



Mākslu izglītības kompetences centrs
Nacionālā Mākslu vidusskola
Emīla Dārziņa mūzikas skola

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REGULATION

In Riga

30.05.2024.

*Issued in accordance with
AECC NSA paragraph 12.1.3., part II of the Regulation*

1ST INTERNATIONAL ILZE GRAUBIŅA PIANO COMPETITION

I GENERAL POINTS

1. This Regulation prescribes the procedures for the conduct of the 1st International Ilze Graubiņa Piano Competition (hereinafter – the competition).
2. The competition is organized in honor of the distinguished Latvian pianist and professor Ilze Graubiņa of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music.
3. The competition takes place at the Arts Education competence centre “National School of Arts” (hereinafter – AECC NSA) Emīls Darziņš music school (hereinafter – EDMS), Emīls Darziņš Concert Hall, Kalnciema street 12, Rīga, on March 7-11, 2025.
4. The aim of the competition is to develop and promote the professional and artistic development of young pianists in playing academic music.
5. Tasks of the competition are:
 - ✓ to promote the values of academic music;
 - ✓ to increase the interest of playing the pieces of Johann Sebastian Bach and other baroque composers in young performing artists;
 - ✓ to promote the experience exchange, repertoire exchange and the professional development of piano teachers;
 - ✓ to promote the international recognition of AECC NSA Emīls Darziņš music school.
6. Participants of the competition are students of music schools, vocational music secondary schools and students of higher music institutions in Latvia and abroad.
7. Official languages of the competition are Latvian and English.

II ORGANIZER OF THE COMPETITION

8. The competition is organized by AECC NSA EDMS in collaboration with Emils Darzins music school Support society. E-mail for information: graubinaskonkurss@nmv.gov.lv

III PARTICIPANTS AND SCHEDULE OF THE COMPETITION

9. Competition schedule:
- 9.1. pre-selection round in which video files are evaluated remotely (see requirements below);
 - 9.2. round I and II are happening in person.
10. The competition takes place in four different age groups (the threshold date for determining the age of participants is March 7, 2025):
- 10.1. **Group A:** 11 – 13 years old;
 - 10.2. **Group B:** 14 – 16 years old;
 - 10.3. **Group C:** 17 – 19 years old;
 - 10.4. **Group D:** 20 – 22 years old.
11. **All the pieces in the pre-selection round, round I and round II of the competition are played from memory.**
12. **The competition does not allow any pieces by Russian and Belarusian composers to be played in all rounds.**
13. The repertoire from the pre-selection round may be repeated in round I and II.
14. Program and requirements of the competition.
- 14.1. **Pre-selection round conditions.**
 - 14.1.1. Completed application form.
 - 14.1.2. **Program:**
 - ✓ one virtuoso etude;
 - ✓ one piece of free choice.Total timing must not exceed 10 minutes.
 - 14.1.3. **Quality requirements and submission of video recording:**
 - ✓ each piece should be recorded with a fixed camera, excellent audio quality, no editing.
 - ✓ each piece may be recorded separately;
 - ✓ the participant of the competition must be visible in the video in full height;
 - ✓ video recording must be uploaded to *YouTube* (**unlisted**);
 - ✓ the description of the video recording must include the name of the competition, the name of the participant, age group, first name and surname of the teacher, school and the repertoire;

- ✓ a link to the video uploaded to YouTube must be submitted.

14.2. Program of round I.

14.2.1. Group A:

- ✓ original piece by J. S. Bach;
- ✓ virtuoso etude of free choice;
- ✓ a piece by Latvian composer of free choice or a piece by a composer from the country represented by the participant of the competition.

Total timing must not exceed 12 minutes.

14.2.2. Group B:

- ✓ at least 2 contrasting movements from the French suites by J.S. Bach or suites by G.F. Handel;
- ✓ virtuoso etude of free choice;
- ✓ a piece by Latvian composer of free choice or a piece by a composer from the country represented by the participant of the competition.

Total timing must not exceed 15 minutes.

