



PROJECT

Kaunas Boys' Choral Singing School "Varpelis"

Director's February 2024 20 d.

By Order No. V-24

VOCAL EARLY MUSIC PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

REGULATIONS

1. Organiser:

Kaunas boys' choral singing school "Varpelis".

2. Sponsors of the competition

Italian Early Music company Coin du Roi;

Italian Opera Company "Milano KammerOper".

3. Aims and objectives

- 3.1. To stimulate interest in early vocal music, its stylistics, and interpretation;
- 3.2. To foster historically informed praxis of early music among young people, with particular regard to boys' choir singers;
- 3.3. To strive for self-expression, creativity and artistry among young people, with particular attention to boys' choir singers;

4. Place and time

Kaunas Boys' Choral Singing School "Varpelis", D. Poškos str. 4. Kaunas

26 April 2024 2:00 p.m.

In the old church of St. Peter of Zapyškis. St. John the Baptist Church, Muziejaus str. 1
53418 Godgala, Kaunas district.

Concert of the winners of the competition - April 27, 2024, 17:00.

5. Contestants

5. Soloists and vocal ensembles of different age categories coming from boys' choral singing schools and music /art schools in the Baltic States.

6. Groups of participants:

- 6.1. Category A: pupils attending third and fourth grades musical education;
- 6.2. Category B: pupils attending fifth and sixth grades musical education;
- 6.3. Category C: pupils of seventh and eighth grades musical education;
- 6.4. Category D: pupils of extended musical education;
- 6.4. Category E: vocal ensembles (from 2 to 8 participants , pupils of same or different age categories).

7. Repertoire

- 7.1. Arias, "arioso", "arietta da camera" from operas, intermezzos, oratorios, masses, secular or sacred cantatas. The pieces shall be performed *in the original language* - English, Italian, Latin, French, or German. Latin phonetics shall be historically based and correspond to the period and place of residence of the composer;
- 7.2. The selected pieces must be composed between 1600 and 1770;
- 7.3. Selected works must correspond to the types of voice specified by the author and cannot be transposed;
- 7.4. It is recommended to choose *urtext* versions or manuscript;
- 7.5. The aria's "da capo" part (repetition) must be performed with variations in accordance with historically informed performance (for category A participants - not mandatory);
- 7.6. All pieces shall be performed in the original language. We encourage performing the selected pieces in the historical diapason: 395 Hz for the French repertoire, 415 Hz for German and Southern Italian repertoire, 465 Hz for Northern Italian repertoire;

8.1. For participants of A category - one secular or sacred aria is required.

A simple anthological chamber aria (for example, 'O cessate di piagarmi') or an *arietta* in A, AA, or AB form (for example, 'Ombra mai fu'), or a single secular or sacral 'Da capo' aria in ABA form. Aria can be performed without repetition (da capo) and without variations.

The selected piece shall be performed by heart. **The duration of the performance must be 2-4 minutes.**

7.8.2. For participants of B category - one secular or sacred "Da capo" ABA form aria is required (for example, 'Vedrò con mio diletto'). Repetition (da capo) shall be performed with variations and cadenzas;

The selected aria shall be performed by heart. **The duration of the performance must be 4-6 minutes.**

7.8.3. For participants of C category - 2 secular or sacred arias are required:

(1) a secular or sacred "Da capo" ABA form aria (for example, "Vedrò con mio diletto"). Repetition (da capo) shall be performed with variations and cadenzas;

2) the second piece can be a "Da capo" ABA form aria, a chamber aria, or a small arietta. Repetition (da capo) shall be performed (where applicable) with variations and cadenzas;

Selected pieces must of different character, preferably performed in different languages.

Instead of two pieces, participants may perform one larger form, for example, a whole cantata. (In this case, performance by heart is not mandatory).

Selected works are performed by heart. **The duration of performance must be 6-8 minutes.**

7.8.4. For participants of D category - 2 secular or sacred arias are required:

(1) a secular or sacred "Da capo" ABA form aria (for example, "Vedrò con mio diletto"). Repetition (da capo) shall be performed with variations and cadenzas;

2) the second piece can be a "Da capo" ABA form aria, a chamber aria, or a small arietta. Repetition (da capo) shall be performed (where applicable) with variations and cadenzas;

Selected pieces must of different character, preferably performed in different languages.

Instead of two pieces, participants may perform one larger form, for example, a whole cantata. (In this case, performance by heart is not mandatory).

Selected works are performed by heart. **Duration of appearance 8-10 minutes**

7.8.5. **For participants of E category** - 1 piece is required:

a duet, a tercet, a quartet, or a chamber choir from an opera or cantata.

The selected piece is performed by heart. **The duration of the performance is 4-10 minutes.**

8. Applications

8.1. Applications are accepted until 2 April 2024 (included). Applications must be submitted by e-mail by filling out the participant's questionnaire.

8.2. Information is provided by e-mail: info@varpelischoras.lt. The same mail shall be utilized to send applications.

9. Awards

9.1. Performances will be evaluated by a jury, whose decisions are final and not subject to appeal;

9.2. The best-performing soloists in categories A, B, C, D, by decision of the commission, will be awarded with diplomas of first, second, and third degrees.

9.3. The best-performing participants in E category, by decision of the commission, will be awarded with diplomas of first, second, and third degrees.

9.4. By decision of the Commission, the best performing soloist or ensemble may be awarded with a *grand prix*.

All first-degree prize winners, the grand prix winner, and their educators will be awarded with cash prizes or opportunities by the sponsors of the competition.

9.5. All participants of the competition, their educators and concertmasters will be provided with letters of thanks.

10. Evaluation

Contestants will be evaluated on the base of a one hundred points (100/100) system, according to the following criteria:

- vocals and intonation;
- choice of repertoire;
- stylistics of performance;
- accuracy of singing language;

- musical approach;
- artistry;
- scenic ability.

11. Additional information

11. Travel and subsistence expenses shall be paid by the participants themselves.