

RISING VIRTUOSO SOUTHEAST ASIA



2025

WHERE DISCIPLINE
BECOMES EXPRESSION

MUSIC COMPETITION

Classical Division

Classical Piano, Classical Violin, Classical Vocal

Contemporary Division

Cont. Piano, Cont. Violin, Pop Vocal, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Ukulele, Drums

Open Division

Teen/Adult Classical Ensemble, Teen/Adult Modern Band

RVMC Competition Process

Online Preliminary Round, In-Person Finals

In-Person Finals Schedule: 24th, 25th, 26th April 2026, Venue TBC

Online Preliminary Round Submission: 18th June 2025 - 14th December 2025



Scan here for
more details

Main Organiser:
(Malaysia)



Co-Organiser:



Supported by:



Contact us at +6017 4300 027



artistaracademy.com/risingvirtuosomusiccompetition

Rising Virtuoso Southeast Asia Music Competition 2025

Rules and Regulations

1. General Information

The 2025 Music Competition welcomes musicians of all ages to participate in a two-stage event consisting of a Preliminary Video Round and an On-Site Finals held in Malaysia. All participants must read and agree to the following rules to ensure a fair and consistent evaluation process.

2. Registration

Unless the Organiser announces an official extension, any registrations received after the deadline, including payments, will be considered late and may be rejected.

2.1 Preliminary Round Registration

- Registration Opens: 18th June 2025
- Registration Closes: 14th December 2025, 11:59PM

2.2 Online Registration Only

All participants must register exclusively through the official competition website.

Link: [Official Competition Website](#)

2.3 Group Registration

Participants choosing this option must download the designated group registration form and upload the completed file during registration.

Link: [Group Registration Form](#)

2.4 Required Details for Registration

Participants must provide all requested details during registration and the upload the following documents:

1. Payment slip
2. Group registration form
3. Music Notation/Lead Sheet/Music description
4. Performance YouTube Video Link

2.5 Registration fee

The registration fee applies only to the Preliminary Video Round.

Participants selected for the Live Finals must complete a separate registration and payment process.

2.6 Confirmation of Submission

An automated confirmation email will be sent upon successful registration. Please ensure the email address provided in the registration form is accurate.

2.7 Refund Policy

Registration fees are non-refundable under any circumstances, including:

1. Participant withdrawal or absence
2. Mistakes made during registration
3. Duplicate submissions

3. Preliminary Video Submission

3.1. YouTube Video Upload

All performance videos must be uploaded to YouTube with the following details:

1. Video Title: Participant's Name, Category, Song Title
2. Video Description: Must include @RisingVirtuosoMC and #RVMC2025
3. Visibility: Set to Public or Unlisted

3.2. Uploading on Behalf

A parent or teacher or band leader may upload the video on the participant's behalf.

3.3. Supporting Music Materials

Participants are required to submit either a Music Score, Lead Sheet, or a short written description of the piece.

3.4. Request for Extension

Extensions are granted solely at the discretion of the Organiser.

4. Personal Data Usage

All personal information collected will be managed in accordance with Malaysian data protection regulations and the Organiser's privacy policy.

The details provided will be used strictly for competition-related administration.

5. Payment

5.1 Preliminary and Finals Fees

All participants are required to pay the Preliminary Round entry fee in order to take part in the competition. Those who qualify for the Final Round will be required to make an additional payment.

5.2 Fee Categories

Competition fees are divided into the following groups:

1. Local Rate –participants residing in Malaysia
2. International Rate –participants living outside Malaysia

International participants are strongly encouraged to make payments in Malaysian Ringgit.

5.3 Currency & Bank Charges

All payments must be made in Malaysian Ringgit (MYR). Participants — especially those making international transfers — must ensure that all bank-related charges are fully covered so the Organiser receives the exact amount due.

5.4 Accepted Payment Methods

1. Local Participants: Online banking
2. International Participants: Online banking through local banks or **Wise** (www.wise.com).

Note: Please insert the amount in '*Artistar Music Academy gets exactly*'

5.5 Multiple Entries

Participants submitting more than one entry may make a single combined payment, as long as the total amount is correct.

5.6 Proof of Payment

During payment, please include the Participant's FULL Name + Category Code in the payment reference for identification purposes.

