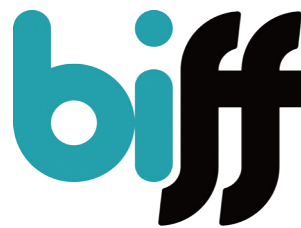


Blackburn Festival of Speech, Music and Dance

Music Syllabus 2024



PERFORM | EDUCATE | INSPIRE

Blackburn Festival is affiliated to
The British and International Federation of Festivals
for Music, Dance and Speech



www.blackburnfestival.com



[Blackburn Festival of Speech Music and Dance](https://www.facebook.com/blackburnfest)



[@blackburnfest](https://twitter.com/blackburnfest)

Registered Charity No: 222789



Blackburn Festival of Speech, Music and Dance

We are affiliated to The British and International Federation of Festivals



To enable participation in the Performing Arts

Blackburn Festival gives the opportunity for amateurs to form an appreciation of artistic standards; to perform in a state of the art venue, before a different type of audience; to participate in workshops and master classes; to be assessed, encouraged and inspired by active professional adjudicators they would not meet in any other way.

Every skill gained in preparing for and giving a performance is a valuable skill which will be used at job interviews, in the workplace, in leisure activities and interpersonal relationships throughout life.

Our Festival is entirely organised and run by volunteers, not just the Festival Committee, but also those who give up their weekends throughout the Festival days to ensure our performers have a good experience. Few realise the enormous amount of detailed planning which lies behind the Festival itself. Anyone who can take responsibility for organising a particular element of Blackburn Festival is most welcome.

Adjudicators educate and inspire greater appreciation of the work being performed both for the performer and the audience alike. We employ BIFF affiliated adjudicators to ensure high standards are maintained just as the founders of Blackburn Festival intended 79 years ago.

Our Aims

Enjoy

To celebrate and enjoy the performance of Speech, Music and Dance shown by all who take part in our festival;

Nurture

To encourage and nurture all participants regardless of ability or background to ensure that they enjoy a warm and welcoming experience to help them grow in self confidence;

Achieve

To highlight excellence and celebrate achievement by organising a public Festival to which professional adjudicators bring expertise, guidance and an educational aspect to the performers and audience;

Serve

To develop long lasting relationships with our greatly appreciated Patrons, Sponsors, Teachers, Schools, the Local Community and Friends of the Festival;

Endure

To continue in the footsteps of committees since 1945 to ensure that Blackburn Festival endures for many more years.

Festival Dates and Venue 2024

Dates

Saturday 23th March and Sunday 24th March

Closing date for entries: 13th January 2024

Venue

The Croston Theatre at Westholme School

Meins Road, Blackburn BB2 6QU

Entries

Entry forms can be found on the website: www.blackburnfestival.com

You can either download them and return as an Excel file (preferred), or print them off and either email or post them.

Then send appropriate payment for the total entry by BACs.

Fees		Banking Details
Solos 18 and under	£6 per class	Sort Code: 01-00-85 Account Number: 50165658
Solos Open	£8 per class	Please include name and discipline thus:
Senior Vocal 18 and over	£10 per class	Music - <name of performer or teacher/ school>
Duets 18 and under	£10 per class	E.g. Music – Charlie Smith
Instrumental Groups	£10 per class	
Masterclass	£10 per class	
Choirs	£15 per class	

The Music Secretaries: Suganya Reddy and Suzanne Lowe

music.blackburnfestival@gmail.com

Copies of music for the Accompanist must be sent at the time of entry

Blackburn Festival
15, The Drive
Brockhall Village
Blackburn
BB6 8BJ

They **must** be clearly labelled with the class, title, name and address of the

competitor, and **must** arrive by 20th January 2024.

Music must not be stapled but sellotaped along the long edges to form one sheet.

Accompanists reserve the right not to play if music is not sent by the required time.

