



Participation Rules for the YPF European Piano Competition 2025 / Grand Prix Youri Egorov

APPLICATION

1a. The YPF European Piano Competition 2025/Grand Prix Youri Egorov ('the YPF European Piano Competition' or 'the Competition') takes place from Wednesday 26 February 2025 through Sunday 9 March 2025 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The Competition is organized by the Young Pianist Foundation (PO box 2170, 1000 CD Amsterdam), hereafter referred to as 'the YPF'.

1b. The Artistic Director of the YPF European Piano Competition is pianist Thomas Beijer. The General Director is Inge van Verschuer. The Artistic Director, the General Director, as well as the Board of the YPF are advised by the Artistic Advisory Committee.

2. In applying to take part in the YPF European Piano Competition, the candidate participant agrees to abide by the terms as described in these Participation Rules.

3. The YPF European Piano Competition is open to pianists who are born after 9 March 1997 and must, at the moment of applying:

- have a passport of one of the EU member states or the UK*;
- be registered as a music student at an academy of music**, and/or
- have graduated from an academy of music with a Bachelor's and/or Master's degree**;
- have a basic understanding of the English language since this is the main language of the YPF European Piano Competition.

*Candidate participants who do not have a passport of one of the EU member states or the UK can only apply when they are registered as a music student at one of the Dutch academies of music at the time of application.

** In the exceptional case a pianist with a passport of one of the EU member states or the UK is not registered as a music student at an academy of music and/or has not graduated from an academy of music with a Bachelor's and/or Master's degree, the pianist might be regarded as eligible (1) after having provided proof of his/her qualities by submitting live, unedited recordings to the YPF and (2) only at the discretion of artistic director, Thomas Beijer. Live, unedited video's must be submitted no later than October 15, 2024 (a month before closing of the application period of the YPF European Piano Competition 2025).

4a. For their application to be processed, candidate participants must submit the following to the YPF:

- I. A completed [online application form](#) which can be found on the YPF website;
- II. A digital copy of candidate participant's passport or identity card;
- III. An extract from the Municipal Personal Records Database, and/or a proof of enrolment as a student at one of the academies of music, and/or a copy of a Bachelor's and/or Master's diploma from an academy of music;
- IV. A short resume describing education and experience;
- V. A recent portrait - head shot/half size - looking into the lens - solid white background (no pattern) - solid color clothes (no pattern) - high quality (300 dpi 20x30 cm) - jpg - preferably no smartphone photo - no selfie - free of copyright (photographer's name can be included in colophon);
- VI. An unedited live video performance with a recording of a live performance of the Video pre-selection round repertoire of their choice (the [repertoire requirements](#));
- VII. A detailed list of the repertoire which the candidate participant chooses to perform;
- VIII. Payment of the application fee. (See Art. 6)

4b. For their application to be processed, candidate participants must agree with the terms of the Participation Rules for the YPF European Piano Competition.

4c. The YPF European Piano Competition strives to be an objective competition and thus requires from all participants and jury members to avoid conflicts of interest. The Competition should be notified -at the time of application- if the participant has been taught on three or more occasions by any of the 2025 jury members. However, it is understood that it is likely that members of the jury may be acquainted with some of the participants because of past associations (for example previous competitions, music festivals, masterclasses).

5. Applications may be submitted by completing the online form on the YPF website and sending the relevant documents (as mentioned above in Article 4a) to: participants@ypf.nl. Please note: incomplete application forms will be deemed invalid.

6. The non-refundable registration fee for the YPF European Piano Competition is 100 Euros. Payment can be arranged via the [online application form](#) on the YPF website. In case, for any reason, payment cannot be arranged via the application form, please transfer the amount due (stating 'YPF European Piano Competition 2025' and your name) to bank account number NL41 INGB 0661 804 771 (SWIFT-code: INGBNL2A) of The Young Pianist Foundation in Amsterdam. Payments must be received no later than 15 November 2024.

