Don Valley Festival

The Arts, Music & Drama

2027 SYLLABUS

your Chance to SHINE



19th to 21st March 2027



2026 IN PICTURES

Don Valley Festival

EST. 1912

The Arts, Music & Drama

Registered Charity Number: 1043437

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SPEECH AND DRAMA

ADJUDICATED BY:

Peter Dayson,
Cert ed, LGSM, BFRD

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MUSIC

ADJUDICATED BY:

Donal McCrisken, MA, BMus, LTCL, MTD, AdvCertEd

Maria Jagusz, GRNCM, FISM

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19 to 21 March 2027

Entry closing dates:

Music/Drama: 31 January 2027

Photography/Art: 2 March 2027

WE'RE HOLDING OUR FESTIVAL HERE:

Sir Thomas Wharton Academy

Tait Avenue, Edlington,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire,
DN12 1HH

INCLUSIVE MUSIC MAKING CLASSES FOR SEND ARE HELD HERE:

The Parish Church of Saint Jude, Hexthorpe,
146 Shadyside, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN4 0DG

The festival does not assume the role of a parent. It's important that either you or a responsible adult ensures proper supervision of your child while they are at the festival.



Kindly inform your family, friends, and supporters that recording (whether photographic, audio, or video) is strictly prohibited during performances.

WE CHARGE A SMALL FEE FOR AUDIENCE TICKETS:

As a non-profit charity, these funds help cover our costs.
Thank you for your continued support.

- It's free for Under 16s
- Single Session (Morning, Afternoon, or Evening): £3
- All Day Ticket: £5
- All Weekend Ticket: £7
- Programme: £3

Remember, your ticket isn't just for one performance – it's valid for the whole session, so you can enjoy both music and drama classes while it lasts.

HELLO...

A warm welcome to our 2027 Festival

We are looking forward to another Festival full of creativity, confidence and local talent.

OUR 2026 WINNERS

Congratulations to **Lily**, Overall Winner of Speech & Drama, and **Aurelia**, Musician of the Year. Their achievements reflect the dedication and enthusiasm of our wonderful performers.

THANK YOU, JO PAYNE

After **25 years** of supporting the Festival in many different roles, Jo has stepped back as Trophy Coordinator. Her time, kindness and commitment have made a lasting difference. We are enormously grateful for everything she has done for the Festival and its performers.
Thank you, Jo!



Lily
2026 Overall Winner (Speech & Drama)



Aurelia
2026 Musician of the Year

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER?

We are looking for a new **Trophy Coordinator** and more helping hands for Festival weekend. Whether you can spare a few hours or take on a regular role, we would love to hear from you.

Visit **donvalleyfestival.org.uk/volunteer**

or email **contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk**.

See you on 19-21 March 2027!

HELP THE FESTIVAL THRIVE

As one of Doncaster's longest-running festivals, formerly the Mexborough Music Festival, we are proud to nurture local talent. You can support us by sponsoring a class for just £20. Scan the QR code to donate or contact a member of the team.

SCAN ME!

OUR TEAM

contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk

Dorothy Weaver
PRESIDENT

Nick Moss
CHAIR

Neil Barnby
VICE CHAIR

Jean Stewart
TREASURER

Audrey Harwood
GENERAL SECRETARY

VACANCY
MUSIC TROPHIES
Liz Crowcroft
DRAMA TROPHIES

SPEECH AND DRAMA

COORDINATED BY: Dorothy Weaver
Contact: 07880 732760

MUSIC

COORDINATED BY: Jean Stewart
Contact: 07443 915260

ART

COORDINATED BY:
Liz Crowcroft **07895 001650**

PHOTOGRAPHY

COORDINATED BY: Heather King
Contact: 07515 890783

Mike Gallafant
SPECIAL NEEDS
COORDINATOR

Nigel Gyte
OFFICIAL ACCOMPANIST

NEED HELP RETURNING A TROPHY?

contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

These are the key regulations for performers, teachers and families. Please read carefully before entering. Full regulations are available online.

Eligibility

- Open to amateur performers only, except the Recital Class and bona fide choir members.
- Teachers with professional qualifications may enter provided performance is not a significant source of income.
- Ensemble and choir performers must be genuine group members.
- Age limits are calculated on 31 January 2027.
- Duologues enter the class of the eldest performer.
- A performer may enter the same solo class only once. The same piece may not be entered in more than one class unless performed on a different instrument in the appropriate class.

Entries and Copyright

- Closing dates:
  - Music/Speech & Drama: 31 January 2027
  - Art/Photography: 2 March 2027
- Late entries are not normally accepted. Exceptions are at the Executive Committee's discretion.
- Own-choice material may be changed until 14 February 2027. Later changes require Co-ordinator approval.
- Original, lawful copies of music and texts must be used.
- Speech and Drama texts must be uploaded with the entry.
- Solo readings must acknowledge the author and title, use a reasonable extract and last no more than 10 minutes. Complete works require permission unless out of copyright.
- Performers are responsible for obtaining any copyright permission and paying any royalties required for duologues, group drama, musical theatre or other material not covered by the Festival's licensing arrangements.
- Explicit, mature or distressing material must be declared. The Festival may reject unsuitable material.

Accompanists and Backing Tracks

- Performers may bring their own accompanist or request the official accompanist at entry for £4 per class.
- Music must be sent promptly to jean.stewart@donvalleyfestival.org.uk. The official accompanist cannot be guaranteed if music is late.
- Permitted backing tracks must be uploaded as MP3 or WAV files at least three weeks before the Festival. Streaming links are not accepted.
- Tracks must not contain the performer's own part unless permitted. Keep a backup copy.

Festival Arrangements

- Arrive at least five minutes before the class. Timings may change.
- If absent when called, a performer may appear later only if the class and timetable permit.
- The adjudicator's decisions are final. Do not approach the adjudicator; speak to a Festival Officer.
- Trophies must be returned by 20 February 2028, clean and in their box where provided. Repair or replacement costs may be charged for loss or damage.

Performance Conditions

- Time limits include the complete performance. Adjudication may stop when the limit is reached.
- No prompting or coaching from the audience is allowed.
- No rehearsal, warm-up, changing or dressing room is guaranteed.
- Photography, filming and audio recording are prohibited. Devices must be silent.