A clear proof of payment (in **JPG** or **PDF** format) must be uploaded during online registration. A digital invoice can be provided upon request.

5.7 Bank Transfer Details

Please use the following information for bank transfers:

Beneficiary Name: Artistar Music Academy (M) Sdn. Bhd.

Bank Name: Hong Leong Bank

Bank Address: Level 18, Menara Hong Leong, 6 Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara

Account Number: 21200052039

SWIFT Code: HLBBMYKLXXX

5.8 Wise Payment Guide

For instructions on completing payment through Wise, please refer to the step-by-step guide.

Link: [Wise Payment Guide](#)

6. Additional Charges, Late Fees & Refund Policy

6.1 Late Registration

Registrations submitted after 11:59 PM on 14th December 2025 may still be considered at the Organiser's discretion, with an incur of a 50% surcharge on top of the standard competition fees.

6.2 Changes After the Registration Deadline

A RM50 administrative fee will be charged in the following cases:

1. Requests to modify competition details — such as repertoire titles or performance information — after the registration deadline.
2. Requests to change categories due to incorrect selection during registration.

6.3 Certificate Name & Reprint Policy

Any reprint due to misspelling, incorrect name, or loss of certificate will require a RM50 reprint fee, payable before the updated certificate is issued or sent.

6.4 Overpayment Policy

Any overpaid amount of RM10 or less will not be refunded.

7. Competition Criteria & Requirements

7.1 Eligibility & Competition Format

The competition is open to participants of all ages and nationalities. It consists of two stages:

1. Preliminary Round: Video submission
2. Live Finals: In-person performance

7.2 Performance Requirements

Each participant may submit only one piece or one medley per category. A medley refers to a continuous arrangement combining two or more songs.

1. Preliminary Round: There is no minimum or maximum duration for video submission. However, participants are encouraged to present their best and most representative performance within a reasonable timeframe.
2. Live Finals: A strict maximum time limit of 8 minutes applies. Any performance exceeding the limit — even slightly — will result in only 70% of the total score being counted.
3. Soloists (Age & Graded Categories): Participants may perform one movement from a multi-movement work or a complete piece/medley that fits within the allowed time.
4. Ensemble/Band: Groups may perform one piece or medley, as long as it fits within the time limit.

7.3 Multiple Entries

Participants may enter several categories or instruments. All entries from the same participant may be consolidated into one payment.

7.4 Category Classification

1. Age Category & Graded Category:
Solo entries only. Accompanists, if any, are not included in the judging.
2. Ensemble/Band Category:
For groups of 2 to 6 members. Two divisions are available:
 - a. Teen Ensemble/Band: 17 years and below
 - b. Adult Ensemble/Band: 18 years and above

7.5 Age Group Divisions

For Classical Piano, Contemporary Piano, Classical Violin, Contemporary Violin, Classical Vocal, Pop Vocal, Drums, and Ukulele

1. Young Musicians – 6 years and below
2. Cat 1 – 7 to 8 years old

3. Cat 2 – 9 to 11 years old
4. Cat 3 – 12 to 14 years old
5. Cat 4 – 15 to 17 years old
6. Cat 5 – 18 years and above

For Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, and Bass Guitar

1. Cat 2 – 9 to 11 years old
2. Cat 3 – 12 to 14 years old
3. Cat 4 – 15 to 17 years old
4. Cat 5 – 18 years and above

7.6 Graded Categories

Graded placement is determined by the difficulty level of the selected piece according to recognised music examination boards: **ABRSM, Trinity College London, RockschooL, London College of Music, and AMEB.**

Four graded levels are available for Classical Piano, Contemporary Piano, Classical Violin, Classical Vocal, Pop Vocal, and Drums:

L1: Grades 1 – 2

L2: Grades 3 – 4

L3: Grades 5 – 6

L4: Grades 7 – 8

7.7 Category Adjustment Policy

The Organiser has the authority to reassign a participant or ensemble to the correct category if:

1. A non-exam piece is performed in the Graded category
2. An incorrect musical style is selected for Classical/Contemporary Piano, Violin, or Vocal categories

Participants must cover any additional fee required for moving to a higher category. If the reassignment results in a category with a lower fee, the difference will be refunded online.

