

WPTA Austria International Piano Competition 2026



The **WPTA Austria International Piano Competition 2026** marks the first edition of this new artistic platform, welcoming **pianists of all nationalities up to the age of 34**. Entirely **online** in its preliminary stage, the competition offers a modern and accessible format while maintaining the highest artistic standards.

Laureates will be invited to **Hohenems, Austria**, to present themselves in the **Gala Concert and Prize Ceremony** at the historic **Markus-Sittikus-Saal** – a stage that connects today's pianists with Austria's timeless musical tradition.

General Provisions

- Open to **pianists of all nationalities up to the age of 34**.
- The competition is held **entirely online** through **video submissions**.
- **Laureates will be invited to Hohenems, Austria**, to perform in the **Gala Concert and attend the prize Ceremony** at the **Markus-Sittikus-Saal** on **22 March 2026**.

Categories

- **Category A:** 7–10 years old – 5–10 minutes
- **Category B:** 11–13 years old – 10–15 minutes
- **Category C:** 14–17 years old – 15–20 minutes
- **Category D:** 18–24 years old – 20–25 minutes
- **Category E** (Artist Category): 25–34 years old – 25–30 minutes

Note: For Categories D and E, participants must present works from at least **two contrasting styles/periods**. All works must be performed **from memory**.

Programme / Repertoire

Repertoire is free choice within the indicated time limits. Participants are encouraged to present a **varied program** that showcases both **technical mastery** and **musical depth**.

Video Recording Guidelines

- Each piece must be recorded *in one single take – no editing or splicing* is allowed.
- The performer's *hands and face* must be *clearly visible* throughout the recording.
- Use a *fixed camera angle* with *good lighting* and *sound quality*.
- Performance should be recorded in *horizontal format*.
- Videos must be uploaded to *Youtube or Vimeo* (public or unlisted).

Application

Applications must be submitted **online** via the official form at www.wpta.info/austria.

Each application must include:

- Completed online **application form**
- **Video recordings** (YouTube or similar links)
- **Short Biography** (maximum 150 words)
- **One recent Photograph** (high quality, suitable for publication)
- **Proof of age** (passport or ID copy)
- **Proof of payment** of the application fee

Application Fees (non-refundable):

- Categories A & B: €80
- Categories C & D: €90
- Category E (Artist): €100

Application Deadline: 20 January 2026

Jury

The **jury** will consist of *internationally recognized pianists and pedagogues* appointed by WPTA Austria. The jury's **decisions are final** and cannot be appealed. Jury members may not vote for their own students.

Prizes

The following **prizes** will be awarded:

- **1st Prize:** Gala Concert performance and Prize Ceremony in Hohenems, **WPTA IPC Application Fee Waiver, WPC Registration Fee Waiver, WPTA Lifetime Membership, Official Diploma.**
- **2nd Prize:** Gala Concert performance and Prize Ceremony in Hohenems.
- **3rd Prize:** Gala Concert performance and Prize Ceremony in Hohenems.
- **Special Prize – Austrian Composer Award:** For the best interpretation of a work by **Franz Schubert** or another **Austrian composer** (Mozart, Haydn, Bruckner, Berg, etc.). The winner will receive a **special diploma**.
- **Honorable Mentions** may be awarded at the discretion of the jury.

Certificates

All participants will receive ***official digital certificates***. Laureates who perform in the Gala Concert in Hohenems will be awarded ***printed diplomas*** during the celebrations.

Timeline

- ***Applications Open***: 1 December 2025
- ***Application Deadline***: 20 January 2026
- ***Results Announced***: 1 February 2026
- ***Gala Concert & Prize Ceremony***: 22 March 2026, Hohenems (Austria), Markus-Sittikus-Saal

Contact

WPTA Austria International Piano Competition
David Mikic, President of WPTA Austria
Bürgergasse 14a, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria
Phone: +43 667 3320366
Email: austria@wpta.info
Website: www.wpta.info/austria