

IRMTNZ Wellington Branch

# Youth Music Festival

## Whakanui o Puoro

*Encouraging excellence, acknowledging achievement*

Dear IRMTNZ Wellington Branch member,

The 2026 Youth Music Festival will be held at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School, Karori, from 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> June, with adjudicator Ingrid Culliford. This is a **great performance opportunity for students to:**

- prepare a programme of music and perform to a supportive audience
- receive valuable feedback from an adjudicator
- hear other performers and other repertoire

Please note that, because of the change in venue, we only have one adjudicator and only one class running at a time. We do not have time for the Bach class and the Ensemble classes this year, and the Grade 7-8 class will be part of the Youth Recital Competition, held on 1st-2nd August.

Below are details of classes and conditions of entry. **Entry forms are due by Friday 16th May.** Please note that there have been some changes, so do read the following carefully:

- Students in all classes must be receiving tuition (for the instrument they have entered for) from a Registered Music Teacher of the IRMTNZ who is also a member of Wellington Branch IRMTNZ.
- Performers may not enter more than one solo recital for their instrument, e.g. they may not enter both classes 3 and 4. Teachers are encouraged to be realistic about the level at which their students are playing, and should enter them for the exam level they are sitting, if applicable
- **Pieces:** it is recommended that performers provide a **selection of 2-4 contrasting pieces** for their recital programme. Grade levels assigned to the four classes are intended as a guideline.
- **Adjudicator copies:** If performers would like to take the option of providing ONE PDF of their entire programme, this should be uploaded nearer the time, and a link will be sent. *If the score does not have bar numbers, please assist the adjudicator by adding them.*
- **Instrument:** In all solo classes, the performance may be **on any instrument**, and an accompanist may be by an adult/teacher. It would be helpful for our planning if you name the accompanist on the entry form.
- All programmes must all include one work by a **New Zealand composer**, which may be an own composition. Teachers of violin and cello will be interested to look at compositions in our publications *Easy Tunes for Tamariki*, and *Trickier Tunes for Tamariki*, available from SOUNZ, <https://sounz.org.nz/>.

## Prizes and Awards

- All performers in classes 1-3 will receive badges (white or gold). Performers in classes 1-3 are assessed on their own merits and *are not assessed against each other*.
- Certificates and prize money will be awarded for class 4 and there will also be some gold badges awarded.
- There is an award for an **Emerging Young Composer**, who will receive a voucher from SOUNZ for their own composition. In each class there is also an award from SOUNZ for the **Best Performance of a NZ Work**.
- The adjudicator will award a prize for **Most Promising Pianist**, and for **Most Promising Performer on an Instrument other than Piano**

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	TIME LIMIT (minutes)	ENTRY FEE
1	Preliminary	2	\$35
2	Grades 1 & 2	4	\$35
3	Grades 3 & 4	6	\$40
4	Grades 5 & 6	8	\$40

## Entries:

- All entries must be submitted online by the teacher and all payments must be made by the teacher. A link to the entry form will be sent early in Term 2. **No entry forms will be accepted from individual students** and **no individual payments will be accepted**.
- When listing pieces in the entry form please take care to provide all details in the format suggested below, so that it is less time-consuming for us to prepare the programme.
- All payments for entry fees **must include 'YMF' and your name** - easily identifiable by our Treasurer. The Wellington Branch IRMT account number is 06 0606 0198947 00
- Entry forms must be submitted by **Friday 16th May**.
- The schedule will be sent to teachers by 23rd May, but it is likely that class 4 will be on Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday morning, class 3 on Saturday afternoon and evening, and Classes 1 & 2 on Sunday.

We do hope you enjoy preparing your students for the 2026 Youth Music Festival.

Warm regards

Rachel Thomson, Chairperson, Wellington Branch IRMTNZ

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**Examples of formatting for the programme** (we suggest doing a copy/paste – it will be so much easier for us). Note that the composer's surname is sufficient if well-known. We do not always need to know which volume of music the piece comes from.

Petite Suite: En Bateau	Debussy
'Spring' Sonata in F Op 24, 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> movts	Beethoven
Sonata in F K332, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt	Mozart
Sonata in E min Hob XVI:34, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt	Haydn
No 1 from Four Preludes 1942-1944 Occasional Pieces: Andante Nine Short Pieces: No 1	Lilburn*
Sonatina in C Op 55 No 1, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt	Kuhlau
Invention No 4 in F BWV 775	J S Bach
The Liu Yang River	Hunan, arr. Jingzhai
Pentatonic Tune	Bartók
Ballade Op 100 No 5	Burgmüller
Mazurka in Bb	Chopin