



KPO NSW SECONDARY SCHOOLS CONCERTO COMPETITION 2024

COMPETITION RULES – please also read the FAQs on kpo.org.au

1. The 40th Anniversary NSW Secondary Schools Concerto Competition is open to all students in years 7 to 12, aged 18 years and under on the date of the Finals, 30 June 2024, and living or studying in NSW or the ACT.
2. There are 2 sections in the 2024 Concerto Competition:

Junior – age, 14 years and under on the date of the Finals (30 June 2024)

Senior – age, 15 years to 18 years and under on the date of the Finals (30 June 2024)
3. There are 3 stages in the competition:

Stage 1, the Auditions: video recorded solo concerto with piano accompaniment

Stage 2, the Semi-finals: live solo performance with piano accompaniment

Stage 3, the Finals Concert: solo performance with the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra (KPO).
4. The key dates and venues for each stage of the 2024 competition are:

Registrations open: 1 December 2023

Registrations close: 10 pm, Monday 4 March 2024 OR when the maximum 100 entries are submitted (whichever comes first)

Submission of recordings close 10 pm Monday 11 March 2024

Stage 1, viewing the video auditions Sunday 24 March 2024 (3 adjudicators assessing a downloaded and collated reel of all performances, together at a private venue)

Stage 2, Semi-Finals; 20 semi-finalists performing live to an open audience, Sunday 7 April 2024, from 11 am to 6 pm at Abbotsleigh Senior School, Wahroonga (venue to be confirmed)

Stage 3, the Finals Concert: Sunday 30 June 2024 at 3pm at The Concourse, Chatswood.
5. Please note that Stage 1 will be adjudicated by assessment of submitted video recordings. Each recording must include a short spoken introduction of the entrant's name and the title of the work being performed. The total length of the recording, including your introduction, must not exceed 5 minutes. Please discuss with your teacher the “best sections” of your concerto to submit for the Stage 1 adjudication.

Performance timetables for the Stage 2, Semi-Finals, will be available on kpo.org.au/cc after Tuesday 2 April 2024.



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Please note: any special Stage 2 requests must be indicated on the registration form. All requests will be reviewed and accommodated where possible.

Rehearsals with the orchestra for the Finals Concert will be on Tuesday evenings and will commence on Tuesday 28 May 2024. Finalists will be sent a rehearsal schedule by email two weeks in advance.

6. Competitors must nominate to perform a concerto, movement(s) of a concerto or an instrumental solo with orchestral accompaniment. The entry form must state the total performance time for the nominated movements that will be played at the Finals Concert, should the competitor proceed through the Auditions and Semi-finals.

Please note: it is important to understand that for the Finals Concert:

Music chosen by competitors must have an orchestral score and parts readily available in Australia. Scores and parts which are not available in Australia will incur additional costs for competitors.

If orchestral parts are not available, the competitor must withdraw from the competition

The choice of work and movements nominated on the registration form cannot be altered after the closing date for entries (4 March 2024).

7. For Stage 1, the Auditions, upload your 5 minute video recording (including very short introduction of your name and work) as described on the Concert Competition website.

Twenty competitors will be selected to proceed to the semi-finals, including at least one Junior, and at least one Senior.

8. For Stage 2, the Semi-finals, the allocated time for each solo competitor is up to 15 minutes.
9. For the Finals Concert, longer works may require some sections to be cut. The conductor of the finals concert will make the final decision.
10. For Stages 1 and 2, the Auditions and Semi-finals, competitors must perform with piano accompaniment. Competitors may provide their own accompanist or choose an pianist from the KPO's database of accompanists, available upon request at concertcomp@kpo.org.au. Competitors should bring a separate copy of the piano accompaniment to Stage 2, the Semi-finals.
11. Competitors should provide a copy of their music for use by the adjudicators at the Semi-finals. Authorised copies and original parts can be collected from the front desk during the allocated breaks. Photocopies will be retained and destroyed by the KPO in accordance with copyright law.



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12. The following awards will be presented following the Finals Concert:

- a) Overall winner, awarded to the best performer across both the Junior and Senior sections: \$5,000 plus the opportunity to perform a full concerto with the KPO as a guest artist.
 - b) Barbara Robinson award: \$1,000
 - c) Barbara Cran award: \$1,000
- Perpetual cups, awarded to schools of the overall winner, Barbara Robinson award winner and the Barbara Cran award winner
 - KPO players' award, awarded to the best performer (as voted by KPO players and the KPO finals concert conductor) during the KPO finals concert rehearsals: \$500.00.
 - All finalists will receive \$250.00 and a certificate.
 - Other possible prizes, from our generous Sponsors, will be confirmed closer to the time of the Finals Concert, at the discretion of the Concerto Competition Committee.

13. The overall winner cannot enter the competition again in subsequent years on the same instrument. A Junior section winner of either the Barbara Cran or Barbara Robinson award cannot enter as a Junior again on the same instrument, but may compete in the Senior section.

14. Competitors must be prepared to perform at their scheduled times at Stage 2, the semi-finals.

Please note: Under no circumstances can changes be made to the schedule once it is published.

15. Video and audio recording is only permitted during the dress rehearsal for the Finals Concert. No other recording of any competitor will be permitted during any public performance. The Finals Concert will be recorded and live-streamed on Australian Digital Concert Hall

16. All competitors perform at their own risk and KPO will not accept responsibility for any accident or misadventure.

17. No provision will be made for private rehearsal time in competition venues. For the Semifinals and Finals, warm-up times at the venue will be assigned before the performance time.

18. The decision of the adjudicators is final, and no discussion will be entered into.

19. The KPO reserves the right not to award prizes.

20. Registration Fees: \$60.00. The registration fee includes:



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- a) One student ticket to the Finals Concert
- b) adjudicator report from Stage 1, the Auditions
- c) adjudicator report from Stage 2, the Semi-finals

21. All registrations and payments must be made online at www.kpo.org.au.
22. Registrations must be received by 10 pm, Monday 4 March 2024. Only the first 100 registrations received by this date will proceed through to the auditions. (Please note: in 2023 the 100 entry limit was reached in the last week so please do not leave entries until the last date)
- The adjudicators' names will be published on the KPO's website at www.kpo.org.au as soon as details become available.
23. All competitors must abide by these Competition Rules and KPO's Privacy Policy, available at kpo.org.au/privacy.
24. By submitting the NSW Secondary Schools Concerto Competition entry form, all competitors consent to the KPO using any information contained in the entry form (plus any photography, videography or audio recordings taken at the competition) for media publication (including on KPO's social media pages in accordance with KPO's Social Media Policy, available at kpo.org.au/socialmedia).
25. If a competitor does not comply with these Rules, they may be disqualified from competing in the competition at the Concerto Competition Committee's absolute discretion.

Please also read the FAQs on the KPO website

<https://www.kpo.org.au/current/concertocomp> which contains important information, and will help understanding these Rules. All enquiries should be emailed to concertocomp@kpo.org.au.