Original Work and AI

- In Art, Photography and any Music or Speech and Drama class requiring original composition or writing, the entry must be the performer's own work. Generative AI must not be used to create or alter it.
- In Photography classes, normal editing such as cropping, exposure or colour correction, sharpening and noise reduction is permitted, provided it does not add, remove or generate elements. The original file must be retained.

Refunds and Accessibility

- No refunds for withdrawals within three weeks, non-attendance or arrival after a class has ended.
- Fees are refunded if a class is cancelled without a suitable alternative or a disrupted entry cannot be accommodated.
- Request reasonable adjustments early. They must not change the nature of a competitive class or create an unfair advantage.
- In an emergency, report to a Festival Official or the ticket desk.
- All attendees remain responsible for their own property; the Festival accepts no liability for loss or damage.

These are the key regulations for performers, teachers and families.
Please read carefully before entering.
Full regulations are available online.

FOR FURTHER INFO:
contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The Don Valley Festival is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk. Our arrangements follow relevant law, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2026) and the British and International Federation of Festivals' (BIFF) safeguarding framework. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

For the full Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, please visit our website.
Reviewed: 25 August 2026 | Next review by: 31 July 2027

Our Core Principles

- *Welfare and safety are always paramount.*
- *Everyone has the right to protection from abuse, regardless of background or identity.*
- *Safeguarding applies to all Festival activity, including online activity and official photography.*

Our Commitments

- *Everyone will be treated with dignity and respect. Bullying, discrimination and inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.*
- *The Festival does not act in loco parentis. Children must remain under the continuous supervision of a responsible adult and must not be left unattended.*
- *Festival personnel follow safe-working guidance. Recruitment and checks are appropriate to each role.*
- *The Chair is the Festival Safeguarding Officer. Before or after the Festival, email contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk with the subject "Private: safeguarding". During the Festival, report concerns to the ticket desk or a badged official.*
- *If the concern is about the Safeguarding Officer, or the officer cannot be contacted, contact BIFF on 01625 428297.*

Quick Guide - What To Do If You Are Worried

- *Make the person safe. Call 999 if there is immediate danger.*
- *Stay calm, listen and do not ask leading questions or investigate.*
- *Reassure them, but do not promise secrecy.*
- *Report the concern immediately.*
- *Record their own words, the date, time and action taken.*

Contact

If you are worried about a child in Doncaster, call Children's Social Care/MASH on 01302 737777, or 01302 796000 out of hours.

OUR MARKING SCHEME

65-69	**Developing** A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry.
70-74	**Progressing** A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.
75-79	**Merit** A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability.
80-84	**Commended** A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills.
85-89	**Honours** An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality.
90-94	**Outstanding** An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.
95+	**Exceptional** A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.

The Don Valley Festival is aligned with the British and International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) marking scheme.

This scheme focuses on placing the performer at the heart of everything we do, promoting BIFF's core values: Perform | Educate | Inspire.
With a greater emphasis on written and verbal feedback, the scheme aims to provide positive, constructive guidance to help build confidence and self-esteem in all performers.

Learn more by scanning the QR code.

HOW TO ENTER

Visit our website (Tablets & Computers work best):
www.donvalleyfestival.org.uk

SPEECH & DRAMA



OVERALL WINNER

At the close of the Festival, the adjudicator will be invited to select one outstanding performer from across the weekend. That performer will be named Overall Winner of the Speech and Drama Section and will receive the Harry Cutts Trophy.

WITH THANKS TO OUR PRIZE SUPPORTERS

TITAN BOOKS

SCHOLASTIC

THEPOETRYSOCIETY

USBORNE



PETER DAYSON
CERT ED, LGSM, BFRD

SPEECH AND DRAMA ADJUDICATOR

We are delighted to welcome Peter Dayson back to the Don Valley Festival as our Speech and Drama adjudicator for 2027.

Peter has spent more than 50 years working in theatre as a producer, director, actor and writer. His career has taken him throughout the UK and internationally, providing opportunities to perform in plays, musical theatre and television, as well as to create and direct productions of his own. Throughout his career, Peter has retained a deep affection for the performing arts and the people who work within them.

Peter began his career in repertory theatre, performing with companies in Manchester, Nottingham, Bath, Swansea and numerous other locations. He has played a wide variety of roles, ranging from Shakespeare to modern drama, and has appeared in musicals including Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Grease, Hair and Godspell. His television credits include appearances in much-loved programmes such as Doctor Who, 'Allo 'Allo! and Blake's 7.

As a producer and director, Peter has been responsible for more than 70 productions, ranging from pantomime and Shakespeare to large-scale musicals. He spent seven years as Artistic Director of the Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, where he directed pantomimes and Shakespeare Festival productions. His directing credits include One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Godspell at Her Majesty's Theatre, Hair at the London Palladium and Oh What a Lovely War at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Peter also worked with Disney as writer and executive producer of its first pantomime for television. This was followed by a charity production at London's Duke of York's Theatre featuring Disney characters and performers from stage and screen.

Peter is especially proud of the original musicals he has written and staged. These include Strawberry Fields Forever, which played at the London Palladium and later transferred to the United States, and Hazlewood: Legends of the Castle, staged at Hazlewood Castle. His productions have brought together hundreds of performers, received awards and reached audiences internationally. He continues to develop projects and events that bring people together through performance.

Peter is an adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals and has adjudicated at festivals throughout the UK and internationally, including events in Canada, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka. He is passionate about encouraging young performers and exploring new ways to introduce them to the festival movement.

Away from the theatre, Peter enjoys spending time with his wife Anna, their three children and their dog Benji. He is also a devoted Tottenham Hotspur supporter with a well-known love of egg and chips.

ORAL PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

For your entry, please upload a clear, complete adjudicator copy of each chosen piece through the online entry system. You must retain a lawfully obtained original or authorised copy. Adjudicator copies will be used only for the Festival and securely destroyed afterwards.

Under section 59 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, a solo reading or recitation may be performed without separate copyright permission only where:

- *It is performed by one person.*
- *It uses a reasonable extract from a published literary or dramatic work.*
- *The title and author are clearly announced at the beginning.*
- *The performance lasts no more than 10 minutes.*

A complete copyrighted work must not be performed unless separate permission has been obtained or copyright has expired.