Adjudicators

Andrew Sherwood



Andrew has performed in many parts of the world as conductor and violinist. He has been Professor of Violin at TrinityLaban for about 30 years. He was Director of Brighton Youth Orchestras for 25 years and is now conductor laureate for Brighton and East Sussex Youth Orchestra. He has always taught and many of his former students are now professional performers. He grew up in Africa. After studies at the Royal College of Music he played in British orchestras, and led the orchestra for Ballet Rambert. He is the founding conductor of Musicians of All Saints, has had a West End stage part written for him, is one of the first musicians to be made a Fellow of

the Federation of British and International Festivals and in 2019 was given the Outstanding Contribution to Arts award by Brighton & Hove Arts Council. He has composed music for arts films and has just released a CD of popular violin solos and plans to record more of works by neglected composers.

As a conductor, acclaim has come from work with orchestras as far afield as Hong Kong and Chile, from working with young people in India and Zimbabwe, from the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Brighton Youth Orchestra, and the Sinfonia Strings at Trinity Laban. He conducts Somerset County Youth Orchestra, and is principal conductor for European Youth Summer Music,

Maria Jacusz GRNCM FISM



Maria Jagusz trained as a dancer before taking up a place at the Royal Northern College of Music where she was awarded the Ricordi Prize for Opera. Further scholarships enabled her to continue her studies at the National Opera Studio. As a singer Maria has worked as soloist for most of the leading opera companies in the U.K and Europe. Her roles include Carmen, Cherubino, Orlofsky, Hansel, Dorabella and Rosina. She has performed with many of the worlds leading singers including Domingo, Carreras, Freni and Dame Felicity Lott. Her last role was Filipevna in Eugene Onegin for Mid Wales Opera just before lockdown. She is a keen recitalist and a regular soloist for choral

societies in the U.K.

As a teacher Maria has specialised in training students who are hoping to have professional careers in the world of opera and musical theatre. As well as her private teaching practice she is vocal consultant for the International College of Music Theatre in London.

In order to give students the experience they need to succeed in this competitive industry she formed MJ-UK Music and Arts, As part of their training Maria believes that getting as much performing experience both in concert and on stage is vital for the development of young talent. She arranges many concerts both in the Cotswolds and in Cornwall where young singers can get the chance to perform in a safe welcoming environment. For MJ-UK she has directed Carmen, Bastien and Bastienne, Dido and Aneas, Les Miserables, West Side Story, Secret Garden, Jesus Christ Superstar, Seussical and most recently a production of "The Marriage of Figaro" for Stroud Arts Festival.

Maria is also emerging casting advisor for Longborough Festival Opera's Young Artists programme.

Joanna Garcia MusB (Hons) PPRNCM PgDipRNCM PGCE (QTS)



Joanna García gained a First Class Honours Bachelor of Music degree from Manchester University in 1996, also winning three Hargreaves Music Prizes and the Sir Thomas Beecham Medal for outstanding achievement throughout the course.

Following this, she continued her studies at the RNCM with Paul Janes and Renna Kellaway, obtaining the sought-after Professional Performance Diploma and a Postgraduate Diploma in Performance. She won the Granada Chamber Music Award, the Song Cycle Accompanist's Prize, an Allcard Award, and an English-Speaking Union scholarship to study piano in France with teachers from the Paris

Conservatoire.

Following her studies, Joanna was offered a two-year Junior Fellowship in accompanying at the RNCM, and was subsequently appointed as Assistant Staff Tutor in Accompaniment. She also worked as Staff Accompanist at Chetham's School of Music, and taught piano at Manchester University.

Joanna has performed with eminent musicians such as Sir John Tomlinson in a concert shown on the South Bank Show, had a long-standing duo partnership with viola player Robin Ireland, performed a recital in Buenos Aires with tenor Roberto García López, and performed with the Lindsay Quartet in their Sheffield Festival. She has a recording of music by Geoffrey Poole which is available internationally, and she is particularly passionate about collaborative musicianship.

Joanna enjoys working with singers as a coach, and has been répétiteur and conductor with Heritage Opera, conducting operas such as Tosca and Don Giovanni.

Joanna has a busy teaching schedule as director of the Joanna García Piano School, and works with students internationally. She is also a pedagogy coach with her own associate tutors as well as other instrumental teachers, and works as freelance staff pianist at the RNCM.

