

# Singapore International Young Pianist Competition 2026 (SIYPC)

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## About the Competition

The Singapore International Young Pianist Competition (SIYPC), established in 2018 by the Global International Musicians Association, will hold its 9th edition in 2026. As a sub-competition under the Singapore International Piano Competition (SIPC), the SIYPC is a certified member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation (AAF). It is organized annually and open to young pianists from around the world.

The Alink–Argerich Foundation (AAF) was founded in 1999 by world-renowned pianist Martha Argerich. It is a global non-profit organization that monitors international piano competitions and provides the most comprehensive music competition information available. Due to its authority and reputation, only a few top-tier international piano competitions are certified by AAF, including the International Chopin Piano Competition (Poland), Leeds International Piano Competition (UK), and Van Cliburn International Piano Competition (USA).

## Organizer

Global International Musicians Association (GIMA)

## Co-Organizers

- Asian Arts Alliance
- Global Artist Association

## Supporting Organizations

- Global Classical Stage Pte. Ltd
- Seoul International Education Center of Culture and Arts
- Piano Teachers' Guild of The Philippines Foundation Inc.
- BloomRuRu Group New Zealand
- Asociación Artística - Cultural DOREMI
- Macao Global International Musicians Association (MGIMA)

## Organizing Committee

- May Zhang - CEO
- Ivan Zhou - Executive Director
- Yun Zhou - Director of Young Artist Programs

## Jury Chairs

- **Albert Tiu** (Singapore) - Head of Piano, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore
- **Manchun Chen** (China) - Professor of Piano and Doctoral Supervisor, Central Conservatory of Music

## General Information

- November 2025: Regional Preliminary Rounds
- January 5, 2026: Deadline for Global Final Registration
- January 19-23, 2026: Announcement of Global Final Groupings and Schedule
- February 9-13, 2026 (tentative): Global Finals in Singapore

## Group Categories

- Participants must not exceed 28 years of age (ensemble groups must have an average age under 28).
- Students from music conservatory programs are not allowed to register for Groups 3-12 and 32-34.
- All repertoires must be performed from memory, except for Four Hands and Duo Piano categories.
- Repertoire may be repeated from previous rounds.
- Only classical music is accepted; non-classical repertoire will not be permitted.
- Website: [siypc.org](http://siypc.org).

## Video Requirements & Application Fee (Open Classes)

- This requirement applies only to contestants in Groups 1-2.
- All pieces must be performed from memory.
- The performance must be played on a well-tuned grand piano.

- The video must be recorded using a single, static camera. The camera should be positioned at a distance and angle that clearly captures the entire side profile of the pianist - from the top of the head to the feet - including the hands on the keyboard.
- The entire pre-selection round must be recorded in one continuous, unedited take. No cuts or edits are allowed.
- Performers must wear formal attire or concert dress.
- Upload the video to YouTube.
- Please complete the online application form as required and include the YouTube link.
- Application Form:



- Failure to comply with the above requirements will result in disqualification.
- Preliminary Fee: **SGD 200**
- Preliminary Application Deadline: **November 30, 2025**
- Finals Fee: **Free**
- For inquiries, please contact the official email: [info@sipc.com](mailto:info@sipc.com).

## Open Classes

*The preliminary round for this groups requires video submission to the organizing committee. Please refer to the **Video Requirements** for detailed instructions.*

### 1. Open Class A (Limited to participants up to Grade 8)

#### Preliminary Round

- One fast movement from a classical sonata (by Haydn or Mozart)
- One or more freely selected pieces
- Total performance time: 12-15 minutes

**Global Finals** – 24 selected participants qualify for free competition in Singapore

#### Round 1:

- One Prelude and Fugue from Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier* or one piece from *Three-Part Inventions*
- One or more freely selected pieces
- Total performance time: 12-15 minutes
- Top 8 advance to Round 2

**Round 2:**

*Choose one of the following concertos to perform (second piano accompanist provided by the Committee)*

- Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23 in A major, K.488
- Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 19 in F major, K.459
- Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 12 in A major, K.414
- Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 1 in C major, Op. 15
- Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, Op. 19
- Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25

**2. Open Class B** (Limited to participants in Grades 9-12)

**Preliminary Round**

- One fast movement from a classical sonata (by Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven - Op. 57 and earlier)
- One or more freely selected pieces
- Total performance time: 15-18 minutes