7. The deadline for applications is 15 November 2024. The completed application form, the required documents and the registration fee must have been correctly submitted by that date.

8a. The YPF will send the candidate participant a confirmation of his/her application by e-mail as soon as the documents mentioned in Article 4 show that the candidate participant meets all the requirements for participation, the candidate participant has agreed with the terms of the Participation Rules for the YPF European Piano Competition, and the application fee has been received.

8b. The candidate participant whose participation has been officially confirmed by the YPF, commits to actual participation in the YPF European Piano Competition in 2025. However, exceptional circumstances such as force majeure may constitute grounds for exemption.

9. The first round consists of a Video pre-selection and will be judged by the YPF Audition Jury. See Articles 12 through 15 for more information on the YPF Audition Jury.

STRUCTURE OF THE YPF EUROPEAN PIANO COMPETITION 2025

10. The YPF European Piano Competition consists of four rounds, for which the number of candidates has been fixed as follows:

1. Video pre-selection round (auditions): all suitable applicants will be admitted to this round;
2. Quarter Finals: 20 candidates – 26 February until 1 March 2025;
3. Semi Finals: 8 candidates – 4 and 5 March 2025;
4. Rehearsals with orchestra for three finalists: 6 and /or 7 March 2025;
5. Final Rehearsal with orchestra: morning of 9 March 2025;
4. Grand Finale with orchestra: 3 candidates – 9 March 2025.

All performances of the YPF European Piano Competition, with exception of the Video pre-selection round, will be held in public.

11. For the three public rounds of the Competition, the order of play is drawn at random and in the presence of a notary.

THE JURIES OF THE YPF EUROPEAN PIANO COMPETITION 2025

12. The YPF Audition Jury consists of five members, including a voting Chairman. The decision of the jurors is irrefutable. No member of the YPF Audition Jury shall sit on the YPF Competition Jury.

13a. The YPF Competition Jury consists of seven international members and a non-voting Chairman. The decision of the jurors is irrefutable.

13b. The Programme Committee of the YPF European Piano Competition consists of the Artistic Director, and the Secretary of the YPF European Piano Competition.

14. If a participant admitted to the Competition is or was a regular student, and/or has attended three or more classes of one of the competition jurors (see art. 4c), then

that juror will refrain from voting in respect to such a participant. In this event, the Chairman will take the juror's place.

15. Participants shall not communicate with jury members for as long as they take part in the Competition, nor shall any other person communicate with jury members on behalf of any participant. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification from the Competition.

THE REPERTOIRE

16. It is not allowed for a candidate to deviate from the compulsory repertoire. See the YPF website for the [repertoire requirements](#).

17. Only officially published works for piano solo may be performed. Concerning the restrictions with respect to works composed 'after 1960' and 'before 1960', the date of the first publication applies. See the YPF website for the repertoire requirements.

18. The jurors assume that original and/or musicologically justified publications are used.

19. The Programme Committee (see art.13b) will check the proposed repertoire and inform the candidates if the list of pieces does not meet official repertoire requirements. Therefore, it is compulsory to hand over the repertoire before or, latest on 15 November 2024.

20a. In the Quarter Finals as well as in the Semi Finals the minimum playing time must be well observed. Participants whose performance turns out to be too short may be excluded from further participation.

20b. In the Quarter Finals as well as in the Semi Finals the maximum playing time must be well observed. If the maximum playing time is exceeded by more than one minute, the Chairman of the YPF Competition Jury may stop the performance after consulting the jury.

21. If the actual performed work in one of the competition rounds is found to deviate from the repertoire that was already approved by the Programme Committee, the YPF Competition Jury has the right to stop the performance.

OTHER

22. Participants shall perform all pieces from memory (without the use of scores) during all rounds, except for the Chamber Music and the assigned contemporary piece in the Grande Finale.

23. No correspondence about the decisions of the YPF Competition Jury and the Artistic Director is possible, nor is it possible to appeal against any jury decision.

