

Rules & Regulations

I

1. The 1st National Piano Competition for Young Pianists “Shumen”, 2027 (henceforth referred to as “Competition”) is organized by the “Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi” Foundation (henceforth referred to as “Organizer”).
2. The Competition will be held at the “Prof. Veneta Vicheva” Hall, Shumen on **7-10 May 2026**.
3. The Chairman of the Jury will be Prof. Marian Rybicki.
4. The Jury will comprise renowned musicians from Bulgaria and abroad.
5. All Competition rounds will be open to the public and will take place at the “Prof. Veneta Vicheva” Hall in Shumen. The event will be broadcast online via YouTube.

II

1. The Competition is open to pianists of music schools born in the years 2005-2020, who will participate in four age categories:
 - a) I group – for those born between 2018-2020;
 - b) II group – for those born between 2015-2017;
 - c) III group – for those born between 2011-2014;
 - d) IV group – for those born between 2005-2010.
2. Students of jurors may not participate in the Competition.

III

1. In order to participate in the Competition the candidate should complete and send via the website the application form within the deadline.
2. The application form should be completed in Bulgarian (or English).
3. The application form is available on the website of

Candidates should prepare the following documents in order to effectively complete the form:

- a precise description of the repertoire performed during the Competition; the pieces should be listed in the order of performance;

- one recent portrait photo, vertical, in high resolution 300-1200 dpi, which will be included in the Competition Catalogue;
- photocopies of diplomas of previously received awards;
- a short artistic CV (presenting previous concert experience, participation in other competitions, awards etc.);
- link to a video recording uploaded on YouTube containing one piece from the contestant's programme performed by the candidate (the video image must show the pianist's handwork, filmed with one camera without cuts during the performance of a piece);
- confirmation of payment of the recruitment fee (the fee is as follows below and is non-refundable).

Age Group I:

60 EUR

Age Group II:

80 EUR

Age Group III:

100 EUR

Age Group IV:

120 EUR

The fee should be paid to the Foundation's account:

Recipient: Foundation "Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi

IBAN:

Bank:

BIC:

Transfer title: *Competition name, candidate's name and surname.*

4. The deadline for online application is March 14, 2027 at 23:59 (Sofia, Bulgaria time). Applications submitted after that time will not be accepted.
5. Incomplete applications will be discarded.
6. After correctly sending the complete application, you will receive an e-mail message confirming the acceptance of the application for the Competition. In the event that confirmation is not obtained, it is necessary to contact the Organizer.
7. The confirmation e-mail does not mean qualifying to the Competition.
8. Individuals who qualify for the Competition will be decided by the Competition Committee.
9. After the Committee's reviews of the written applications, the list of people qualified to participate in the Competition will be made public by announcement on the Competition's website by April 14, 2027.
10. Further details will be sent via e-mail no later than April 21, 2027.
11. The deadline for paying the registration fee is March 14, 2027 at 23:59 (Sofia, Bulgaria time).
12. The entry fee is non-refundable.
13. The organizer envisages a reserve list to qualify for the Competition, in the case of resignation of any of the qualified participants. Qualifying decisions will be announced by April 11, 2027.
14. The Organiser reserves the right to confirm or deny the acceptance to the Competition without explanation.
15. The decisions of the Organizers are final and cannot be appealed.
16. The candidate's submission of Competition application will be tantamount to the candidate's acceptance of Rules of the Competition.
17. All correspondence relating to the participation in the Competition should be completed in Bulgarian or English language.

IV

1. The dates of the auditions will be published on Competition's website.
2. Participants in their individual age categories will perform in an alphabetical order starting from a letter drawn by the Committee.

3. The Organizer provides participants with the opportunity to have a 10-minute practice session at the “Prof. Veneta Vicheva” Hall in Shumen at the appointed time before the day of their audition. The participants will be provided with practice schedule times in different venues in Shumen. The participants will be notified of the date and time of their rehearsals, performance, and practice schedule by e-mail.

4. The Organizer reserves the right to change the order of performances, if necessary.

5. Participants are required to show up to the competition location ("Prof. Veneta Vicheva" Hall) no later than 24 hours prior to their audition day for registration at the competition.

6. Participants are required to show up to the audition location no later than 2 hours before the scheduled audition time.

7. During registration at the Competition Office (“Prof. Veneta Vicheva Hall”), participants are obliged to present a valid document confirming their date of birth: passport or ID card.

8. The Organizer offers participants the opportunity of additional piano practice in the following music schools: – the Organiser covers the costs of 2-hour practice a day for each participant.

9. All costs associated with participation in the Competition ie. travel, accommodation, food, are the responsibility of the participant.

V

Repertoire

1. Obligatory Competition Repertoire:

Age Group I:

Free choice of program:

-must include 1 virtuosic piece.

Maximum duration: 10 - 12 minutes.

Age Group II:

1. J. S. Bach – one work of the participant’s choice *

2. A virtuosic etude.

3. One of the following works by P. Vladigerov listed below:

-Prispivna from Miniatures “Shumen”, Op. 29;

-Rachenitsa from Miniatures “Shumen”, Op. 29;

-Rachenitsa from Aquarelles, Op. 37;

4. One or more works of free choice.

** In the case of a Suite or a Partita by J. S. Bach chosen it is necessary to perform only one movement.*

** In the case of Prelude and Fugue chosen from the WTC I or WTC II by J. S. Bach, it is necessary to perform the complete work.*

Maximum duration: 15 - 20 minutes.