Accompanists

Tim Kennedy MA, FRCO, DipABRSM (piano), DipABRSM (singing)



Tim studied music at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, but he has now been based in Manchester as a freelance musician for more than fifteen years. As well as being a piano accompanist, he also works as a professional singer, vocal coach and organist. He is a staff répétiteur for the School of Vocal and Opera Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, playing for singing classes, assessments and recitals. He is also an accompanist for the British and International Federation of Festivals. This involves working regularly as an official accompanist at a number of competitive music festivals in the North of England, including Alderley Edge,

Bowdon, Burnley, Buxton, Chester, Cleethorpes, Fleetwood, Hazel Grove, Heaton Mersey, Sheffield, and at Regional Championship events.

Tim is one of the official accompanists at a prestigious competition for singers from conservatoires and universities around the country, called the Singers' Platform, part of the David Clover Festival in Sheffield. He has regular accompaniment work at various schools including Shrewsbury School and Sale Grammar school, and he has worked as the regular rehearsal pianist for the Tatton Singers (Knutsford) for more than ten years. Tim is also a staff accompanist for the CSSM Summer School, and regularly accompanies singers and instrumentalists in concerts across the North of England. He has recently accompanied in competitions at the Uppermill Summer Music Festival and the Keldwyth Cumbrian Young Musicians' Award.

Catherine Hall-Smith BMus, PgDipRNCM, MISM FISM



Catherine studied the piano at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire with Frank Wibaut and the late Paul Hamburger, moving to the RNCM as a post-graduate to study accompaniment with David Lloyd. She began her career with Northern Ballet, where she toured extensively as an accompanist with the Learning and Development department.

Based on edge of the Peak District, she has a busy, varied and enjoyable career as teacher, coach, accompanist, and as an examiner for Trinity College London with examining tours in the UK, Ireland and farther afield to North and

South India.

Since 2015 Catherine has been a visiting répétiteur for the School of Vocal Studies and Opera working in close collaboration with young singers and vocal tutors. She is an Accompanist member of the British and International Federation of Festivals and regularly works at festivals in the North West and Lincolnshire.

She is an enthusiastic supporter of choral music and joined Honley Male Voice Choir as their official accompanist in 2017, performing in a variety of venues ranging from Huddersfield Town Hall to Fountains Abbey to name but a few.

Festival Regulations

All entries must be sent to the relevant Secretary on or before the closing date.

The committee reserves the right to refuse any entry, to combine or withdraw any class deemed to have insufficient entries, or to divide any class with a large number of entries.

The Festival is open to amateurs only, and the following definitions apply:

Amateur: any person whose livelihood is derived from services other than teaching and performing music, speech and dance.

Novice: any competitor who has never achieved 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in any recognised Festival.

Student Teacher: any competitor who does not derive their sole income from teaching.

Any protest must be in writing, duly signed, stating the cause, and must be delivered to the Secretary on the day of the competition together with a fee of £5 which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

The order of competing in all classes will be decided by ballot and performers will be informed of class timings.

The starting times of the classes are approximate and classes may start before or after the times stated. Performers should arrive in good time for their classes.

In classes where special conditions are laid down, failure to observe said conditions will lead to disqualification.

Entry fees include the Adjudicator's remarks which will be available at the end of each class or session. No entry fee will be returnable.

The Festival Committee shall have the power to decide all other matters connected with the conduct of the Festival not provided for in these regulations.

All communications must be addressed to the relevant Secretary.

Communications with the Adjudicator concerning any matter relating to the Festival by competitors, teachers or other interested parties prior to or during the competitions is prohibited.

Video recording, photography and audio recording during any performance is prohibited.

Music Specific Regulations

Own Choice items must be stated on the entry form giving Title, Work, Composer and duration. Pieces should not be used in more than one class, and changes will not be permitted after the closing entry date 13th January 2023, otherwise performers will be disqualified.

Time limits should be strictly observed, over running will be penalised. The Adjudicator's report will be given but no mark or place.

Where an age limit is mentioned, the age must be reckoned as on the opening date of the Music Festival (23rd March 2024). Performers may be asked to provide a Birth Certificate.

Backing tracks may be used for Pop Classes, and the official accompanist must be used for all other classes. For Musical Theatre either a backing track or the Festival accompanist may be used. Choirs

may use their own or the Festival accompanist.