24. During the Competition, no-shows of participants at their designated playing time imply immediate disqualification unless serious reasons of personal nature or truly exceptional circumstances are involved. In those cases, the Artistic Director, in consultation with the YPF Competition Jury, can try (but is not obliged) to find a solution.

25. By his or her application to the Competition, the participant automatically relinquishes any rights and benefits to video and audio material that may be recorded/produced around and during the Competition. Moreover, the participant agrees to the unlimited use of that material for designated purposes determined at the discretion of the YPF.

26. The participant is required to comply with the obligations associated with participating in the Competition, such as listing and images in, among others, the programme book and on the website, and publications relating to concerts, CD-recording, radio/TV, PR activities, all this in consultation with the YPF. All rights from the resulting video and audio material and/or broadcasting belong to the YPF.

27. The prizewinners are required to fulfill the appearances attached to their prizes. Should a prizewinner remain in breach of this, the prizewinner can lose his/her claim to prizes, awards and appearances; on such matters the Artistic Director in consultation with the Board of the YPF shall decide. Prizewinners must, if requested, play a maximum of three concerts for the benefit of the Competition, for which the YPF shall pay no fee, but shall reimburse the costs of travel and accommodation. Any performance – pertaining to the YPF Prizes - that exceeds this number will be reimbursed upon mutual consent.

28. In all cases of dispute, the final decision is made by the Artistic Director of the Competition. No appeal is possible against this decision.

PRIZES

29. The YPF European Piano Competition distinguishes the following prizes*:

- First Prize: 15.000 Euro;
- Second Prize: 7.500 Euro;
- Third Prize: 5.000 Euro;
- A career development programme, including:
 - A (inter)national concert tour (to be confirmed);
 - Coaching and training opportunities;
 - Promotional support.
- Audience Award – being voted on by the public attending the Final;
- And possible additional Prizes, to be notified at a later stage.

* Taxes may apply to prizes, in accordance with Dutch tax law in effect at the time of the Competition.

GRAND PRIX YOURI EGOROV

30. The YPF Competition Jury may decide to award the Grand Prix Youri Egorov if the winner of the Competition is, in the jury's opinion, an exceptional musical, artistic and pianistic talent of international stature.

FACILITIES

31a. The YPF will supply the following:

- Reimbursement of reasonable economy travel expenses (PREFERABLY BY TRAIN) to and from the Netherlands with a maximum of 250 Euro, upon receipt by YPF of (copies of) travel documents and payment proofs;
- Free accommodation with host families or hotels in Amsterdam or surroundings for the duration of the participant's participation in the Competition;
- Access to practicing facilities at the host families' home, or, if necessary, elsewhere;
- A short (stage) rehearsal for Semi Finals and the Grande Finale; the Competition will ensure sufficient rehearsal time with the chamber musicians as well as with the orchestra.

31b. Accompanying individuals including family members must make their own arrangements for accommodation.

LIABILITY

32a. The YPF accepts no liability of any kind whatsoever for any personal illness or injury sustained by the participant, nor for loss or damage to a participant's belongings during transit or while at the Competition.

32b. Obtaining appropriate travel documents, visa and insurance is the sole responsibility of each participant.

32c. Host families shall not be held responsible for accidents or damage of any kind which may befall the participants, with the exception of those accidents that fall under third party insurance.

JURIDICAL

33. By submitting the online application form, applicants state their specific agreement:

- with all articles in these Participation Rules;
- with all ensuing engagements as part of any prize;
- that all concert and recording engagements obtained by the YPF European Piano Competition as part of the prizes will not be subject to any fee or commission payable to the prizewinner's current or future artistic management;
- that the YPF is authorized to record, videotape, film, broadcast, and /or photograph any competition concerts or events for any purpose, without payment of any fee. All rights, including copyright in such media shall be owned by the YPF.

All rights reserved; dates subject to change.

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