

# Brazenose Violin Competition 2026

## Terms and Conditions of Entry

### 1. Promoter

The Brazenose Violin Competition 2026 (“the Competition”) is organised and administered by **Stamford Strings**, Stamford, Lincolnshire, United Kingdom (“the Promoter”).

### 2. Competition Overview

The Competition will culminate in a **live final round on 10 October 2026** held at:

St Martin’s Church  
St Martin’s, Stamford  
Lincolnshire, PE9 2LF  
United Kingdom

Finalists will be selected from submitted video applications.

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### 3. Eligibility

3.1 Entrants must be **aged between 12 and 24 years old** on the date of the Competition Final (10 October 2026).

3.2 Entrants must be **resident in the United Kingdom** and may be required to provide proof of residency.

3.3 Entrants will be expected to be **working around Grade 8 standard** or equivalent. This is a guideline only and there are no exam requirements.

3.4 By entering the Competition, entrants confirm that all information provided is accurate and complete.

3.5 The Promoter reserves the right to verify eligibility and to disqualify any entrant who does not meet the requirements.

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### 4. Entry Process

4.1 Entries must be submitted via the **Stamford Strings website**.

4.2 Entries open on **30 March 2026**.

4.3 The **closing date for entries is 1 August 2026**. Entries received after this date will not be accepted.

4.4 Applicants must submit:

- A completed application form
- A **video recording of their performance** created within the last **12 months**
- A link to the video hosted on an accessible platform such as **YouTube, Vimeo, or Google Drive**, in **MP4 format**.
- The **competition entry fee**

4.5 Video recordings will be used for **preliminary selection only**. Production quality is not important; evaluation will be based solely on musical performance.

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## 5. Entry Fee

5.1 The entry fee for the Competition is **£45**.

5.2 The entry fee must be paid **at the time of submitting the application**.

5.3 Entries submitted without payment will not be processed.

5.4 **Entry fees are non-refundable**, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Promoter.

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## 6. Selection of Finalists

6.1 A panel of judges will review all eligible video submissions.

6.2 A maximum of **15 finalists** will be invited to perform in the live final round.

6.3 Finalists will be announced on **1 September 2026**.

6.4 All finalists must confirm their availability to attend the Competition Final in person on **10 October 2026**.

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## 7. Competition Final

7.1 The Competition Final will take place on **10 October 2026** between approximately **9:30am and 7:00pm** at St Martin's Church, Stamford.

7.2 Each finalist must perform a **programme not exceeding 30 minutes**.

7.3 Candidates may present **repertoire of their own choice**, which may include:

- a complete concerto or sonata, or
- a contrasting programme of works from different styles or periods.

7.4 The final schedule and running order will be issued after finalists are confirmed.

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## 8. Accompanists

8.1 Candidates may either:

- provide their own accompanist and page turner, or
- request the Competition's official accompanist **Susie Summers**.

8.2 If using the official accompanist, this must be indicated **at the time of application** and repertoire details must be provided.

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## 9. Judging

9.1 The Competition will be judged by a panel consisting of:

- Gaby Lester
- Michael Petrov
- Berent Korfker

9.2 The judges' decision is **final and binding**, and no correspondence will be entered into regarding their decisions.

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## 10. Prizes

Prizes are expected to include:

### First Prize

- A **Brazenose Violin**
- A performance opportunity at the **Brazenose Concert Series in 2027**

### Second Prize *(subject to confirmation)*

- Pirastro **KorfkerRest / Spring**

### Runners-up Prizes *(subject to confirmation)*

- Pirastro strings

The Promoter reserves the right to modify prizes if necessary due to circumstances beyond its control.

Prizes are **non-transferable and no cash alternative will be offered.**

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## 11. Prize Conditions

11.1 The winner of the Brazenose Violin agrees:

- not to sell, transfer, or give away the instrument to a third party
- to perform on the violin at the **Brazenose Chamber Concert in May 2027**

11.2 If, in the future, the winner wishes to upgrade to a different instrument, they agree to **first approach Stamford Strings for assistance** and not to sell or transfer the violin independently.

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## 12. Publicity, Data Protection and Privacy

12.1 By entering the Competition, participants agree that their name, image, and performance may be used by the Promoter for:

- promotional materials
- social media
- websites
- press coverage related to the Competition.

12.2 No additional compensation will be provided for such use.

12.3 Stamford Strings will collect and process personal information submitted as part of the Brazenose Violin Competition application.

This may include:

- name
- date of birth
- contact details
- education information
- teacher contact details
- proof of UK residency
- video recordings and application materials

This information will be used solely for:

- administering the competition
- assessing applications
- contacting applicants
- promoting the competition and its results.

Personal data will be stored securely and will not be shared with third parties except where necessary for the administration of the competition (for example, sharing application materials with the judging panel).

Applicants may request access to their personal data or request deletion of their information by contacting Stamford Strings.

By submitting an application, entrants consent to the processing of their personal data for the purposes of administering the competition.

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### 13. Audience and Tickets

13.1 Members of the public may attend the Competition Final.

13.2 Ticket prices will be:

- **£10 per session**
- **£20 day pass**

13.3 Ticket holders are invited to attend the **Prize Presentation**.

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### 14. Event Arrangements

14.1 Warm-up facilities will be available at **Stamford Strings**.

14.2 Candidates will have access to a warm-up room **30 minutes before their scheduled performance time**.

14.3 A **luthier will be available on the day** for instrument setup assistance.

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### 15. Liability

15.1 The Promoter accepts no responsibility for:

- lost, delayed, or corrupted submissions
- technical issues with video links or uploads
- travel or accommodation costs incurred by participants.

15.2 Participants attend and perform **at their own risk**.

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## **16. Cancellation or Changes**

The Promoter reserves the right to:

- amend these Terms and Conditions
- alter the competition format
- cancel the event

if circumstances beyond its control make this necessary.

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## **17. Acceptance of Terms**

By submitting an entry to the Brazenose Violin Competition, applicants confirm that they **have read, understood, and agree to these Terms and Conditions**.

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