Age Group III:

1st round:

1. J. S. Bach - a Prelude and Fugue from WTC I or WTC II;

2. One of the following works by P. Vladigerov listed below:

-Perpetuum Mobile Op. 59;

-Toccata Op. 36;

-Ritmichno Dvizhenie from "Aquarelles", Op. 37;

-Gospodsko Horo from "Bulgarian Songs and Dances", Op. 25;

3. One virtuosic etude by F. Chopin (Op. 10 or Op. 25), F. Liszt (Paganini Etudes or Transcendental Études) or S. Rachmaninoff (Op. 39);

4. One or more works of the candidate's choice.

Maximum duration: 15 - 20 minutes.

2nd Round:

1. First movement of a Sonata by J. Haydn, W. A. Mozart or L. v. Beethoven;

2. One or more works of the candidate's choice.

Maximum duration: 25 - 30 minutes.

Age Group IV:

1st round:

1. J. S. Bach - a Prelude and Fugue from WTC I or WTC II;
2. One or more virtuosic Etudes by F. Chopin (Op. 10 or Op. 25), F. Liszt (Paganini Etudes or Transcendental Etudes) or S. Rachmaninoff (Op. 39);
3. One or more works of the candidate's choice.

Maximum duration: 20-25 minutes.

2nd round:

1. One or more works by P. Vladigerov listed below:

- Perpetuum Mobile Op. 59;
- Toccata Op. 36;
- Ritmichno Dvizhenie from "Aquarelles", Op. 37;
- Gospodsko Horo from "Bulgarian Songs and Dances", Op. 25;

2. A complete Sonata by J. Haydn, W. A. Mozart or L. v. Beethoven **OR** one of the following big works:

- F. Liszt - Après une lecture du Dante - Fantasia quasi sonata, S161/7;
- F. Schubert - Wanderer Fantasy in C Major, Op. 15
- F. Liszt - Sonata in B Minor, S. 178;
- F. Chopin - Sonata No. 3 in B Minor, Op. 58;

3. One or more works of the candidate's choice.

Maximum duration: 40-45 minutes.

2. If a participant exceeds the time limit, the Jury reserves the right to interrupt the performance.
3. All pieces must be performed by memory.
4. All works must be performed in the order entered in the application form.

5. The participant has the right to change the audition programme (including the order of the audition programme) by informing the Organiser until **March 31, 2027** by e-mail. Changes after that date will not be allowed.

6. In preparing the Competition programme, all editions of pieces can be used. In case of the compositions of Fryderyk Chopin, it is suggested to use the National Edition edited by Prof. Jan Ekier.

VI

Prizes

1. Monetary prizes:

Age Group I:

1st Prize 300 EUR

2nd Prize 200 EUR

3rd Prize 100 EUR

Age Group II:

1st Prize 600 EUR

2nd Prize 400 EUR

3rd Prize 200 EUR

Age Group III:

1st Prize 1200 EUR

2nd Prize 900 EUR

3rd Prize 600 EUR

Age Group IV:

1st Prize 2000 EUR

2nd Prize 1500 EUR

3rd Prize 1000 EUR

2. The Jury reserves the right to award additional prizes to the participants:

Grand Prix - 1000 EUR

Foundation “Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi” Prize - 700 EUR

Best performance of a Bulgarian work - 500 EUR

3. All participants will receive diplomas of participation.

4. The Jury reserves the right to award more than one main prize or distinction in each age category.

5. The Jury reserves the right to change the number and arrangement of the main prize by a majority of 3/5 votes, provided that the total amount allocated for the main prizes may be increased only with the consent of the Foundation “Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi” and that the amount of none of the prizes will be reduced.

6. The Jury may choose to withdraw from awarding prizes, choose not to award additional prizes or make different division of prize money (in case of “*ex aequo*”)

7. The Jury may choose the best competitor to receive the Grand Prix Award.

8. Decisions made by the Jury are final and cannot be appealed.

VII

1. Jury members are chosen by the Organizer: “Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi” Foundation.

2. The names of the Jury will be published soon.

3. The Jury will follow the rules set by the Organizer.

VIII

1. The announcement of the winners of main prizes, special prizes and distinctions will be held during the Gala Concert (Prizewinners’ Concert) in “Prof. Veneta Vicheva” Hall, in Shumen, which will take place on **May 10, 2027**.

2. Laureates and distinctions winners of each age group are required to participate in the Gala Concert.

3. The Gala Concert programme is decided by the Jury.

4. The list of laureates will be officially published in the website of the Competition.

IX

1. The Organizer reserves the right to broadcast the Competition on the internet and use the participants' images as well as the audio, radio, television recordings and photos taken during the Competition at a location of the Organizer's choosing without additional remuneration for the participant.

2. The Organizer has the right to make decisions related to the Competition, which are final and cannot be appealed.

3. All disagreements with the regulations or programme will disallow the participant from participating in the Competition.

4. In the case of any disagreements, the final decision of the Organizer will be in Bulgarian.

5. All additional information is provided by the Foundation "Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi" at the following address:

"Hasan and Ibrahim Ignatovi" Foundation
ul. Probuda 10, Kaolinovo, 9960
BULGARIA

www.....

Contact:

Bulgarian: +359 88 928 8459

English: +359 88 928 8459

E-mail: XYZ

6. All current information regarding the Competition will be published on the Competition website at www.