

PIANO & INSTRUMENTAL

St Andrews Church: 72 Liardet Street, New Plymouth

Friday 3rd July & Saturday 4th July 2026

Adjudicator: Guy Donaldson

Conveners: Jan Aiello aiellos@xtra.co.nz
ph: 027-390-6900

Conveners: Tracy Christiansen tracyaaron@xtra.co.nz
ph: 027-390-6900

The 2026 Competitions are shorter this year and numbers will be limited for each section. If filled, a wait list will be created. Apologies that there will be a reduction in the number of classes offered in 2026. Please contact Tracy if any problems when entering the competitions via the JotForm.

If insufficient entries, age groups may be combined.

Friday	4pm – 9:30pm	Brass
Saturday	8:30am – 12pm	Piano
Saturday	1pm – 3pm	Guitar
Saturday	3:30pm – 6:30pm	Woodwind & Strings
Saturday Evening from 7:30pm		Piano Open / Strings Open / Woodwind Open

This is a tentative schedule and timing of sections may be altered.

Copies of Music Items: Competitors must hand copies of music items at the door, no later than fifteen minutes before the commencement of the session. All copies must have competitors' name and class number clearly marked.

Repeats: Pieces should be played straight through without any repeats, though short repeats are acceptable.

Time limit: for all classes unless otherwise indicated.

UNDER 12	3 minutes
UNDER 14	4 minutes
UNDER 16	4 minutes
OPEN	5 minutes

Please contact the convenors if you wish to perform an item over the allotted time. These will be considered.

Accompanist: Competitors are responsible for arranging their own accompanist. Please contact the convener by 15 May if you require assistance.

Scholarships & Awards: Unless otherwise stated, awards & scholarships involving several classes will be awarded to the competitor with the highest aggregate marks in the relevant classes. Competitors who have entered all the required classes for an award will automatically be entered for that award. The convenors reserve the right to alter scholarships after entries are received.

Accompanied classes: Classes may be accompanied unless specifically stated.

All pieces to be played once at the competitions.

TO THOSE COMPETITORS WHO HOLD CUPS OR TROPHIES

Please return the trophies, **cleaned** and engraved to:-
Tracy Christiansen, 474 Carrington Street, New Plymouth by **1 June** please.

General Rules: Piano and Instrumental Entries will be submitted via a JotForm with the link posted onto our web and Facebook page. Piano and Instrumental Entries will open on Monday 27th of April at 7.00am and close May 15th (earlier if capacity is reached). Payment is required on entry via Stripe using a debit or credit card. Entries without payment cannot be accepted. Programs will be emailed out to the email address provided on entry.

As you enter, please check the venue, dates, times, your availability, and that you meet the eligibility criteria for each section.

All performers in the Competitions receive a report from the adjudicator with constructive feedback about their performance. Prizes are on offer, in the form of cups, trophies and monetary awards; generously gifted by supporters of the creative arts. Awards are listed within each section of the syllabus.

We acknowledge the generous sponsorship from our community and businesses.

Thanks go to all the performers for sharing their talents with us. Festivals offer a wonderful platform to express and develop your performance skills. We encourage friends and families to come and support our performers and celebrate their achievements.

Admission Tickets per session to Piano & Instrumental: \$2.00 p/person

A Donation box will be at the door for anyone who wishes to support the arts.

Scholarships: If you would like to provide a scholarship supporting the Piano & Instrumental competitions please contact Jan Aiello.

COMPETE AT OWN RISK

All competitors participate in these competitions at their own risk. The New Plymouth Performing Arts Competitions Society accepts no liability for injuries or accidents, or damage to or theft of property.

ENTRY FEES:

A. All Entries must include a Competitor Administration Fee and accompany entry.

Entry fees for all classes are as follows:

\$12.00 Single Entry (per item)

\$18.00 Duet/Trio – Piano Class 254

\$25.00 National Young Performer Entry (Piano)

Competitor Administration Fee – \$20.00 / \$30.00 Family

ADJUDICATOR

GUY DONALDSON

Guy Donaldson MA Hons., Dip. Mus (Performance), Dip Tchg., AIRMT - DBM

Guy Donaldson received his formative piano instruction from Maurice Collier in Whanganui, and then with Maurice Till at Canterbury University, where he gained a Masters degree in English and a Diploma in Music Performance. In 1984 he studied piano accompanying in London with Paul Hamburger and Roger Vignoles.

Guy was a senior lecturer in music education at Massey University until 2004, when he took leave to pursue his passion for performance and music teaching. He remains active in the Manawatu as a teacher, conductor, adjudicator, piano soloist, accompanist, chamber music player and music coach.