8. Criteria By Instruments & Category

8.1 General Requirements

Participants must upload a music score, lead sheet, or a brief written description of their piece during registration. Full backing tracks or tracks containing a continuous click track are strictly prohibited. A click track may only be used in specific sections where no other instrument provides a clear tempo cue. A count-in using a click is permitted.

8.2 Drums

All General Requirements listed above apply.

8.3 Piano

1. Classical Piano Category

Only solo performances are permitted. Accepted repertoire includes:

- a. Traditional classical works
- b. Instrumental piano compositions (e.g. Yiruma's Kiss the Rain, Richard Clayderman)

2. Contemporary Piano Category

Solo performances or performances with a backing track are allowed. Suitable styles include:

- a. Traditional jazz genres (ragtime, boogie-woogie)
- b. Popular, Latin, and tango music
- c. Soundtracks from movies, musicals, rock genres, and anime
- d. Modern arrangements of classical compositions (e.g. Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 Rock Version)

8.4 Violin

1. Classical Violin Category

Only solo performances are accepted. Repertoire must consist solely of traditional classical pieces.

2. Contemporary Violin Category

Solo or backing-track-supported performances are allowed. Accepted styles include:

- a. Traditional jazz (ragtime, boogie-woogie)

- b. Popular, Latin, and tango styles
- c. Film scores, musical theatre, rock, and anime music
- d. Modern reinterpretations of classical works (e.g. Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 Rock Version)

8.5 Vocals

1. Classical Vocal Category

Only solo vocal performances are allowed. Repertoire must be strictly traditional classical works.

2. Pop Vocal Category

Solo performances or performances with a backing track are allowed. Accepted genres include:

- a. Jazz forms (ragtime, boogie-woogie)
- b. Pop, Latin, and tango music
- c. Music from movies, musicals, rock, and anime
- d. Rearranged classical pieces adapted into modern genres (e.g. Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 Rock Version)

3. Effect Use

Vocal effect pedals are not allowed in any vocal category.

4. Language & Lyrics

Songs in any language are welcome. However, participants must upload an English translation of the lyrics together with the required music notation/lead sheet/description.

8.6 Ukulele, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar & Bass Guitar

All General Requirements apply. Effects pedals may be used; however:

1. Auto-tune and pitch-correction devices are prohibited.
2. Effects that alter the instrument to resemble a completely different instrument are not allowed.

8.7 Classical Ensemble / Modern Band (2 - 6 members)

Backing tracks are strictly prohibited for ensemble/band categories. The ensemble's age category is determined by the oldest member. There are no restrictions on instrument selection.

There are two divisions:

1. Teen Ensemble/Band: 17 years and below
2. Adult Ensemble/Band: 18 years and above

Classical Ensemble: Only traditional classical pieces may be performed.

Modern Band: Allowed genres include Blues, Country, Jazz, Pop, Rock, Folk, R&B, and other contemporary styles.

9. Video And Audio Recording Requirements

9.1 Visibility

The performer and their instrument must remain clearly visible for the entire duration of the video.

9.2 Continuous Recording & Synchronisation

Performances must be recorded in one uninterrupted take.

The audio must match the video perfectly — any mismatch between what is heard and what is seen is not permitted.

9.3 Performer Introduction

A short self-introduction before the performance is encouraged but optional. If the introduction is recorded separately, it may be combined with the main performance video.

9.4 Audio Integrity

Post-production audio processing is not allowed. The final audio must represent what adjudicators would realistically hear in a live studio environment, including natural balance between the live instrument (whether acoustic or amplified) and any allowed backing track. Mixing, editing, or applying audio effects after recording — if it alters or masks the true performance — will result in disqualification.

9.5 Clicks/Count-in

1. No Full Tracks or Backing Tracks with Clicks: The use of full tracks or backing tracks with clicks is NOT allowed. A part of the music track may include a click only if no other instruments provide tempo cues. (e.g. Bar 5-8 of “Favela Rockschoool Grade 6 Drums”).
2. Count-in: A count-in may be provided in the form of a click.

9.6 Recording Methods

3. Video and audio may be captured separately (e.g. one device for video and another for sound), as long as they are properly synchronised and merged afterwards. Pre-recorded audio is not allowed.
4. Alternatively, audio and video may be recorded simultaneously using a single device such as a video camera.