Age is determined by the eldest performer
Copies of music for the Accompanist must be sent at the time of entry to:

Blackburn Festival
15, The Drive
Brockhall Village
Blackburn
BB6 8BJ

They **must** be clearly labelled with the class, title, name and address of the competitor, and **must** arrive by 20th January 2024.

Music must not be stapled but sellotaped along the long edges to form one sheet. Accompanists reserve the right not to play if music is not sent by the required time.

Music Syllabus Changes

Guitar classes have been introduced - Classes 235 - 237

Choir classes - Primary, Secondary and Open - Classes 263 - 265

Own accompanist or the Festival accompanist may be used for choir classes.

Music Prizes and EYSM Bursary

The most promising vocalist, pianist and instrumentalist will each be awarded a prize of £100 to support their future progress.



As in previous years, we will be awarding one full bursary to EYSM 2024.

High Scoring performers and Section Trophy winners may be invited to perform at the Blackburn Festival Gala Concert on Sunday 24th March 2024 at The Croston Theatre, Westholme School.

Use of Recorded Music

We are affiliated to the British and International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) and participate in its group licence to cover payment of fees for the use of recorded music at its events. Performers using music from commercial recordings are advised they should seek permission to re-record from the record companies concerned as the Festival cannot take responsibility for this.

All performances using music from shows in current production are subject to copyright law. Songs from shows in current production may be sung as a concert item i.e. with no costume or movement without need for copyright permission. Where movement or costume are included in the performance, copyright permission is required and the Festival Committee accepts these entries on the basis that the appropriate copyright permission has been sought. Queries on this topic should be addressed to:

British and International Federation of Festivals, Festivals House, 198 Park Lane, Macclesfield SK11 6UD 01625 428297 info@federationoffestivals.org.uk

Piano Section

The Roseanne Archibald Memorial Trophy

will be awarded to the promising competitor in the Piano classes.

Piano Solos

Schofield Plaque

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 201-204

201. Grade 1

202. Grade 2

203. Grade 3

An Own Choice piece to be taken from any current examination board.

204. Own Choice Grade 1, 2 or 3

Time limit 3 minutes

Longworth Trophy

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 206-213

206. Grade 4

207. Grade 5

208. Jazz – Grade 4 and over

209. Own Choice – Grade 4 or 5 Time limit 4 minutes

210. Grade 6

211. Grade 7.

212. Grade 8

213. Own Choice Grade 6 and above - Time limit 5 minutes

Open Piano Classes

214. Open - Own Choice of music by Chopin or Debussy – Time limit 6 minutes

215. Open - Own Choice of 20th/21st Century music – Time limit 6 minutes

216. Open - Piano Recital Class Own Choice of 2 or 3 pieces – Time limit 15 minutes

Piano Duets

Thwaites Trophy

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark from classes 220 and 221.

220. 12 years & under – Own Choice - Time limit 2 minutes

221. 18 years & under – Own Choice - Time limit 4 minutes

Instrumental Section: Strings

Any string instrument including guitar, ukulele and harp. Performers may enter twice in the same class but with a different instrument.

Guitar Solos

- 235. Classical Guitar Year 6 and under
- 236. Classical Guitar Year 7 to Year 11
- 237. Classical Guitar Year 12 & Year 13

String Solos

Tom and Alice Hodson Memorial Trophy

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 238 - 242.

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| 238. Preparatory and Grade 1 Own Choice - Time limit 2 minutes | 241. Grade 6 and 7 Own Choice - Time limit 8 minutes |
| 239. Grade 2 and 3 Own Choice - Time limit 3 minutes | 242. Grade 8 and above Own Choice - Time limit 10 minutes. Only one piece/ movement to be played |
| 240. Grade 4 and 5 Own Choice - Time limit 5 minutes | |

String Duets

- | | |
|---|---|
| 243. String Duet 12 years & under Own Choice Time limit 3 minutes | 244. String Duet 18 years & under Own Choice Time limit 5 minutes |
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Instrumental Section: Brass

The Kirkham Trophy

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 245-251

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| 245. Preparatory and Grade 1 Own Choice - Time limit 2 minutes | 248. Grade 6 and 7 Own Choice -Time limit 8 minutes |
| 246. Grade 2 and 3 Own Choice - Time limit 3 minutes | 249. Grade 8 and above Own Choice Time limit 10 minutes. Only one piece/ movement to be played |
| 247. Grade 4 and 5 Own Choice - Time limit 5 minutes | |