Guy was for 30 years music director of the Renaissance Singers up to 2018 when he conducted a swan-song premiere performance of an 1802 work by Samuel Arnold - 'The Hymn of Adam and Eve' with the Renaissance Singers, Wanganui Schola Sacra Choir, the Manawatu Sinfonia and soloists. He has accompanied numerous distinguished performers, including singers Dame Malvina Major, Anna Leese, Olga Shanina and Roger Wilson, violinist Hannah Fang, and cellist Robert Ibell.

He continues to teach piano, with many of his students achieving at diploma level. In 2013 he conducted the Manawatu Sinfonia in a program of concertos, including two with former piano students in the solo piano roles.

He is the convenor of the Palmerston North Globe Sunday Matinee concert series, and currently the pianist in the Papaioea Piano Trio. In November of 2025, while travelling with his wife along the coast of Norway on the vessel Midnatsol he was invited to give two recitals of piano music by Grieg.

BRASS

- Please contact administrators if you wish to perform over the time limit.

BRASS COMPETITION CLASSES

Under 12 years

Class	380	Brass Solo - Own Selection
Class	381	Brass Solo - Slow melody

Under 15 years (time limit 4 mins)

Class	382	Brass Solo - Slow melody
	383	Brass Solo - Own Selection

Under 19 years (time limit 5 mins)

Class	385	Brass Solo - Slow melody
	386	Brass Solo - Own Selection

Open (time limit 5 mins)

Class	388	Brass Solo - Slow melody
	389	Brass Solo - Own Selection

BRASS AWARDS

Under 12 years

Class 381 – **John Watson Challenge Cup**

Under 15 years

Class 382 – **Bremner Challenge Trophy**

Class 383 - **Academy Cup for Musical Excellence**

Under 19 years

Class 385 – **Mulraney Cup**

Open

Class 388 - **Colliers Music House Cup**

PIANO

Under 10 years

Class	210	Piano Solo – Own Selection – pre 1900
	212	Piano Solo – Own Selection - 1900 to present

Under 12 years

Class	220	Piano Solo – Own Selection – pre 1900
	222	Piano Solo – Own Selection - 1900 to present

Under 14 years

Class	230	Piano Solo – Own Selection – pre 1900
	232	Piano Solo – Own Selection - 1900 to present

Under 16 years

Class	240	Piano Solo – Own Selection – pre 1900
	242	Piano Solo – Own Selection - 1900 to present

Open

Class	250	Piano Solo – Own Selection – pre 1900
	252	Piano Solo – Own Selection - 1900 to present
	253	Piano Solo – Rhythm, Boogie & Blues
	254	Piano Duet / Trio

PIANO SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- Most Sensitive Interpretation in any Piano Solo Class (Adjudicator decision)
Sponsored by Taranaki Branch, Registered Music Teachers NZ
BDO Taranaki Ltd Piano Trophy & Scholarship
- **Collier Challenge Cup**
Most Promising Performer in any Piano Solo Class (Adjudicator decision)
- Beginners Class
Class 200
Lyn Stanfield Challenge Cup
- Under 10 Championship
Class 210, 212
Backhouse Challenge Cup
- Under 12 Championship
Class 220, 222
Catherine Landrigan Challenge Cup
- Under 14 Championship
Class 230, 232
Hilda Veale Memorial Cup
Class 230
Elizabeth Gilhooly Challenge Cup
- Under 16 Championship Scholarship – **Sponsored by Catherine Martin** (Value \$50.00)
Class 240, 242
Veale Challenge Cup (Class 240)
Staples Rodway Challenge Cup
- Open Championship Scholarship - **Sponsored by Catherine Martin** (Value \$50.00)
Class 250, 252
Tracey Schreiber Memorial Challenge Cup

WOODWIND

Under 10 years

Class	340	Woodwind Solo – Own Selection
Class	341	Woodwind Solo – Post 1900

Under 12 years

Class	342	Woodwind Solo – Own Selection
	343	Woodwind Solo – Post 1900

Under 14 years

Class	344	Woodwind Solo - Own Selection
	345	Woodwind Solo – Post 1900

Under 16 years

Class	346	Woodwind Solo – Own Selection
	347	Woodwind Solo – Post 1900

Open

Class	348	Woodwind Solo – Own Selection
	349	Woodwind Solo - Post 1900

WOODWIND AWARDS

- Open - **Bowler Challenge Cup**
Class 348

BOWED STRINGS

Under 12 years

Class	301	Bowed String Solo – Accompanied
	302	Bowed String Solo – Unaccompanied

Under 14 years

Class	303	Bowed String Solo – Accompanied
	304	Bowed String Solo – Unaccompanied

Under 16 years

Class	305	Bowed String Solo – Accompanied
	306	Bowed String Solo – Unaccompanied

Open

Class	307	Bowed String Solo – Accompanied
Class	308	Bowed String Solo – Unaccompanied