9.7 Digital Video Specifications

1. Videos may be recorded in horizontal or vertical orientation.
2. A minimum resolution of 720p is required, and the video must be clear and unobstructed.

9.8 Editing & Rule Compliance

Any form of editing such as cutting, stitching clips together, using pre-recorded audio, or violating any of the above requirements will lead to disqualification.

10. Adjudication Process

10.1 Performance-Based Evaluation

Judging is conducted solely on the participant’s performance. Scores and outcomes are determined 100% by the quality of the performance presented.

10.2 Final Judging Decisions

All decisions made by the adjudication panel are final and non-negotiable. Judges are not obligated to award finalists or winners if the standard of performance in any category falls below an overall score of 80%.

10.3 Minimum Entry Rule

If fewer than five (5) entries are received in a category, the Organiser reserves the right to: Combine categories, or Select fewer finalists than usual.

10.4 Judging Criteria

Judges will assess performances using the following considerations:

1. Musical Expression: Use of dynamics, interpretive choices, and emotional delivery
2. Stage Presence: Confidence, focus, and audience engagement. While attire is not scored, performers must dress appropriately.
3. Stylistic Awareness: Understanding of genre, musical style, and ability to transition between styles where applicable
4. Overall Musicianship: Balanced evaluation of both technical skill and artistic expression
5. Pitch, Rhythm, Tone & Articulation: Accuracy, clarity, and technical control

11. Prizes

11.1 Withdrawal or No-Show

Participants who withdraw or do not appear for either the Preliminary Round or the Live Finals will be disqualified and will not receive any certificates or awards.

11.2 Preliminary Round Awards

a. Participation Recognition.

Each entry will receive:

1. A digital Certificate of Participation

2. One online marking report
- b. Special Achievement Certificates

High-scoring participants in the Preliminary Round will receive an additional digital certificate:

1. Exceptional Performance: 90% and above
2. Excellent Performance: 80% – 89%

11.3 Finalist Selection

The top 5 participants in each category will be invited to the Live Finals. Finalists must complete the required registration and payment within the stated timeframe to confirm their participation.

11.4 Live Finals Awards

a. Award Materials

All finalists will receive:

1. A printed certificate
2. A trophy

b. Award Categories

1. Gold Award
2. Silver Award
3. Bronze Award

11.5 Special Awards

Special prizes may be introduced at the Organiser's discretion. The Organiser also reserves the right to withhold awards if it is deemed appropriate.

12. 2025 LIVE FINALS INFORMATION

The In-Person Live Finals will be held from 24th, 25th, 26th April 2026.

12.1 Communication

All event-related communication will be conducted only through the email and phone number of the Person-In-Charge as provided on the registration form.

12.2 Performance Format

The Live Finals will follow a Plug and Play system for these categories:

1. Solo performance using a backing track
2. Solo performance without a backing track
3. Violin or Vocal performance with a piano accompanist
4. Ensemble/Band performance without any backing track

12.3 Finalist Requirements

1. The top 5 qualifiers in each category from the Preliminary Round will receive an invitation to the Live Finals. Participation is not automatic.
2. Finalists who cannot attend or who fail to appear for their scheduled performance will not be eligible for any awards.
3. If finalists do not RSVP and complete payment by the stated deadline, the Organiser may select replacement finalists.

12.4 Piece Submission for Live Finals

1. Finalists may choose to perform either the same piece from the Preliminary Round or a new piece.
2. The selected piece must be submitted through the RSVP form.
3. Once submitted, no changes to repertoire are allowed.
4. Performing a piece different from the one submitted will result in disqualification from receiving Finals awards.

12.5 Backing Track Compliance

Any backing track used in the Live Finals must follow the same regulations for preliminary submission, whereas the use of full backing tracks or backing tracks containing a continuous click is strictly prohibited.

13. Legal Agreement

13.1 Authority to Revise

The Organiser retains full authority to update, modify, or adjust any rules or regulations at any time, as deemed necessary.

13.2 Acceptance of Terms

By completing and submitting the registration form, the participant — or the parent/guardian for participants under 16 — confirms that they have read, understood, and agreed to abide by all competition rules and regulations.

13.3 Contact Details

For inquiries or additional assistance, please reach out to the Organiser via email at risingvirtuosomc@gmail.com or WhatsApp at +6017 – 430 0027.