Duologues and other group dramatic works, including musical theatre, are not covered. Performers must obtain any necessary copyright permission and pay any royalties due before entering. Evidence of permission may be requested.

Published words, characters or the gender of characters must not be altered without permission.



WRITE YOUR OWN POEM

Entry Fee £6.00

Prize: Medal for each class

The Strata Cup will be awarded to the most outstanding performer in Classes 1 to 5

Write and perform your own original poem. AI must not be used.
Entries may include traditional poetry, performance poetry, spoken word or original rap, but must not be sung. The focus is on originality, meaning, vocal expression and communication with the audience.

		Time Limit:
Class 1	**7 years & under**	1 *minute*
Class 2	**8 & 9 years**	1 minute
Class 3	**10, 11 & 12 years**	2 minutes
Class 4	**13, 14 & 15 years**	2 minutes
Class 5	**16 years & over**	2 minutes

NEW

SET POEM

Entry Fee £6.00

Prize: Medal for each class

Choose and perform one of the set poems specified for the relevant age group. The focus is on understanding, clear speaking, vocal expression and communication. The poem must be recited from memory.

Class 6	**6 & 7 years**	**The Bird Bath** *by Florence Hoatson*	**OR**	**My Hut** *by E. Mathias*
Class 7	**8 & 9 years**	**There Are Big Waves** *by Eleanor Farjeon*	**OR**	**The Growing River** *by Rodney Bennett*
Class 8	**10, 11 & 12 years**	**Homework** *by Elizabeth Smith*	**OR**	**Greedy Dog** *by James Hurley*
Class 9	**13, 14 & 15 years**	**The Poem I'd Like to Write** *by Clive Sansom*	**OR**	**Five Eyes** *by Walter de la Mare*
Class 10	**16 years & over**	**The Old Draught-Horse** *by Nicholas Stuart Gray*	**OR**	**The River-Merchant's Wife: A Letter** *by Rihaku*

SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW THE POEMS OR VISIT THE DON VALLEY FESTIVAL WEBSITE

OWN CHOICE OF POEM

Prize: Medal for each class

Choose a poem and recite it from memory. The focus is on understanding, interpretation, vocal expression and communication.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 11	**7 years & under**	1 *minute*	£6.00
Class 12	**8 & 9 years**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 13	**10, 11 & 12 years**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 14	**13, 14 & 15 years**	3 minutes	£6.50
Class 15	**16 years & over**	3 minutes	£7.00

SONNET

Prize: Medal for each class

The Nancy Hull Trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding performer in Classes 16 to 18.

		Entry Fee:
Class 16	**11, 12 & 13 years**	£6.00
Class 17	**14 & 15 years**	£6.50
Class 18	**16 years and over**	£7.00

Choose a sonnet and bring it to life through clear speaking, rhythm, understanding and connection with the audience.

HUMOROUS VERSE

Prize: Medal for each class

The Ben Bailey Trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding performer in Classes 19 to 24

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 19	**6 years & under**	1 *minute*	£6.00
Class 20	**7 & 8 years**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 21	**9 & 10 years**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 22	**11 & 12 years**	3 minutes	£6.50
Class 23	**13 & 14 years**	3 minutes	£6.50
Class 24	**15 years & over**	3 minutes	£7.00

Choose a poem or verse with genuine humour. The focus should be on clarity, timing, character and enjoyment, rather than overacting.

SPEAKING AND READING

PREPARED PROSE

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Choose a passage of prose and perform it from memory.
This is a speaking class rather than a fully acted scene.
The focus is on understanding, vocal interpretation and communication.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 25	**8 years and under**	*2 minutes*	*£6.00*
Class 26	**9 & 10 years**	3 minutes	*£6.00*
Class 27	**11 & 12 years**	3 minutes	*£6.00*
Class 28	**13, 14 & 15 years**	4 minutes	*£6.50*
Class 29	**16 years & over**	4 minutes	*£7.00*

STORY TELLING

Prize: Medal for each class

The Doncaster Free Press Trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding performer in Classes 30 to 32

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 30	**11 years and under**	*2 minutes*	*£6.00*
Class 31	**12, 13, 14 & 15 years**	3 minutes	*£6.50*
Class 32	**16 years & over**	4 minutes	*£7.00*

This class is your chance to showcase your storytelling skills. Select a passage from one of your favourite books, settle in and share it with us. You should have your book with you and present your chosen passage as a reading, even if you have rehearsed it beforehand. Focus on bringing the words to life through clear, expressive reading, using your voice, pace and understanding to engage your audience.

WRITE YOUR OWN STORY

Prize: Medal for each class

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 33	**11 years & under**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 34	**12, 13, 14 & 15 years**	3 minutes	£6.50
Class 35	**16 years & over**	4 minutes	£7.00

Write your own short story on a subject of your choice.
Generative AI must not be used.
Your story should have a clear beginning, middle and end.
Performers should read their story aloud from a book or booklet while seated, as though sharing a story with an audience, rather than delivering a formal prose reading or dramatic performance.

NEW

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Prize: Medal for each class

An unseen topic will be provided by the adjudicator.
A preparation period of 30 seconds will be allowed before speaking.
No prepared scripts or notes may be used.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 36	**12, 13, 14 & 15 years**	Up to 1½ minutes	£6.00
Class 37	**16 years & over**	Up to 2 minutes	£6.50

Think on your feet and share your ideas!
The focus will be on clear communication, organisation of ideas, confidence, expression and engagement with the audience. Performers are encouraged to speak naturally and develop their ideas rather than deliver a perfectly polished speech.

PRESENTATION AND PERFORMANCE

NEWS PRESENTATION

Supported by: BBC RADIO SHEFFIELD

Prize: Medal for each class

The BBC Radio Sheffield Trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding performer in Classes 38 to 40. The overall winner will also receive a tour of the BBC Radio Sheffield Studios.

		Entry Fee:
Class 38	**11, 12 & 13 years**	£6.00
Class 39	**14, 15 & 16 years**	£6.50
Class 40	**17 years and over**	£7.00

An original festival-prepared news bulletin will be sent via email approximately three weeks before the festival. Present it in the style of a television or radio newsreader, focusing on clear, confident and engaging delivery. The script may be read and does not need to be memorised.