**Global Finals** – 24 selected participants qualify for free competition in Singapore

**Round 1:**

- One Prelude and Fugue from Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier*
- One or more freely selected pieces
- Total performance time: 15-20 minutes
- Top 8 advance to Round 2

**Round 2:**

*Choose one of the following concertos to perform (second piano accompanist provided by the Committee)*

- Grieg: Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16
- Liszt: Piano Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, S.124
- Liszt: Piano Concerto No. 2 in A major, S.125
- Saint-Saëns: Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22
- Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37
- Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor, K.466
- Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18

## Requirements & Application Fee (Other Groups)

- This requirement applies only to contestants in Groups 3-34.
- Preliminary Application Deadline: **October 30, 2025**
- Finals Fee: **SGD 1,600**
- All contestants holding passports from Southeast Asian countries (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines, and Timor-Leste) will receive a subsidy of **SGD 1,150** towards the competition participation fee from the Organizing Committee.
- For information on registration procedures for other groups, please contact the local competition organizing committee.

## Free Repertoire Groups

### 3. Free Repertoire Group A

- Preliminary Round: One piece equivalent to Grades 1–3, within 4 minutes
- Global Final: One or more pieces equivalent to Grades 1–3, within 6 minutes

### 4. Free Repertoire Group B

- Preliminary Round: One piece equivalent to Grades 4–6, within 4 minutes
- Global Final: One or more pieces equivalent to Grades 4–6, within 8 minutes

### 5. Free Repertoire Group C

- Preliminary Round: One piece equivalent to Grade 7 or above, within 6 minutes
- Global Final: One or more pieces equivalent to Grade 7 or above, within 10 minutes

## Age Based Groups

### 6. Junior Group A (*Age 5 and under, Born after Jan 1, 2020*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 4 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 6 minutes

### 7. Junior Group B (*Age 6-7, Born Jan 1, 2018-Dec 31, 2019*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 5 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 7 minutes

**8. Junior Group C** (*Age 8-9, Born Jan 1, 2016-Dec 31, 2017*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 10 minutes

**9. Junior Group D** (*Age 10-11, Born Jan 1, 2014-Dec 31, 2015*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 8 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 11 minutes

**10. Senior Group A** (*Age 12-13, Born Jan 1, 2012-Dec 31, 2013*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 9 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 12 minutes

**11. Senior Group B** (*Age 14-15, Born Jan 1, 2010-Dec 31, 2011*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 10 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 13 minutes

**12. Senior Group C** (*Age 16-17, Born Jan 1, 2008-Dec 31, 2009*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 10 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 15 minutes

**13. Young Adult Group** (*Age 18-28, Born Jan 1, 1997-Dec 31, 2007*)

- Preliminary: One self-selected piece, max 10 minutes
- Global Final: Two pieces of contrasting styles, max 15 minutes

**Ensemble Groups** (*Average age of performers must be below 28*)

**14. Four-Hands Group** (*score reading permitted*)

- Preliminary: One piece, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: One or two pieces, total max 12 minutes

**15. Concerto Group** (*performer must bring own accompanist*)

- Preliminary: One or more movements from a concerto, max 15 minutes
- Global Final: One or more movements from a concerto, max 15 minutes

**16. Duo Piano Group** (*score reading permitted*)

- Preliminary: One piece, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: One or two pieces, total max 12 minutes

**Theme Based Groups** (*For participants under 28*)

**17. Bach Group** (*Two-Part Inventions or higher level only*)

- Preliminary: Any work by Bach, max 5 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Bach, max 8 minutes

**18. Haydn Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Haydn, max 5 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Haydn, max 8 minutes

**19. Mozart Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Mozart, max 5 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Mozart, max 8 minutes

**20. Beethoven Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Beethoven, max 5 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Beethoven, max 8 minutes

**21. Mendelssohn Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Mendelssohn, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Mendelssohn, max 8 minutes

**22. Schubert Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Schubert, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Schubert, max 8 minutes

**23. Schumann Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Schumann, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Schumann, max 8 minutes

**24. Debussy Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Debussy, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Debussy, max 8 minutes

**25. Tchaikovsky Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Tchaikovsky, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Tchaikovsky, max 8 minutes

**26. Brahms Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Brahms, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Brahms, max 9 minutes