Instrumental Section: Woodwind (excluding recorder)

The Ralph Marsden Trophy

will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 250-254

250. Prep and Grade 1 Own Choice -
Time limit 2 minutes

251. Grade 2 and 3 Own Choice -
Time limit 3 minutes

252. Grade 4 and 5 Own Choice -
Time limit 5 minutes

253. Grade 6 and 7 Own Choice -
Time limit 8 minutes

254. Grade 8 and above Own Choice -
Time limit 10 minutes. Only one piece/
movement to be played

Instrumental Section: Recorder

The Co-operative Challenge Cup

will be awarded to the performer awarded the highest mark in classes 257-258.

Recorder Solos

255. 9 years and under (Descant) Own
Choice - Time limit 2 minutes

256. 12 years and under (Descant or
Treble) Own Choice - Time limit 3
minutes

257. 14 years and under (Descant or
Treble) Own Choice - Time limit 3
minutes

258. 18 years and under (Descant or
Treble) Own Choice from any Grade 5
syllabus in current use- Time limit 5
minutes

Recorder Duets

259. 12 years and under Own Choice-
Time limit 3 minutes

260. 12 years and over Own Choice-
Time Limit 4 minutes

Instrumental Groups: Trios, Quartets or Quintets

A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 performers. May include any instrument.

Performers may enter more than once either by playing a different instrument or by playing with a different group/number of performers.

261. 12 years and under Own Choice -
Time limit 3 minutes

262. 18 years and under Own Choice -
Time Limit 5 minutes

Vocal

Choir

Choirs may present two contrasting pieces.

263. Primary School

264. Secondary School

265. Open

Junior Vocal

Time limit for all Junior vocal classes: 4 minutes

Classical

(excluding Pop, Folk, Musical Theatre and Disney)

The Collingwood Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 270 - 274

270. Prep and Grade 1

273. Grade 6 and 7

271. Grade 2 and 3

274. Grade 8 and above

272. Grade 4 and 5

Folk Song

The Frank Cronshaw Trophy will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 275 -278

275. 12 years and under

277. 16 years and under

276. 14 years and under

278. 18 years and under

Musical Theatre

The Jubilee Trophy will be awarded to the performer with the highest mark in classes 279 and 280 and the Cephos Trophy to the performer with the highest mark in classes 281 and 282

For Musical Theatre, either a backing track or the Festival accompanist may be used. If you plan to use the Festival accompanist please send your music to the Secretary by 20th January. If using a backing track, please bring it on the day.

279. 12 years and under

281. 16 years and under

280. 14 years and under

282. 18 years and under

Pop Song

Backing tracks may be used in these classes. Please bring them on the day.

283. 12 years and under

284. 14 years and under

285. 16 years and under

286. 18 years and under

Disney

287. 12 years and under

288. 14 years and under

289. 16 years and under

290. 18 years and under

Song in a language other than English

291. 12 years and under

292. 14 years and under

293. 16 years and under

294. 18 years and under

British/American Composer Class (excluding Musical Theatre/Disney/Pop/Classical)

295. 12 years and under

296. 14 years and under

297. 16 years and under

298. 18 years and under

The Committee and Contacts

President Margaret Wilson
Vice President Lorna Slinger

The Trustees

Chair	Debbie Northin	chair.blackburnfestival@gmail.com
General Secretary	Anne Collingridge	gensec.blackburnfestival@gmail.com
Treasurer and Vice Chair	Neill Oldham	treasurer.blackburnfestival@gmail.com

The Discipline Secretaries

Speech Secretary	Suganya Reddy	speech.blackburnfestival@gmail.com
Music Secretaries	Suganya Reddy and Suzanne Lowe	music.blackburnfestival@gmail.com
Dance Secretary	Anne Collingridge	dance.blackburnfestival@gmail.com

The Trophy Secretaries

Speech and Music	Susan Johnson and Carole Lindberg
Dance	Louise Kellington
Web	Hannah Collingridge web.blackburnfestival@gmail.com

Committee Members

Peggy Taylor
Ros Simpson
Mari Prescott-Jones