NEW

ORIGINAL PUBLIC SPEAKING

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 41	**9 years and under**	2 minutes	£6.00
Class 42	**10, 11 & 12 years**	3 minutes	£6.00
Class 43	**13, 14 & 15 years**	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 44	**16 years and over**	5 minutes	£6.00

Prepare and deliver a speech on a subject or theme of your choice.
The speech must be in your own words, and generative AI must not be used.
Speeches should be suitable for a family audience and must not be used to promote political parties, candidates or election campaigns. Brief notes and one simple visual aid may be used.
Performers will be judged on structure, clarity, confidence, originality and engagement with the audience.

ACTED DUOLOGUE

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.
Copyright: Performers must secure permission for the chosen duologue where required.
This class is not covered by the Festival's ALCS agreement.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 45	**9 years & under**	*5 minutes*	*£12.00*
Class 46	**10, 11 & 12 years**	5 minutes	*£12.00*
Class 47	**13, 14 & 15 years**	5 minutes	*£12.00*
Class 48	**16 years and over**	5 minutes	*£12.00*

Choose an extract from a published play and perform it with a partner. The piece should be performed from memory, properly acted, well rehearsed and clearly characterised. Essential hand props may be used.

DEVISED SCENE

Entry Fee: £5 flat fee
Time: Minimum of 2 minutes, 3 maximum

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Create and perform an original scene based on one of the stimulus themes.

Age Group	Solo	Duologue
12 & 13 years	Class 49	Class 51
14 years and over	Class 50	Class 52

Stimulus Themes

Choose one of the following themes as a stimulus:

12 & 13 years:
- A day out
- My favourite hobby
- Animals

14 years & over:
- A journey
- A surprise
- Lost and found

After the performance, performers may be asked:
- The reasons for their choice of theme
- Where the scene takes place
- The story of their devised scene

Guidelines
- The scene must be performed from memory.
- Solos and Duologues adjudicated separately
- Duologue performers may also enter Solo with a different theme

ACTING SOLO – DRAMATIC

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Choose a serious scene or monologue from a published play and perform it from memory.

Essential hand props may be used.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 53	**9 years and under**	3 *minutes*	£6.00
Class 54	**10, 11 & 12 years**	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 55	**13, 14 & 15 years**	5 minutes	£6.50
Class 56	**16 years and over**	5 minutes	£7.00

ACTING SOLO – COMEDIC

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Choose a comic scene or monologue from a published play and perform it from memory.

Essential hand props may be used.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 57	**9 years and under**	3 *minutes*	£6.00
Class 58	**10, 11 & 12 years**	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 59	**13, 14 & 15 years**	5 minutes	£6.50
Class 60	**16 years and over**	5 minutes	£7.00

BRING YOUR CHARACTER TO LIFE

1. **Understand the scene**
   Know who your character is, where they are and what they want.
2. **Make clear choices**
   Use voice, pace, movement and facial expression purposefully.
3. **Know the whole story**
   Where possible, read the full play so you understand the scene's context.
4. **Rehearse the ending**
   Remain in character and hold the final moment before relaxing.



ACTING SOLO – SHAKESPEARE

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Choose a solo scene or speech from a play by William Shakespeare and perform it from memory.

Essential hand props may be used.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 61	**11, 12 & 13 years**	3 *minutes*	£6.50
Class 62	**14 & 15 years**	5 minutes	£6.50
Class 63	**16 years and over**	5 minutes	£7.00

GROUP DRAMA

Prize: The Togel Trophy

Perform an extract from a published play with a group of three to six performers. The piece should be performed from memory, well rehearsed, clearly staged and suited to the group. Essential props may be used.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 64	**Open to Mixed Ages** (3 to 6 performers)	up to 10 *minutes*	£12.00

Copyright: Performers must secure permission for the chosen group dramatic work where required. This class is not covered by the Festival's ALCS agreement.

READY TO TAKE THE STAGE?

Whether this is your first festival or you are returning to the stage, we look forward to seeing your performance.

ENTRIES CLOSE 31 JANUARY 2027

Website:
donvalleyfestival.org.uk

Read the Festival regulations before submitting your entry.

2027 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

See the world your way. Any subject is welcome.

CHOOSE YOUR FOCUS

Colour
Make colour the star

Composition
Think framing, balance and patterns

Creative Angles
Try a surprising viewpoint

FREE TO ENTER · PRINT SIZE A5-A3

THREE AGE CATEGORIES FOR EACH FOCUS

11 & under
Rising Shutterbugs

12-17
Lens Legends

18 & over
Open Visionaries

Ages are calculated on 31 January 2027

HOW TO ENTER

1. Select your focus and take the shot. Print size should be between A5 & A3. You can submit one photo into each focus.
2. **Print and label your photograph** with your name, age, telephone number and the focus. Work must be your own and follow the Festival's generative AI rules.
3. **Deliver by Tuesday 2 March 2027**
   Rawmarsh Community School, Monkwood Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, S62 7GA.
   Deliver during school opening hours.

EXHIBITION: 20-21 MARCH

Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, Edlington, Doncaster
Certificates & trophies: Sat 20 March, 11am

Judge: Nelly Naylor

donvalleyfestival.org.uk/photography/

ART COMPETITION 2027

INCLUDING DIGITAL ART

ENTRIES CLOSE TUESDAY 2 MARCH 2027

MY HAPPY PLACE

Show us the places, people or memories that make you happy. Interpret the theme in your own way, using **any artistic medium**.

FREE TO ENTER · UP TO TWO ARTWORKS PER PERSON

FOUR PRIZE CATEGORIES

7 & under | **8–11** | **12–15** | **16 & over**

Ages are calculated on 31 January 2027.

HOW TO ENTER

1. Follow **My Happy Place**. Any medium is welcome.
   Maximum size: 50 cm × 70 cm.
   Digital artwork must be printed and submitted as a hard copy.
2. **Label each piece** with your name, age and telephone number.
   Work must be your own and follow the Festival's generative AI rules.
3. **Arrange drop-off in Mexborough.**
   Call **Liz on 07895 001650** to arrange a suitable time.

EXHIBITION: 20–21 MARCH

Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, Edlington, Doncaster
Certificates & trophies: Sat 20 March, 11am

Judge: Michael Fowler, local artist and author.

donvalleyfestival.org.uk/art/

MAKE THE MAGIC HAPPEN!



JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM · 19-21 MARCH 2027

Our Festival is powered by volunteers. Whether you can spare a few hours or take on a regular role, we'd love your help.

TROPHY COORDINATOR

PRIORITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Help care for the awards that celebrate our performers. Keep records, coordinate trophy returns and help organise presentations with the Festival committee.

No previous experience needed.
We'll explain how it works and discuss the time involved.

HELP OVER THE FESTIVAL WEEKEND

19-21 March · Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, Doncaster

Welcome visitors	Greet performers and families and help them find their way.
Support sessions	Help with check-in, programmes and room arrangements.
Lend a hand	Support set-up, changeovers, certificates and awards.

A HELPING HAND MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Register your interest. We'd love to hear from you.

donvalleyfestival.org.uk/volunteer/

contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk

Roles are subject to safeguarding and any relevant checks.

MUSIC



MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

The adjudicators will be invited to nominate outstanding soloists from across the weekend to return and perform again in a special play-off. The winner will be named Musician of the Year and will receive the Millhouse Green MVC Geoffrey Barlow Memorial Cup.

WITH THANKS TO OUR PRIZE SUPPORTERS

ABRSM

FABER MUSIC



DONAL MCCRISKEN MBE,
MA, BMUS, LTCL, MTD, ADVCERTED

Donal McCrisken is a Belfast-based musician with extensive experience as a pianist, accompanist, conductor, examiner and adjudicator. He holds a BMus degree from Queen's University Belfast and a master's degree in Music Theory and Analysis from the University of Ulster.

From January 1999 until his retirement from the choir in November 2021, Donal was Musical Director of Cappella Caeciliana, one of Ireland's leading chamber choirs. Under his direction, Cappella gave concerts and sang liturgies throughout Northern Ireland and in Dublin, Germany, Austria, Italy and the United States. The choir recorded five highly successful CDs and appeared frequently in broadcasts on BBC Radio 3, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio Ulster and RTÉ. In April 2011, Cappella toured the United States, giving concerts in Philadelphia and singing choral evensong at Washington National Cathedral.

Donal has studied singing with Russell Smythe and Kathryn Harries, two of Britain's leading vocal teachers. He has organised and delivered vocal workshops in Belfast and elsewhere, working with children, adults in the workplace and adult language students in France. He has also worked with Northern Ireland Opera as a répétiteur, accompanist and workshop facilitator, and teaches performance classes in the Music Department at Queen's University Belfast.

From 2005 to 2011, Donal was Head of Music at St Malachy's College, Belfast, Northern Ireland's first specialist music school. During this time, he led students on concert tours to Washington DC, Philadelphia, England and Rome.

As a qualified adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals, Donal has adjudicated at festivals throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain. In 2004, he studied at the renowned Kodály School in Nyíregyháza, Hungary, under the guidance of Dénes Szabó.

Donal founded Cavehill Community Choir in February 2013. This non-auditioned choir has approximately 150 members and performs regularly at concerts and community events. It has also appeared at the Belfast Festival at Queen's and on BBC Radio Ulster.

Donal was Choral Director and répétiteur for the Belfast Opera project, which culminated in performances in June 2016. For this work, he received the Classic FM and Musicians' Union Inspiration Award. The project was also nominated for the Best Classical Music Education Initiative Award.

In 2020, Donal was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to music, education and cross-community relations in Northern Ireland.



MARIA JAGUSZ,
GRNCM, FISM

Maria Jagusz trained as a dancer before studying at the Royal Northern College of Music, where she was awarded the Ricordi Prize for Opera. Further scholarships enabled her to continue her training at the National Opera Studio.

Maria began her professional career with Opera North and has since worked as an operatic and concert singer with leading companies and venues throughout the UK and Europe. Her roles have included Carmen, Cherubino in The Marriage of Figaro, Prince Orlofsky in Die Fledermaus, Hansel in Hansel and Gretel, Dorabella in Così fan tutte and Rosina in The Barber of Seville. She has performed alongside many of the world's leading singers, including Plácido Domingo, José Carreras, Mirella Freni and Dame Felicity Lott. Her operatic work has also included Filipyevna in Eugene Onegin for Mid Wales Opera. Maria is also a keen recitalist and a regular soloist with choral societies throughout the UK.

As a teacher, Maria specialises in preparing young singers for professional careers in opera and musical theatre. Alongside her private teaching practice, she has worked as a vocal consultant for the International College of Musical Theatre in London.

To give developing singers the practical experience needed to succeed in the profession, Maria founded MJ-UK Music and Arts. Through the organisation, she provides young performers with opportunities to appear in concerts and staged productions in the Cotswolds and Cornwall, within a safe and welcoming environment. Her directing credits for MJ-UK include Carmen, Bastien und Bastienne, Dido and Aeneas, Les Misérables, West Side Story, The Secret Garden, Jesus Christ Superstar, Seussical and The Marriage of Figaro for Stroud Arts Festival.

Maria has a longstanding association with Longborough Festival Opera. She has served as Vocal Mentor for its Young Artists programme and has directed productions including The Little Sweep, Dido and Aeneas, La bohème, Sweeney Todd and Orfeo ed Euridice. She currently works as Vocal Coach and Mentor for the Longborough Youth Chorus.

Maria has also directed Longborough's Playground Opera programme, which brings specially adapted operatic productions into primary schools. Productions have included Hansel and Gretel and Carmen, introducing more than 1,000 children to live opera.

An experienced adjudicator and member of the British and International Federation of Festivals, Maria is committed to encouraging performers of all ages and helping them develop through supportive and constructive feedback.

BEGINNERS

Prize: Medal

Class 100 **Complete Beginners Any Instrument**

Time Limit: 3 minutes | Entry Fee: £5.00

For performers at Initial, Debut, Preliminary or pre-Grade 1 standard who have not previously entered a competitive music festival. One piece.

Class 101 **Piano Duet - Student and Teacher Duet** Time Limit: 4 minutes | Entry Fee: £6.00

One piece, for a student up to Grade 3 standard. Teachers of any standard, including professional performers, may participate. Only the student is adjudicated. The teacher's participation does not affect eligibility.

PIANO SOLO - GRADED

Ideal for students preparing for, or having recently completed, an exam grade.

