



The  
**BASS LAUREATE**

HONORING ARTISTRY, MASTERY, AND SOUND

PRESENTED BY  
**BASS AROUND ASIA**

1ST INTERNATIONAL  
DOUBLE BASS COMPETITION  
HANDBOOK



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## 1. Eligibility

This competition is open to double bassists from Taiwan and all over the world.

## 2. Categories

The competition comprises 4 categories as shown below:

Category	Age Bracket
Junior Soloist	Aged 3-11 years (i.e. born between 1 May 2015 – 30 April 2023)
Intermediate Soloist	Aged 12-16 years (i.e. born between 1 May 2009 – 30 April 2015)
Senior Soloist	Aged 17 years and above (i.e. born on or before 30 April 2009)
Orchestral Musician	No age limit

The participant's age will be determined as their age on or before 30 April 2026.

Participants under 18 years of age will be required to submit a signed Parental Consent Form at point of registration. A copy of the Parental Consent Form can be downloaded from <http://www.bass-around-asia.com/en>.

## 3. Competition Dates and Venues

The venue for all Final rounds is **Luzhou KHS Concert Hall**.

Date and Time	Event
Monday, 17 August 2026	Finals for all Soloist Categories
Tuesday, 18 August 2026	Prize Winners' Concert and Prize Presentation Ceremony

There will not be a live competition for the Orchestral Musician category, which will take place completely online.

The detailed competition schedule will be announced on the official competition webpage at least a month prior to the date of the Finals. Please refer to the official competition webpage (<https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en>) for the latest updates.

## 4. Repertoire Requirements and Procedures (Soloist Categories)

For the repertoire requirements and procedures for the Orchestral Musician category, please jump to **Section 5**.

The competition for Junior Soloist, Intermediate Soloist, and Senior Soloist categories will comprise 2 rounds:

1. Qualifying Round (video submission)
2. Final (live competition)

The Qualifying Round, which will take place via video submission, will determine the candidates who will proceed to compete in the Finals in New Taipei City, Taiwan.

### 4a. Qualifying Round (Video Submission)

At point of registration, all participants must submit video recordings. Registrations without video submissions will be considered incomplete.

All registrations must be submitted by **30 March 2026**.

The videos must include a performance of **one** of the following:

- One movement from any concerto
- One movement from any sonata
- One solo piece of the participant's choice.

Participants who choose to perform works with piano are required to arrange for their own piano accompanists.

Performance of repeats indicated in the music scores is optional except in the cases of *da capo*, *dal segno*, and the minuet and trio movement.

Where applicable, cadenzas must be performed.

The recommended performance durations for the video submissions are:

Category	Duration Limit
Junior Soloist	Within 10 minutes
Intermediate Soloist	Within 10 minutes
Senior Soloist	Within 10 minutes

The video should be recorded according to the following guidelines:

- As far as possible, the video recording should be made in a suitable acoustic environment. There should be minimal disruption from the recording environment (i.e. minimal or no background noise, no pets or family members visible within the video frame).
- It is recommended that the microphone be placed approximately 1.5 metres in front of the instrument.
- **Participants must not speak or make any noise in the video that may give away their identity.**
- The video must be recorded such that the participant's face and hands are always visible in the frame.
- The video should be recorded **in one sitting (i.e. one uncut take)**.
- The video must not be edited in any way during or after the recording.
- The video should be filmed in an aspect ratio of **16:9 horizontal (landscape)** and with a resolution of **1920 x 1080 (FHD) or 1280 x 720 (HD)**
- The video must be filmed only **on or after 1 January 2026**.
- Participants are required to upload their videos to **YouTube** and set the privacy setting to **'Unlisted'**. The videos should be titled according to the following format:

- Title of piece / Participant's name in English (name must be exactly the same as in the registration form) / Date filmed / Location
- For example: Botessini Concerto No.1, 1st movement / John Lee Tzu Wen / 2026.02.20 / KHS Concert Hall
- Participants are then required to provide the YouTube video URL at point of registration.

Any recordings not submitted according to these guidelines may be disqualified from the competition.

Participants are required to state clearly their chosen work in the registration form. Registrations with inaccurately declared works may be disqualified from the competition.

Only shortlisted participants will proceed to the Finals.

## **4b. Finals**

Participants are not allowed to repeat the works they have performed in the Qualifying Round (i.e. they should be presenting pieces that they have not already performed).

