Rules

FIRST PIANO COMPETITION

“VILLA DE BILBAO”

19-22 June 2024
First Piano Competition
“VILLA DE BILBAO”
BCAM PRIZE 2024

Rules

1. Participation
Pianists with a nationality of the European Union may participate in the competition. The official languages of the contest are Spanish and English.

2. Categories
The contest is divided into nine categories, defined by age. However, participants may opt for a higher category, which corresponds to them by age (example: anyone born on April 20, 2009 can participate in any of the categories E,F,G,H,I).

- CATEGORY A: born after 1/1/2016 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY B: born after 1/1/2014 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY C: born after 1/1/2012 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY D: born after 1/1/2010 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY E: born after 1/1/2008 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY F: born after 1/1/2006 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY G: born after 1/1/2004 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY H: born after 1/1/2002 (inclusive)
- CATEGORY I: born after 1/1/1992 (inclusive)

3. Dates and venue
The Contest will be held on June 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2024, at Sociedad Bilbaina, Calle Navarra nº 1, in Bilbao.

4. Registration
The payment of the following fees is mandatory, to register in the Contest:

- Categories A, B and C: 40 €.
- Categories D, E and F: 50 €.
- Categories G, H and I: 60 €.

The fees have to be payed by bank transfer, with the following data:

IBAN Code: ES39 2095 0292 9132 3900 0567
SWIFT Code (BIC): BASKES2BXXX
Name of the Bank: Kutxabank
Titular of the account: Universidad del País Vasco - Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea
Concept: “NAME SURNAME” piano competition VILLA DE BILBAO

Registration is open from the date of publication of these rules until May 24, 2024, inclusive. Only those participants who have correctly completed the registration and paid the fees, within the established period, will be considered registered. Under no circumstances will registration fees, once paid, be refunded.
Registrations will be made electronically, through the Contest website: https://sites.google.com/view/villadebilbao2024

By completing the form that you can find in the “registration” link, stating:

1. Name and surname, date of birth, full address, email and mobile phone.
2. Category in which you participate
3. Name of the work(s) and/or movement(s) with which you are competing; name(s) of the composer(s) and duration of each work and/or movement.

They will also have to upload the form:

1. Copy of ID or passport
2. Proof of payment of the registration fee
3. Academic resume, no more than one page, in pdf format, indicating the professors with whom you have studied in the last two years.
4. Authorization of parents or legal guardians to participate, for minors under 18 years of age.
5. Authorization for the publication of photos and videos of the participants, on the different digital platforms and social networks related to the Contest.

5. Repertoire

The repertoire will be free choice. In categories A,B,C,D,E,F movements of works may be interpreted. In categories G,H,I, the works must be presented complete, with the exception of those parts or movements that have already been consolidated in the repertoire as independent, or those cycles of pieces that, due to their length or characteristics, are common and accepted to perform a selection of them in concert. In any case, the inclusion of said works must be consulted and explicitly accepted by the Artistic Directorate of the Contest, before the registration period ends.

The participants of the categories: G, H and I, who compete with a work by J.S. Bach, will also be eligible for the “BCAM” SPECIAL PRIZE, which will be awarded to the best interpretation of a Prelude and Fugue from “Well-Tempered Harpsichord” by Johan Sebastian Bach.

Only original works for piano will be admitted, except in those cases consecrated by tradition, consolidated in the concert repertoire of the instrument, having to be consulted and accepted, explicitly, by the Artistic Direction of the Contest, before the registration period ends.

In the event that the contestant presents more than one work and/or movement, the order of interpretation will be as detailed in the registration.

The repertoire cannot be changed once it has been accepted by the Artistic Directorate of the Contest.

Participants, at the time of their performance, must provide the Jury with 5 photocopies of the works with which they are competing.

It will not be mandatory to perform the repertoire from memory.

6. Duration of the performances

- CATEGORY A: max 3 min
- CATEGORY B: max 4 min
- CATEGORY C: max 5 min
- CATEGORY D: max 8 min
- CATEGORY E: max 10 min
- CATEGORY F: max 12 min
• CATEGORY G: max 20 min
• CATEGORY H: max 25 min
• CATEGORY I: max 30 min.

If the scheduled time is exceeded, the Jury may interrupt the contestant’s test.

