In addition to this we have ALCS cover for performers of verse and prose items. It is the responsibility of the performer to ensure all copyright and licensing obligations for their performance piece have been met. Acceptance of entries will be on the assumption that the necessary permission has been given.

8. Set Pieces & Own Choice Pieces

For set pieces, the prescribed editions of Speech & Music must be used and rendered exactly as written (and in the same key) except where otherwise stated. For all classes, the same piece may not be performed in more than one class in the same year, **except** for one item only of two or more items performed in a recital class. Performance of a repeated piece will not be adjudicated.

9. Time Limits

When set, time limits must be adhered to without exception. Adjudicators' attention will be drawn to this rule. Any infringement will be penalised by reduction of marks or disqualification. The time limit for each class commences when the video starts and includes tuning and spoken introduction.

10. Recorded Accompaniment.

The use of CD recordings, instead of an accompanist, to provide piano accompaniment for other instruments, **is permitted, providing the recording is part of a professionally published musical edition.**

11. Certificates

Music & Speech classes: All competitors will receive a certificate/adjudication sheet displaying the marks achieved.

Marking will be divided into three categories:

90+ = Outstanding (O)

84-89 = Very good (V)

75-83 = Good (G)

Dancing classes: Marking will be divided into 6 categories as specified by the British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech for use at Dance Festivals:

90+ or OUTSTANDING - An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically.

87-89 or DISTINCTION - An excellent performance technically and artistically.

84-86 or COMMENDED - A convincing performance technically and artistically.

81-83 or MERIT - A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or communication.

75-77 or FAIR - A performance limited in its communication.

In addition to these grades a First Prize certificate is awarded to the competitor in each class who receives the highest mark. A Second Prize certificate is awarded to the competitor who received the second highest mark and a Third Prize certificate

will be awarded to the competitor with the third highest mark. All other competitors will receive a Certificate of Achievement.

Certificates/adjudication sheets will be emailed after the competition.

11. Trophies

Trophies will be awarded/allocated in 2021 but not presented due to Covid-19. The Festival will arrange for the names of the winners to be engraved in order to maintain a record.

12. Dancing Classes

Competitors may only enter once in each class. No singing is allowed.

13. Adjudicators

The Committee may appoint other adjudicators if the entries should warrant it or if an adjudicator engaged is unable to attend. **Communication with adjudicators by teachers, competitors or other interested parties is prohibited.**

The Adjudicators' decisions shall be final. They shall have the power to withhold any award and may stop any performance at their discretion.

14. Disputes

The decision of the Committee, upon all questions or disputes arising out of or not provided for in these rules, shall be final. The Committee reserves the right to qualify any rule or to make any other rules as occasion may arise.

Complaints, protests, or representation must be made in writing and addressed to one of the Section Leaders, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.