Participants should choose works that best showcase their mastery of technique and artistic sensitivity.

The work should not require the use of a prepared piano.

Participants who choose to perform works with piano are required to arrange for their own piano accompanists or request to hire one of the pianists affiliated with Bass Around Asia.

Performance of repeats indicated in the music scores is optional except in the cases of *da capo*, *dal segno*, and the minuet and trio movement.

Where applicable, cadenzas must be performed.

Submitted repertoire is subject to review by competition officials.

The specific repertoire requirements for each category are as follows:

Category	Repertoire Requirements
Junior Soloist	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Set piece (unaccompanied), and</li><li>2. One movement from any concerto or sonata, or one solo piece (approximate duration of 3 minutes)</li></ol>
Intermediate Soloist	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Set piece (with piano accompaniment), and</li><li>2. One movement from any concerto or sonata, or one solo piece (approximate duration of 6 minutes)</li></ol>
Senior Soloist	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Set piece (with piano accompaniment), and</li><li>2. One movement from any concerto or sonata, or one solo piece (approximate duration of 9 minutes)</li></ol>

Adjudicators reserve the right to stop the participant's performance at any time prior to its completion or to allow participants to complete their performance beyond the recommended time limit.

## 5. Repertoire Requirements and Procedures (Orchestral Musician Category)

The Orchestral Musician category will be conducted via video submission only. Participants will not be required to attend a live competition.

At point of registration, participants must submit video recordings of the required repertoire. Registrations without accompanying video submissions will be considered incomplete.

All registrations must be submitted by **30 March 2026**.

The videos must include a performance of **5** orchestral excerpts from the list provided.

Participants must not perform any excerpts outside of those listed.

# Orchestral Excerpts Set List:

BACH	Violin Concerto No.2 in E major, 2nd movement: Beginning to bar 22
VERDI	Otello, Act IV: [U] to [Y]
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No.5, 3rd movement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Beginning to bar 100</li> <li>● Bar 140 to bar 218</li> </ul>
HAYDN	Symphony No.31, 4th movement: Variation 7 Bass solo
MAHLER	Symphony No.1, 3rd movement: [1] to [3] Bass solo
MOZART	Symphony No.40, 1st movement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bar 114 to bar 138</li> <li>● Bar 191 to bar 225</li> </ul>
STRAUSS	Ein Heldenleben: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● [9] to 6 bars after [12]</li> <li>● [40] to 9 bars after [40]</li> </ul>
STRAVINSKY	Pulcinella Suite, 7th movement: Vivo

The Repertoire Packet containing all listed excerpts can be downloaded from

<https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en>.

The video should be recorded according to the following guidelines:

- As far as possible, the video recording should be made in a suitable acoustic environment. There should be minimal disruption from the recording environment (i.e. minimal or no background noise, no pets or family members visible within the video frame).
- It is recommended that the microphone be placed approximately 1.5 metres in front of the instrument.
- **Participants must not speak or make any noise in the video that may give away their identity.**
- The video must be recorded such that the participant's face and hands are always visible in the frame.
- All orchestral excerpts must be recorded in **one sitting (i.e. one uncut take)**.
- The video must not be edited in any way during or after the recording.



- The video should be filmed in an aspect ratio of **16:9 horizontal (landscape)** and with a resolution of **1920 x 1080 (FHD) or 1280 x 720 (HD)**
- The video must be filmed only **on or after 1 January 2026**.
- Participants are required to upload their videos to **YouTube** and set the privacy setting to '**Unlisted**'. Participants are then required to provide the video URL at point of registration.
- The videos should be titled according to the following format:
  - Orchestral Excerpts / Participant's name in English (name must be exactly the same as in the registration form) / Date filmed / Location
  - For example: Orchestral Excerpts / John Lee Tzu Wen / 2026.02.20 / KHS Concert Hall
- Participants are then required to provide the YouTube video URL at point of registration.

Any recordings not submitted according to these guidelines may be disqualified from the competition.

Participants must also submit an accompanying Time Stamp document together with the video URL at point of registration. This document must list all 5 excerpts performed as well as the video time stamp of the start of each excerpt. The Time Stamp document should be in **PDF format**.

Registrations without an accompanying Time Stamp document may be disqualified from the competition.