Prize: Medal & Trophy for each class

Two contrasting pieces from a current or still-valid recognised UK examination syllabus, both at the stated grade. A performer may enter only one graded piano class, matching the grade most recently completed or currently being prepared. Bring the music for the adjudicator in accordance with the Festival Regulations.

		Entry Fee:			Entry Fee:
Class 102	**Grade 1**	£6.00	Class 103	**Grade 2**	£6.00
Class 104	**Grade 3**	£6.00	Class 105	**Grade 4**	£7.00
Class 106	**Grade 5**	£7.00			

PIANO SOLO - REPERTOIRE

Ideal for discovering new repertoire, but you can also include exam list pieces not performed in the exam classes.

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Two contrasting pieces. Examination repertoire is welcome, but pieces must be different from those performed in another class. Repeats are expected within the overall time limit..

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 107	**Up to Grade 2 standard**	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 108	**Grades 3 and 4 standard**	6 minutes	£7.00
Class 109	**Grades 5 to 7 standard**	10 minutes	£8.00

PIANO SOLO
MINIMUM GRADE 7 STANDARD

Prize: Medal for each class.
A trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

	Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 110 **Modern** One piece composed after 1920, including jazz.	6 minutes	£7.50
Class 111 **Sonata** One movement from any piano sonata.	12 minutes	£7.50
Class 112 **Baroque** One piece composed between 1600 and 1750.	6 minutes	£7.50
Class 113 **Romantic & Impressionist** One piece composed between 1820 and 1920.	8 minutes	£7.50

Pieces must have been originally written for solo piano.
Arrangements and transcriptions are not permitted.

MUSIC FROM THE AMERICAS FOR PIANO

NEW

Prize: Medal for each class.

One piece by a composer from North, Central or South America or the Caribbean.

Familiar names in piano repertoire include Gershwin, Scott Joplin, Copland, Villa-Lobos and Ginastera, while Cuba's Ernesto Lecuona offers further inspiration.

The ABRSM 2025 & 2026 piano syllabus also includes composers such as William Gillock, Martha Mier, Florence Price and Valerie Capers, giving performers the chance to explore everything from lyrical miniatures to lively ragtime and jazz-inspired pieces.



		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 114	**12 years & under**	3 minutes	£6.00
Class 115	**17 years & under**	5 minutes	£7.00

SONATINA – 14 YEARS AND UNDER

Prize: Medal & The Kemble Trophy.

Pianoforte. *One movement from any Sonatina.*

	Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 116	6 minutes	£6.00



THE RECITAL CLASS

For advanced instrumental or vocal performers of any age.

Prize: Medal, The Pauline & Jack Hall Trophy & £50 Cash

	Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 117 **Recital Class**	*15 minutes*	*£16.50*

Planning your recital:

- Any Instrument (excluding electronic instruments).
- Performers must be of Grade 8 standard or above for this class.
- A recital of 2 or more **contrasting** pieces, own choice.
- Performers should provide their own accompanist; the festival accompanist would be available for the payment of a further fee.
- This class is open to amateur and semi-professional soloists.
- Performances in this class are not eligible for The Musician of the Year Award.
- Cash prizes are only awarded when there are at least three entries in the class.

STRINGS

For violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp and classical guitar.
Contemporary acoustic guitar repertoire may instead be entered in Contemporary Instrumental.

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.
Two contrasting pieces.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 118	**Up to Grade 2 standard**	5 *minutes*	£6.00
Class 119	**Grades 3 & 4 standard**	6 *minutes*	£6.00
Class 120	**Grades 5 & 6 standard**	8 *minutes*	£7.00
Class 121	**Grade 7 and above**	10 *minutes*	£8.00

MUSIC FROM THE AMERICAS FOR STRINGS

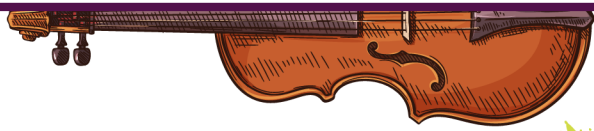
Prize: Medal for each class.
One piece by a composer from North, Central or South America or the Caribbean.

Familiar names include Gershwin, Copland, Bernstein, Villa-Lobos and Piazzolla, with guitarists also able to explore composers such as Manuel Ponce and Agustín Barrios.

The ABRSM syllabuses offer further inspiration, including Florence Price for violin, Leo Brouwer for classical guitar and Alfredo Rolando Ortiz for harp, giving performers the chance to explore everything from expressive melodies to vibrant Latin American and Caribbean rhythms.



		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 122	**12 years & under**	3 *minutes*	£6.00
Class 123	**17 years & under**	5 minutes	£7.00



Ready for a longer programme?
Advanced instrumentalists and singers can explore the Recital Class on page 30.

WOODWIND SOLO

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.
Own choice of two contrasting pieces.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 124	**Up to Grade 2 standard**	6 minutes	£6.00
Class 125	**Grades 3 & 4 standard**	6 minutes	£6.00
Class 126	**Grades 5 & 6 standard**	8 minutes	£7.00
Class 127	**Grade 7 and above**	12 minutes	£8.00

BRASS SOLO

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.
Own choice of two contrasting pieces.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 128	**Up to Grade 2 standard**	6 minutes	£6.00
Class 129	**Grades 3 & 4 standard**	6 minutes	£6.00
Class 130	**Grades 5 & 6 standard**	8 minutes	£7.00
Class 131	**Grade 7 and above**	12 minutes	£8.00

Join a friend and perform a duet or trio in the ensemble classes.
You can use the same or different instruments, or find a pianist to join you. It's a great way to create unique performances and have fun playing in small groups!

Ready for a longer programme?
Advanced instrumentalists and singers can explore the Recital Class on page 30.

NEW

CONTEMPORARY INSTRUMENTAL

Jazz, pop, folk, film and video game music.
Open to any instrument.

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Perform one instrumental piece in any of the styles listed above, or another contemporary style.
Examples of instruments include drum kit, percussion, acoustic or electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and ukulele.



		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 132	**14 years and under**	*6 minutes*	*£6.00*
Class 133	**15 years and over**	*6 minutes*	*£6.00*



A backing track is optional, except for keyboard performances, where it is not permitted. Backing tracks must not include the part being adjudicated.