**27. Liszt Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Liszt, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Liszt, max 9 minutes

**28. Chopin Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Chopin, max 8 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Chopin, max 12 minutes

**29. Rachmaninoff Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Rachmaninoff, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Rachmaninoff, max 9 minutes

**30. Prokofiev Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Prokofiev, max 7 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Prokofiev, max 9 minutes

**31. Scriabin Group**

- Preliminary: Any work by Scriabin, max 8 minutes
- Global Final: Any work by Scriabin, max 12 minutes

**32. Graded Group A (Grades 1–3)**

- Preliminary: One graded piece from Grades 1–3, max 4 minutes
- Global Final: One or more graded pieces from Grades 1–3, max 7 minutes

### 33. Graded Group B (*Grades 4–6*)

- Preliminary: One graded piece from Grades 4–6, max 4 minutes
- Global Final: One or more graded pieces from Grades 4–6, max 8 minutes

### 34. Graded Group C (*Grade 7 or above*)

- Preliminary: One graded piece from Grade 7 or above, max 6 minutes
- Global Final: One or more graded pieces from Grade 7 or above, max 9 minutes

### 35. Contemporary Group

- Preliminary: Any one piece by a 20th or 21st Century composer, max 8 minutes
- Global Final: Any one piece by a 20th or 21st Century composer, max 10 minutes

## Evaluation Criteria & Awards

### Preliminary Round

- Scoring is based on a 100-point system.
- Contestants who receive First or Second Prize qualify for the Global Final Round.
- 90 points and above: **First Prize Certificate**; the instructor will receive a **Certificate of Outstanding Teacher Award**.
- 85–89.9 points: **Second Prize Certificate**; the instructor will also receive a **Certificate of Outstanding Teacher Award**.
- 80–84.9 points: **Third Prize Certificate**
- 79.9 points and below: **Honorable Mention Certificate**
- All certificates will be delivered via freight collect (postage to be paid by recipient).

### Global Final

- Scoring is based on a 100-point system.
- The top 6 contestants in each group will be ranked based on jury scores. Positions may be left vacant or tied.
- Students of jury members must be declared in advance and will not be scored by their instructors.
- A maximum of two contestants may tie for the same prize. The prize money will be equally shared, while each receives their own certificate and trophy.
- The top six contestants in each group who score 90 or above will receive both a trophy and a certificate.

- The instructors of the top six contestants in each group will receive a **Trophy and Certificate for International Outstanding Teacher Award**.
- All other finalists will receive a **Participation Medal and Certificate**.
- All prize money, trophies, and certificates will be announced and distributed at the Global Final award ceremony in Singapore. No replacements will be issued.
- If no contestant scores above 92 in a group, the prize money will be canceled; only certificates and trophies will be awarded.
- The award ceremony will be held in multiple sessions. Please verify the session schedule relevant to your group.

### Global Final - Cash Prizes

- **Groups 1–2 (Open Groups):** Top 3 prize winners (with scores above 92) will receive:
  - First Prize Winner: SGD 1,000
  - Second Prize Winner: SGD 800
  - Third Prize Winner: SGD 500
- **Groups 3–5 (Free Repertoire Groups):** Top scorer in each group (with score above 92) will receive:
  - SGD 100
- **Groups 6–13 (Age Groups):** Top scorer in each group (with score above 92) will receive:
  - SGD 150
- **Groups 14–16 (Ensemble Groups):** Top scorer in each group (with score above 92) will receive:
  - SGD 200
- **Groups 17–31 (Composer Themed Groups):** Top scorer in each group (with score above 92) will receive:
  - SGD 150
- **Groups 32–34 (Graded Groups):** Top scorer in each group (with score above 92) will receive:
  - SGD 100

### Video Publication Policy

The SIYPC Organizing Committee reserves the right to publish all performance videos on its website and social media platforms.

## **Final Interpretation Statement**

The Singapore International Young Pianist Competition Organizing Committee reserves the ultimate right to interpret all provisions and rules outlined in these regulations. In instances where matters are not addressed or disputes arise, the committee will render a final decision based on principles of fairness and justice. By registering for the competition, participants are deemed to have agreed to all the rules in these regulations and to accept the final interpretation by the committee. We assure that all decisions will be made with the utmost commitment to ensuring the seamless progression of the competition, upholding fairness, and respecting the rights of all participants.