Please see below for an example of a time stamp document:

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MAHLER Symphony No.1 – 00:00</li> <li>2. HAYDN Symphony No.31 – 01:25</li> <li>3. STRAVINSKY Pulcinella Suite – 03:05</li> <li>4. STRAUSS Ein Heldenleben – 04:55</li> <li>5. VERDI Otello – 07:15</li> </ol> |
|---|

## **6. Adjudication**

The adjudicators will assess participants on their mastery of technique and their artistic sensitivity in interpreting the styles and expressions of different composers and musical periods.

For the live rounds, the adjudicators reserve the right to stop a participant's performance at any time prior to its completion, or to allow participants to complete their performance beyond the recommended time.

### **6a. Adjudication in Video Rounds**

All video rounds (i.e. Qualifying Round for all Soloist categories, as well as the Orchestral Musician Category) will be judged by a panel of five adjudicators.

Adjudication in all video rounds will be blind (i.e. only audio will be provided for adjudication). The identities of all participants will be withheld from the adjudicating panel until after the results have been decided.

In each Soloist category, a 'Yes' / 'No' system will be used in the Preliminary Stage to shortlist participants for further judging. The number of participants to progress to the next stage will be determined by the adjudication panel.

Participants who receive a 'Yes' vote in the Preliminary Stage will proceed to the Judging Stage, in which a points system will be used to assess their performances. The five participants with the highest scores in each Soloist category will be invited to attend the live Finals in Taipei, Taiwan.

The first, second, and third prize winners in the Orchestral Musician category will be determined at the end of the video round.

### **6b. Adjudication in Finals (for Soloist Categories)**

The Finals for all Soloist Categories will be judged by a panel of seven adjudicators.

The adjudication panel will use a points system to assess the performances and determine the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth prize winners in each Soloist category.

The adjudication panel reserves the right to award any number of prizes for each category, including the right to not award any prizes.

The adjudication panel's decision is final and no discussion or correspondence with participants or their representatives will be entertained.

## 7. Prizes

### 7a. Soloist Categories

The top five winners in each Soloist category will receive the following prizes:

Prizes	Junior Soloist	Intermediate Soloist	Senior Soloist
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 300</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 300</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 300</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 150</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 150</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>USD 150</b> cash prize</li> <li>● 2 Masterclass sessions</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Masterclass session</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Masterclass session</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Masterclass session</li> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>
4th & 5th Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trophy and Certificate</li> </ul>

All other participants will receive either a **Certificate of Merit** or a **Certificate of Participation**.

### 7b. Orchestral Musician Category

The top three winners in the Orchestral Musician category will receive the following prizes:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	3 Online Masterclass Sessions
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	2 Online Masterclass Sessions
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	1 Online Masterclass Session

All other participants will receive either a Certificate of Merit or a Certificate of Participation.

## 8. Registration Procedures

Registration must be completed via the official online registration form and submitted by **30 March 2026**. Incomplete applications (e.g. where videos have not been fully submitted, or payment has not been made) and entries received after this date and time will not be considered.

Changes to repertoire cannot be made after this date, and appeals will not be entertained.

Payment of Registration Fees must be made via **ATM transfer** or **PayPal transfer** during the registration process. More information on payment procedures will be provided on the registration form.

The registration fees are as follows:

Qualifying Round		
Category	Registration Fee for Taiwan Citizens	Registration Fee for International Participants
Junior Soloist	TWD 3,000	USD 100
Intermediate Soloist	TWD 3,000	USD 100
Senior Soloist	TWD 3,000	USD 100
Orchestral Musician	TWD 3,000	USD 100

Finals		
Category	Registration Fee for Taiwan Citizens	Registration Fee for International Participants
Junior Soloist	TWD 4,500	USD 150
Intermediate Soloist	TWD 4,500	USD 150
Senior Soloist	TWD 4,500	USD 150

The following must be submitted together with the online registration form:

1. Proof of payment of Registration Fee
2. YouTube URL for video submission
3. Signed Parental Consent Form (if participant is under 18 years of age)
4. Time Stamp document in PDF format (only for participants in the Orchestral Musician category)

Results of the Qualifying Round (for Soloist categories) and Orchestral Musician category will be posted on <https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en> on **30 May 2026**.

Participants' order of appearance at the live competition round will be determined by ballot.