BOWED STRING AWARDS

- **Hill Cup** (Adjudicator's Decision)
Best Soloist in Bowed String Section
- **Joseph Papesch Memorial String Trophy & Scholarship** (Value \$60.00)
Sponsored by Taranaki Branch, Registered Music Teachers NZ
To the competitor awarded the highest aggregate marks for Solo classes in any bowed string section.
- Under 14 years - **Gloria Dravitski Cup**
Classes 303 & 304

CLASSICAL GUITAR

Under 12 years

Class 321 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Unaccompanied
322 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Accompanied

Under 14 years

Class 323 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Unaccompanied
324 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Accompanied

Under 16 years

Class 325 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Unaccompanied
326 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Accompanied

Open

Class 327 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Unaccompanied
328 Classical Guitar (Nylon strung) – Solo Accompanied

CLASSICAL GUITAR AWARDS

- Under 16 Years Solo
Class 325
Winner: **Nixon Challenge Cup**
- Open Solo
Class 327
Winner – **Sole Cup**
- Guitar Solo Aggregate Mark for each Age Group – Rock Shop Vouchers

AWARDS ACROSS PIANO & INSTRUMENTAL SECTION

- Overall Musicianship Award (Value: \$50)
 - Plymouth International Hotel Scholarship
 - BDO Trophy

AWARDS ACROSS INSTRUMENTAL ONLY

- Most Sensitive Interpretation (Value: \$50)
 - Plymouth International Hotel Scholarship
 - BDO Trophy

NATIONAL YOUNG PERFORMER AWARDS 2026 CRITERIA FOR PIANOFORTE



- A. Performers will be 15 and under 21 years as at 1st of October 2026.
- B. Each competitor will perform a programme with a maximum time of 20 minutes – from the start of playing. There will be a total mark given for the complete programme. A **penalty of 5 marks** will be imposed if the time limit is exceeded by 30 seconds or more.
- C. The programme will consist of three contrasting pieces from different periods of musical history, i.e. Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist, 20th Century, 21st Century or Contemporary.
- D. In the event of a large number of entries requiring a semi-final, competitors will be chosen based on their marks in the Preliminary round. The number of semi-finalists is determined as per the NYPA rules 7.1-7.2. Those competitors recalled will repeat their complete programme, as stated in B and C.
- E. Three finalists will be chosen for the Final Award Concert and will perform one item from their original programme, as directed by the Adjudicator.

COMPETITORS PLEASE NOTE

Only enter the Nomination class if you are seeking a Nomination **AND** are committed to attending and competing at the National Young Performer Awards in Palmerston North 22-25 Oct 2026.
Please note: Registration will be on Thursday 22nd October following the Troupe Competition

SOCIETY NOMINATION

Each Society, which is a financial member of PACANZ, **may nominate up to two competitors**, who shall be selected by the adjudicator, based on a performance as outlined in A-D.

The adjudicator will determine that a competitor has displayed a sufficient standard of performance to competently represent that society at the National Finals.

The standard required will be at the absolute discretion of the adjudicator but will include:

- A demonstration of adequate preparation
- An authority of performance
- A performance with a level of maturity commensurate with a national final competition of this age group.

If the adjudicator considers that sufficient standard has **NOT** been reached by any competitor, then **NO** nomination will be made.

The Nominating Society is responsible for paying part of the entry fee to the National Young Performer Awards i.e. **\$80 inc gst per Nominee**

Each Nominee is responsible for paying the rest of the entry fee to the National Young Performer Awards i.e. **\$230.00 incl gst**

DIRECT ENTRY NOMINATION

If the adjudicator considers that **more than two competitors have reached a sufficient standard** the adjudicator may report to the committee that those competitors should be given the option of a **DIRECT**

ENTRY NOMINATION.

The DIRECT ENTRY nominee will be responsible for paying the full entry fee i.e. **\$310.00 incl gst.**

**The Piano & Instrumental Section
of the New Plymouth Performing Arts Competitions Society gratefully
acknowledges the generous sponsorship
of the following:**

Plymouth International Hotel

Catherine Martin

Rock Shop New Plymouth

Taranaki Branch, Institute of Registered Music Teachers NZ



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