



## 2022 Syllabus for Singing Competitions

North London Festival of Music, Speech and  
Drama:

Monday 14 March – Friday 1 April and  
Saturday 23 April – Saturday 14 May

Edith Poulsen Singing and Accompanists'  
Recital Prize Competition – Monday 25 April  
Singing Competitions – Thursday 17,  
Thursday 24 and Thursday 31 March



## **Performance Opportunity**

The North London Festival has a link with the Royal Orchestral Society – [www.royalorchestralsociety.org.uk](http://www.royalorchestralsociety.org.uk) – which is celebrating its 150th anniversary season in 2022/2023. As part of that celebration, there will be a ‘Rising Talent’ evening in the Duke’s Hall of the Royal Academy of Music, at 6 pm on **Sunday 16th October 2022**. This concert will feature performances with the orchestra by talented young and upcoming soloists and will be followed by a reception with the ROS's Patron Judith Weir, Master of the Queen’s Music.

ROS will offer one or two of these performance opportunities to recent winners of the Festival’s elite competitions, such as the — Edith Poulsen Singing Recital and Accompanists’ Prize Competition. You can still be eligible to take advantage of this opportunity by entering this year’s Edith Poulsen Competition.

## 200 and 201 — Edith Poulsen Singing Recital and Accompanists' Prize Competition — Monday 25 April, 10:30 am

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

### Adjudicators:

#### Singers — Janis Kelly — Accompanists — James Baillieu

The singing competition is open to singers who are at conservatoire, have graduated within the last three years or are awaiting the start of their post-graduate course. The accompanists' competition is open to pianists who are at conservatoire or are awaiting the start of their post-graduate course.

Singers of a high standard unable to fulfil the above criteria should instead enter competition one of the other Festival singing competitions.

The recital can last up to 20 minutes with a maximum of five pieces. Entrants must sing one choice from each of four out of the five categories listed below, plus a fifth piece of their own choice, if desired.

1. Early English or Italian song from the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.
2. A song from the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century sung in German, French or another European language.
3. An aria from an opera, to be sung in the original language, with or without recitative.
4. An aria from an oratorio, in the original language or in English, with or without recitative.
5. A 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century English or American art-song or folksong.

Singers and accompanists should enter separately, but include a note on their entry if they are to perform together:

Singers should enter competition 200 – entry fee £35

Accompanists should enter competition 201 – entry fee £25

A **£500 cash prize** will be awarded to the highest placed singer. This will be given in memory of **Edith Poulsen**, who was born in Vienna on 10 April 1918, arrived in London on 6 April 1939 as a refugee and passed away on 4 April 2020. Her grandfather first took her as a 7-year-old to see the opera Hansel and Gretel, and she became hooked, enjoying opera for the rest of her life. She was an annual visitor to Welsh National Opera, where her last visit was to see Hansel and Gretel, aged 97.

A **cash prize of £300** will be awarded to the highest-placed accompanist.

The prizes will be awarded not only for the performance of a balanced and well-designed programme but also for the most refined and developed sense of stagecraft. Competitors will find themselves adjudicated not only on the depth of their musicianship but also on how they present themselves and generally connect with an audience. A verbal introduction to the musical programme is an integral part of the performance.



## **Singing Competitions**

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

### **The following information applies to each of the three days of singing competitions**

All entrants may sing with or without instrumental accompaniment, but no backing tracks are allowed. Pieces may not be repeated in different competitions. All entrants, but especially those with younger voices, should ensure they present vocally appropriate repertoire.

Entrants must provide the Adjudicator with a clean copy of the music for each work to be performed. Pieces may not be repeated in different competitions.

Entrants are reminded to introduce themselves and the piece(s) they are singing and to wear dress appropriate for a performance.

Enter online via the Festival's website – ***Closing Date – Monday 28 February***

For each entry, age is the ***age on 1st September 2021*** so that all the entrants in a class are in the same school year.

If an entrant has been a pupil of the Adjudicator in the year prior to the Festival or is well-known to the Adjudicator, they should contact the Section Head before entering.

Singers wishing to perform their own compositions may like to enter one of the composition classes.