## 9. Rehearsal Sessions, Hiring of Pianists, and Double Bass Rentals

### 9a. Rehearsal Sessions

The venue for the Live Finals is Luzhou KHS Concert Hall.

Each participant is entitled to **one** complimentary rehearsal slot at the competition venue.

The rehearsal schedule will be arranged by the competition committee and announced in advance on the official website.

Participants must arrive **at least 15 minutes** before their scheduled rehearsal slot. Late arrivals will be considered to have forfeited their rehearsal slot.

Requests for additional rehearsal slots will not be entertained.

## 9b. Hiring of Pianists

Participants who require piano accompaniment may choose to:

- Arrange their own piano accompanist, or
- Hire a pianist through Bass Around Asia.

Information on the pianists affiliated with Bass Around Asia, as well as pianist fees, can be found at <https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en>.

Pianist bookings are **by advance reservation only** and subject to availability. To book a pianist through Bass Around Asia, please email the organizer at [yyartyart@gmail.com](mailto:yyartyart@gmail.com) by **10 July 2026**.

## 9c. Double Bass Rentals

If a double bass rental is required, please email YY Arts Workshop at [yyartyart@gmail.com](mailto:yyartyart@gmail.com) by **10 July 2026**. Rental fees will be charged **on a per-day basis**. Detailed rental arrangements will be discussed directly with YY Arts Workshop.

## 10. Watching the Competition

Public admission to the Prize Winners' Concert on 18 August 2026 will be ticketed. Please refer to <https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en> for ticketing details and updates closer to the date.

The Finals for all categories will also be recorded and uploaded to the YY Art YouTube page at <https://youtube.com/@yyart1844?si=i4wg0mAE6KFh5-by>.

## 11. Prize Presentation Ceremony

All Finalists are required to attend the Prize Presentation Ceremony, which will take place after the Prize Winners' Concert on 18 August 2026.

## 12. Terms and Conditions for Participants

By submitting the online registration form, the participant agrees to all the abovementioned regulations, as well as the following terms and conditions:

1. The registration fees are neither refundable nor transferable.

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2. The organizer reserves the right to cancel any category if there are insufficient participants. In the event of cancellation, the registration fee will be fully refunded.

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3. The organizer reserves the right to request participants to amend and re-submit their programs if they do not meet the standards of the competition. Participants who are unable to meet the standards of the competition, or who amend their programs without informing the competition officials, will be disqualified.

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4. Where a participant chooses to perform an unpublished work or works in manuscript form, it is the participant's responsibility to obtain all necessary permissions or licenses to perform such works during the competition. In addition, the organizer will not be liable for any such license fees and participants also agree to indemnify the organizer against any claims, losses or damages in relation to copyright in such works or obtaining the relevant permissions or licenses.

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5. Prize winners in all Soloist categories may be invited to participate in publicity activities without payment, including filming of publicity videos.

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6. The organizer reserves the right to record all or part of the proceeding of the competition and related activities for broadcast or promotional purpose without any payment to the participants, The organizer retains all rights to the recorded materials.

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7. The organizer will collect personal data from participants according to the Taiwan Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA). This information is used solely to verify the participant's eligibility to take part in the competition and for all correspondences and activities regarding the competition.

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8. Participants and supporters of participants must not communicate with or otherwise attempt to influence the adjudication panel. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in disqualification of the participant.

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9. Photography, audio, and video recording by the participants and supporters are not allowed during the competition.

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10. Any participant who provides inaccurate or misleading information may be disqualified.

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11. In case of any dispute, the organizer's decision, or that of the adjudication panel acting on the organizer's behalf, is final and no discussion or correspondence will be entertained.

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12. Bass Around Asia reserves the right to amend the rules and conditions of the competition.

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## 13. Important Dates

Date	Event
1 January 2026	Registration opens
1 January 2026	Release of Set Pieces
30 March 2026	Registration closes
20 May 2026	Email notification to Finalists
30 May 2026	Public announcement of results of Orchestral Musician category and Qualifying Round (for Soloist categories) on <a href="https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en">https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en</a>
August 2026, date TBC	Rehearsal sessions
17 August 2026	Soloist category Finals
18 August 2026	Prize Winners' Concert and Prize Presentation Ceremony for all Finalists

The schedule is subject to change. Please refer to <https://www.bass-around-asia.com/en> for the latest updates.

END