Performers must provide their own instrument and any required amplification or effects. Equipment and setup requirements must be agreed with the Festival in advance.

For duets and group performances, see the duet and instrumental ensemble classes on page 34.





MULTI-INSTRUMENTAL SKILLS

Prize: Medal for each class
& a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Perform two contrasting pieces using two different instruments.
Voice may be used as one of the two instruments. Accompaniment is optional.
The stated time limit covers both pieces together.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 134	**12 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£6.00*
Class 135	**16 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 136	**Any age (Grade 7 & above standard)**	*8 minutes*	*£8.00*

DUETS, TRIOS AND MORE

Prize: Trophy for each class, subject to entries

Performing in a group is one of the most enjoyable ways to make music.

PIANO DUETS

Own choice of one piece.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 137	**13 years and under**	*4 minutes*	*£6.00*
Class 138	**14 years and over**	*6 minutes*	*£6.00*

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Whether you're two friends, a trio, or a whole band, these classes are open to every combination of instruments and voice.

Choose one or two pieces within the time limit and enjoy sharing the stage together.



Class 139	**12 years & under** ***2 to 5 players***	*7 minutes*	*£8.00*
Class 140	**13 to 16 years** ***2 to 5 players***	*8 minutes*	*£8.00*
Class 141	**17 years and over** ***2 to 5 players***	*10 minutes*	*£8.00*
Class 142	**12 years & under** ***6 or more players***	*7 minutes*	*£12.00*
Class 143	**13 to 16 years** ***6 or more players***	*8 minutes*	*£12.00*
Class 144	**17 years and over** ***6 or more players***	*10 minutes*	*£12.00*

Age eligibility for duets, groups, ensembles and choirs

For duets, trios and small groups of 2 to 5 performers, all performers should normally fall within the stated age category. The Festival may approve one performer outside the age range where no unfair advantage would arise. Any exception must be agreed before entry.

For larger ensembles and choirs of 6 or more performers, at least 75% of performers should normally fall within the stated age category or school-year limit. Any departure from this rule must be agreed with the Festival before entry.

SELF-ACCOMPANIED SONG

A chance to sing and play your own instrument at the same time.

		Entry Fee:
Class 145	**14 years and under**	£6.00
Class 146	**15 years and over**	£7.00

Prize: Medal for each class.
Own choice of popular song.
Time Limit: 6 minutes

ORIGINAL COMPOSITION OR SONG

A chance to perform your own composition.

		Entry Fee:
Class 147	**14 years and under**	£6.00
Class 148	**15 years and over**	£7.00

Prize: Medal for each class.
One original vocal or instrumental work.
Time Limit: 6 minutes

The performer must have composed the work and must perform in the presentation. Where co-written, the performer must have made a substantial contribution to either the words or the music. Generative AI must not be used. All co-writers and the performer's contribution must be declared at entry. Live accompaniment or a backing track may be used.

Make it your own

Sing a favourite song while playing your instrument, or share an original piece you have written. These classes celebrate your ideas, your musicianship and the enjoyment of performing.



MUSICAL THEATRE
BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT

Maximum time of 6 minutes - Entry Fee: £7.00 - Prize: Medal for each class.
One song originating in stage musicals, including film adaptations of stage musicals.
Songs originating in Disney or Pixar screen productions belong in Disney Song.
Please state the title of the musical on your entry. Lyrics must be age-appropriate.

 **WITHOUT** MICROPHONE		 **WITH** MICROPHONE	
Class 149	**9 years and under**	Class 150	**9 years and under**
Class 151	**10 to 12 years**	Class 152	**10 to 12 years**
Class 153	**13 to 15 years**	Class 154	**13 to 15 years**
Class 155	**16 years and over**	Class 156	**16 years and over**

Performers may enter both options using different songs.

DISNEY SONGS
BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT

Maximum time of 6 minutes - Entry Fee: £7.00 - Prize: Medal for each class.
One song originating in Disney or Pixar screen productions. A song written for a stage musical should normally be entered in Musical Theatre unless it originated in a Disney or Pixar screen production.
Please state the film or show title on your entry form.

 **WITHOUT** MICROPHONE		 **WITH** MICROPHONE	
Class 157	**9 years and under**	Class 158	**9 years and under**
Class 159	**10 to 12 years**	Class 160	**10 to 12 years**
Class 161	**13 to 15 years**	Class 162	**13 to 15 years**
Class 163	**16 years and over**	Class 164	**16 years and over**

Performers may enter both options using different songs.

Upload backing tracks to the entry platform at least 3 weeks before the festival; email us to ask about CD or laptop use.

SCREEN SONG
BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT



Prize: Medal for each class.

One song written for or strongly associated with a non-Disney film, animated film or television production.
A song does not qualify merely because it has appeared briefly in a film or programme.
Songs originating in stage musicals belong in Musical Theatre.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 165	**11 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 166	**12 to 15 years**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 167	**16 years and over**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*

STAGE & SCREEN VOCAL DUET OR GROUP
BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT



Prize: Trophy for each class, subject to entries.
For 2 or more singers.

One song from a stage musical, film, animated film or television production, including Disney and Pixar.
Every performer must take part.
Please state the musical, TV or film title on your entry. Lyrics must be age-appropriate.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 168	**13 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 169	**16 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 170	**17 years & over**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*

Where does my song belong?
Choose Musical Theatre for songs originating in stage musicals, Disney Songs for songs originating in Disney or Pixar screen productions, and Screen Song for qualifying songs from other films or television programmes. Choose the class according to where the song originated.

MUSICAL THEATRE
PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT



Prize: Medal for each class.

One song originating in stage musicals, including film adaptations of stage musicals.
Songs originating in Disney or Pixar screen productions belong in Disney Song.
Please state the title of the musical on your entry. Lyrics must be age-appropriate.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 171	**11 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 172	**12 to 15 years**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 173	**16 years and over**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*

SCREEN SONG
PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT



Prize: Medal for each class.

One song written for or strongly associated with a non-Disney film, animated film or television production.
A song does not qualify merely because it has appeared briefly in a film or programme.
Songs originating in stage musicals belong in Musical Theatre.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 174	**11 years & under**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 175	**12 to 15 years**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*
Class 176	**16 years and over**	*6 minutes*	*£7.00*

Preparing for the festival accompanist

You can book the official Festival accompanist for £4 per entry.
Please request this when entering and send your music as soon as possible, ensuring it matches the version you will perform.