## Singing Day 1, 4:30 pm on Thursday 17 March

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

### Adjudicator: Jonathan Rathbone

Enter online via the Festival's website – **Closing Date – Monday 28 February**

		Time Limit (mins)	Fee £
202	<p>Solo Recital — 17 years and over, any voice. Competition for dedicated amateur singers of a high standard (comparable to Grade 7 and above), including those working towards conservatoire entry. A 15-minute recital programme of own choice of contrasting songs and arias.</p>	15	25.00
203	<p>Association of English Singers and Speakers Prize — 14 years and over, any voice. One song by a British composer and one poem by a British poet, performed in English. The candidate should introduce the programme and may choose whether to recite or sing first. The song and poem should share a common theme. The Association of English Speakers and Singers (AESS) will award a cup and an exclusive AESS Songbook. The winner may be asked to perform at the London Song Festival, at the adjudicator's discretion.</p>	8	18.00
204	<p><b>Musical Theatre</b> — 16 years and over, any voice. Two songs of contrasting moods/styles from light opera, musical theatre, or cabaret.</p>	10	23.00



## Singing Day 2, 4:30 pm on Thursday 24 March

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

**Adjudicator: Zoe South**

Enter online via the Festival's website – **Closing Date – Monday 28 February**

		<b>Time Limit (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
205	Senior Early Music — 16 years and over, any voice. One song from the Medieval, Renaissance or Baroque periods to be performed in the original language.	5	15.00
206	Opera/Operetta — 16 years and over, any voice. One aria from an opera or operetta, with or without recitative, to be sung in English or the original language.	7	16.00
207	Oratorio — 16 years and over, any voice. One aria from an oratorio, with or without recitative, to be sung in English or the original language.	7	16.00
208	Lieder/Melodie — 16 years and over, any voice. One song by, for example, Brahms, Debussy, Duparc, Fauré, Hahn, Poulenc, Schubert, Schumann, R Strauss, or Wolf to be performed in the original language.	5	15.00
209	Adult Vocal Duet — both performers 16 years and over, any voice. Duet from any opera, oratorio, operetta, musical or folk genre, original or arrangement. If you would like to sing a duet but need help finding someone to work with, please email us and we will put you in touch with other entrants who have also expressed an interest.	7	<b>10.00 per performer</b>



## Singing Day 3 at 4:30 on Thursday 31 March

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

**Adjudicator: Jonathan Rathbone**

Enter online via the Festival's website – ***Closing Date – Monday 28 February***

		Time Limit (mins)	Fee £
210	<b>Musical Theatre</b> — 15 years and under. One song from a show or musical film, including some spoken word if appropriate. Costumes and props are unnecessary but, if used, should be simple.	5	15.00
211	<b>Junior Early Music</b> — 15 years and under. One song from the Medieval, Renaissance or Baroque period to be performed in the original language.	5	15.00
212	<b>Junior Solo</b> — 12 to 15 years. One own-choice song from the classical repertoire.	4	14.00
213	<b>Children's Solo</b> — 11 years and under. One own-choice song from the classical repertoire	3	14.00
214	<b>Junior Vocal Harmony</b> — 15 years and under. 2 to 8 voices with one voice to a part. Any song from any genre.	5	<b>7.00 per performer</b>
215	<b>Popular Song</b> — 15 years and under. To be performed with live instrumental accompaniment. No backing tracks allowed.	5	15.00

## Choirs and Ensembles

The 2022 competitions will be online, with choirs submitting a video of their performance rather than performing live. Every choir will receive a written adjudication sheet and a certificate of participation. We are very grateful to **Jonathan Rathbone**, the adjudicator, who has agreed to write a dedicated arrangement of a choral piece for the best overall performance.

The overall winning choir will also receive a **£200 cash prize**.

All choirs from the UK or Ireland are welcome.

### Adjudicator: Jonathan Rathbone

Entry Fee £50 per choir.

Enter online via the Festival's website – **Closing Date – Monday 28 February**

All entrants will be invited to a Zoom meeting at 4:30 pm on **Wednesday 4 May** to hear a general adjudication and selected performances. The Zoom will start with adjudication of class 252 for children's choirs.

There will be three choir classes:

		Time Limit (mins)	Fee £
250	<b>Any age</b> , any voice type, either unison or in parts, with a minimum of 6 voices. Two contrasting pieces lasting no longer than 8 minutes in total. With or without accompaniment.	8	50.00
251	<b>Young people's choir</b> aged 18 years * and under, any voice type, either unison or in parts, with a minimum of 6 voices. Two contrasting songs lasting no longer than 8 minutes in total. With or without accompaniment.	8	50.00
252	<b>Children's choir</b> aged 11 years * and under, any voice type, either unison or in parts, with a minimum of 6 voices. Two contrasting songs lasting no longer than 8 minutes in total. With or without accompaniment.	8	50.00

\* Age is considered to be the age on **1st September 2021**, so that everyone from the same school year is in the same class.





# NORTH LONDON FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA

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For venues, a full list of competitions and an online entry form, visit

[www.northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://www.northlondonfestival.org.uk)

or email: [enquiriesnlf@outlook.com](mailto:enquiriesnlf@outlook.com)