7. Dates and timetable

The dates and times of the tests will be announced once the registration period has closed, through the contest website.
The Competition will take place at Sociedad Bilbaina (C/Navarra, 1 – BILBAO). Contestants must be at the scheduled time and place and will be provided with their ID or document that proves their identity.

8. Order of performances

The order of performance of each participant will be determined by randomly picking up a letter, carried out by the Secretary of the Contest. The resulting order will be produced the days prior to the event, notified to the participants by email and published on the Contest website.

9. Closing and Awards Ceremony

The closing ceremony of the event will be held on June 22, 2024 starting at 7:30 p.m. in the main hall of the Bilbaina Society. At this event, the prizes will be awarded to the absolute winners of each category, and the special BCAM prize. The event will conclude with a closing concert by the award-winning contestants of categories G,H,I and the BCAM Prize-winning contestant.

10. Jury

The Jury will be made up of prestigious pianists, designated by the Artistic Director of the Competition. The President of the Jury may interrupt a performance if it exceeds the established duration, or if he considers that it is sufficient to evaluate the performer, which does not imply a negative or positive evaluation of the interpretation. The Jury may declare the Awards void.

The Jury's decision will be unappealable.

11. Awards

The Jury will assign a natural number less than or equal to 100 to each contestant as a score. In all categories, the following prizes will be awarded:

• ABSOLUTE 1ST PRIZE: score greater than or equal to 98
• 1ST PRIZE: score between 95 and 97 (extremals included)
• 2ND PRIZE: score between 90 and 94 (extremals included)
• 3RD PRIZE: score between 85 and 89 (extremals included)
• 4TH PRIZE: score between 80 and 84 (extremals included)

The absolute 1st prize winners in each category will receive a medal and a diploma during the closing ceremony.
All other winning contestants will receive a medal and a diploma once the corresponding category has been completed and the results announced.

All contestants will receive a participation certificate.

For categories G, H, I, the following prizes will also be awarded:

- Category G: A concert shared with the winner of Category H at the Bilbao Conservatory + a scholarship of €750, to cover the mobility expenses that said concert may cause.
- Category H: A concert shared with the winner of Category G at the Bilbao Conservatory + a scholarship of €1000, to cover the mobility expenses that said concert may cause.
- Category I: Two concerts, one for the Bilbaina Society and the other for the “Associazione Musicale Igor Stravinsky” of Bari (ITALY) + a Scholarship of €1,250. to cover the mobility expenses that these concerts cause.
- Categories G, H and I: Participants who include in their repertoire the interpretation of a Prelude and Fugue from the Well-Tempered Harpsichord by J.S. Bach will be able to receive the "BCAM" Special Prize, which consists of a concert at the Bilbao Conservatory + a Scholarship of €1,000, to cover the mobility expenses that said concert may cause.

The amount of the prizes, in accordance with current legislation, will be subject to the corresponding tax withholding.

12. Acceptance of the rules

Registration in the contest implies acceptance of these rules in their entirety. The organization reserves the right to modify the bases and/or schedules, to benefit the proper development of the contest, notifying the participants with sufficient advance notice.

13. Other requirements and observations

- The organization will have the right to record, by any audiovisual means, any activity related to the Contest (tests and closing ceremony), reserving the right to use these recordings for any promotional use it deems appropriate.
- During the performances, an official photographer and/or videographer from the organization will take images of them, always trying to minimize, as far as possible, the sound and visual impact of their work.

14. Artistic Direction

The artistic direction of the contest will be in charge of:

- Luca Fanelli (Ikerbasque Research Professor at UPV/EHU & BCAM; pianist).
  Webpage: https://www.ikerbasque.net/es/luca-fanelli

The artistic co-direction of the contest will be in charge of:

- Ales Larrazabal (Head of the Bilbao Conservatorium; pianist)
- Maite Villate (Full Professor at Bilbao Conservatorium; pianist)

15. Organization

The organization of the event will be in charge of:

- Lucrezia Cossetti (Ikerbasque & Ramón y Cajal Fellow at UPV/EHU).
  Webpage: https://www.ikerbasque.net/en/lucrezia-cossetti
16. Contact

Email of the organization: contactovilladebilbao@gmail.com