Bring a separate copy of the music for the adjudicator on the day.

POP & ROCK SONG

Entry Fee: £7.00

For contemporary popular repertoire, including pop, rock, indie, country, soul, gospel, rap and related styles.

BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT

Solo Vocals **WITHOUT** MICROPHONE		Solo Vocals **WITH** MICROPHONE	
Class 177	**9 years and under**	Class 178	**9 years and under**
Class 179	**10 to 12 years**	Class 180	**10 to 12 years**
Class 181	**13 to 15 years**	Class 182	**13 to 15 years**
Class 183	**16 years and over**	Class 184	**16 years and over**

PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT

NEW

Class 185 **11 years & under**

Class 186 **12 to 15 years**

Class 187 **16 years and over**

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Own choice of one song. Maximum time of 6 minutes.

Performers may enter all options using different songs.

GROUP POP & ROCK SONG

BACKING TRACK ACCOMPANIMENT

Entry Fee: £7.00

Class 188 **13 years and under**

Class 189 **14 years and over**

Open to groups of 3 or more singers, to be performed without a microphone. Every performer must take part in the song.

Prize: A trophy may be awarded, subject to entries.
Own choice of one song.
Maximum time of 6 minutes.

Piano accompaniment required, except for unaccompanied traditional folk song in Class 198.
You can book the official Festival accompanist for a fee of £4 per entry. If you choose to use their services, please send a copy of the music to us following your entry, this will be passed on to them. Additionally, on the day of your performance, please provide a separate copy of the music for the adjudicator.

GRADED VOCALS

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

One piece from a current or still-valid recognised UK music examination syllabus at the stated grade, including classical, musical theatre and contemporary vocal routes. A performer may enter only one graded vocal class, matching the grade most recently completed or currently being prepared.

		Entry Fee:
Class 190	**Up to Grade 2**	£6.00
Class 191	**Grade 3**	£6.00
Class 192	**Grades 4 and 5**	£6.00
Class 193	**Grades 6 to 8**	£7.00

CLASSICAL VOICE

Prize: Medal for each class & a trophy may also be awarded, subject to entries.

Own Choice of One Song.

		Time Limit:	Entry Fee:
Class 194	**Classical Voice Solo** 11 years & under	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 195	**Classical Voice Solo** 12 to 14 years	4 minutes	£6.00
Class 196	**Classical Voice Solo** 15 to 17 years	8 minutes	£7.00
Class 197	**Art Song in a Foreign Language** 15 to 17 years	8 minutes	£7.00
Class 198	**Classical Voice and Traditional Song** 18 years and over	8 minutes	£7.00

This class includes art song in any language, classical ballads, sacred song, opera, oratorio, mass, operetta, Gilbert and Sullivan, and unaccompanied traditional folk song.

INCLUSIVE MUSIC-MAKING

For performers with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Class 199

Solo/Duet
Own choice of 1 or 2 contrasting items.
Vocal and/or instrumental.

Entry Fee: **£8.00**

Class 200

Ensemble
Own choice of 2 contrasting items.
Vocal, instrumental or mixed ensemble.

£13.00

These classes will be held on the morning of Friday the 19th March 2027 and will take place at The Parish Church of Saint Jude, Hexthorpe, DN4 0DG

These classes are intended primarily for pupils from special schools, specialist provisions and SEND settings, and individual performers with SEND who would benefit from a supported or adapted performance class. Adapted instruments, communication aids and appropriate assistance may be used. Adjudication will recognise musical engagement, communication, participation and individual achievement.

Vocal, instrumental or mixed performances are welcome.
Live accompaniment or an authorised backing track may be used.

JUNIOR CHOIRS

- Choirs requiring accompaniment must provide their own accompanist.
- Please be aware that using recorded music is not allowed.
- Songs can be performed with or without accompaniment.
- For choirs whose members span more than one age group or school year, see the age eligibility rules on page 34.

Class 201	**Young People's Choir - Up to & inc. Year 6** *Own choice of two contrasting **unison** songs* *Prize: The John Williams Goddard Trophy*	Entry Fee: *£13.00*
Class 202	**Young People's Choir - Up to & inc. Year 6** *Own choice of two contrasting part songs* *Prize: The Stockdale Trophy*	*£13.00*
Class 203	**Young People's Choir - Up to & inc. Year 9** *Own choice of two contrasting part songs* *Prize: The Ireland Cup*	*£13.00*
Class 204	**Young People's Choir - Up to & inc. Year 13** *Own choice of two contrasting part songs* *Prize: The Eric Murfin Cup*	*£13.00*
Class 205	**Youth Choirs** **21 years and under** *Own choice of two contrasting part songs* *Prize: The Thornhill Singers Trophy*	*£13.00*

Junior Choirs will be held after 5pm on Friday 19th March 2027



Junior and youth choirs bring a special energy to the festival. Whether singing in unison or harmony, these classes give young performers the chance to share their voices, grow in confidence, and enjoy the thrill of making music together.



ADULT CHOIRS

Class 206	**Mixed Voices / Community Choirs (18 years and over)** Own choice of two contrasting part songs *Prize: The Arthur Butler Rose Bowl*	Entry Fee: £15
Class 207	**Ladies Choir (excluding Barbershop and Young People's Choirs)** Own choice of two contrasting songs, in 2 or more parts. *Prize: The Mary Wakefield Trophy*	£15
Class 208	**Male Voice Choir** Own choice of two contrasting songs *Prize: The Nixon Trophy to be held for one year*	£20

Our adult choir classes celebrate the power of voices united. Whether you sing with friends, a community group, or a choir, this is your chance to perform together and inspire with song.



JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM

Our Festival is powered by volunteers. Whether you can spare a few hours or take on a regular role, we'd love your help.

Register your interest. We'd love to hear from you.

donvalleyfestival.org.uk/volunteer/

contactus@donvalleyfestival.org.uk

PROUDLY AFFILIATED WITH BIFF

Don Valley Festival is affiliated with the British and International Federation of Festivals (BIFF).

Through our affiliation, outstanding performers may be nominated to represent the Festival at the Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Biennial Regional Championship.

The next Championship is expected to take place at Leeds Conservatoire in September 2027, subject to confirmation.

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