14.2.3. Group C:

- ✓ at least 2 contrasting movements from the French or English suites by J.S. Bach or suites by G.F. Handel;
- ✓ virtuoso concertetude of free choice;
- ✓ a piece by Latvian composer of free choice or a piece by a composer from the country represented by the participant of the competition.

Total timing must not exceed 20 minutes.

14.2.4. Group D:

- ✓ 3 contrasting movements from the English suites or partitas by J.S. Bach or suites by G. F. Handel;
- ✓ virtuoso concertetude of free choice;
- ✓ a piece by Latvian composer of free choice or a piece by a composer from the country represented by the participant of the competition.

Total timing must not exceed 25 minutes.

14.3. Program of round II.

14.3.1. Group A:

- ✓ Piece/-s or movements of pieces of composers from 17th-18th century;
- ✓ Piece/-s of free choice.

Total timing – 10-15 minutes.

14.3.2. Group B:

- ✓ One or multiple sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti;
- ✓ Piece/-s of free choice.

Total timing – 15-20 minutes.

14.3.3. **Group C:**

- ✓ One or multiple sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti;
- ✓ Piece/-s or movements of pieces of composers from 17th-18th century;
- ✓ Piece/-s of free choice.

Total timing – 20-25 minutes.

14.3.4. **Group D:**

- ✓ One or multiple sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti;
- ✓ Piece/-s or movements of pieces of composers from 17th-18th century;
- ✓ Piece/-s of free choice.

Total timing – 25-30 minutes.

IV APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND MEMBERSHIP FEE

15. Applications must be submitted by **December 2, 2024, 11.59 PM**. The application must be submitted electronically – the form is available here:

<https://forms.gle/tHEs8HifLaVoxZBG7>

16. Each participant must submit their application separately.

17. The organizers shall be entitled not to accept late applications.

18. Participation fees by group:

18.1. Group A – EUR 40;

18.2. Group B – EUR 50;

18.3. Group C – EUR 60;

18.4. Group D – EUR 70.

19. Participation fee must be transferred to the account of Emils Darzins music school Support society by December 7, 2024, with the following details written out:

Participation fee of Ilze Graubina competition, name and surname of the participant, school, group.

Account details:

Emīla Dārziņa mūzikas skolas atbalsta biedrība

Address: Kalnciema 12, Rīga, LV-1048

Registration No.40008255973

BANK: A/S Swedbank

CODE: HABALV22

ACCOUNT: LV35HABA0551046013665

20. Participants who have not paid the participation fee are not approved to participate in the competition.
21. The paid participation fee cannot be refunded.
22. The list of participants chosen for round I of the competition will be published on the EDMS website in www.edmskola.lv/konkursi on December 17, 2024.

V JURY OF THE COMPETITION, AWARDS

23. The jury of the pre-selection round consisting of 3 AECC NSA EDMS teachers will be announced on the school's website www.edmskola.lv/konkursi by November 15, 2024.
24. Rounds I and II of the competition will be judged by an international jury: Armands Ābols (Chile, Latvia), Hamsa Al-Wadi Juris (Finland), Sandra Jalaņeckā (Latvia), Jurgis Aleknavičius (Lithuania), Martti Raide (Estonia). *More information on the jury members can be found on pages 8-13.*
25. The jury of the competition will evaluate the performance of the participants of the competition on a 25-point scale in accordance with the following criteria:
 - 25.1. Technical accuracy (score – 0 to 5 points);
 - 25.2. Artistic performance (score – 0 to 5 points);
 - 25.3. Suitability of program difficulty (score – 0 to 5 points);
 - 25.4. Comprehension of specific style (score – 0 to 5 points);
 - 25.5. Tone quality (score – 0 to 5 points).
26. The maximum number of points which can be awarded to a participant by one jury representative is 25 points. The final score is obtained by dividing the sum of all the points awarded by the jury members with the number of members of the jury.
27. Students of members of the jury cannot participate in the competition.
28. The total number of participants chosen for rounds I and II of the competition is determined by the jury.
29. The competition panel has the right to award multiple 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, not to award places, award certificates of recognition and special prizes.

30. The prize fund of the competition is EUR 5550:

	I	II	III
Group A	300	200	150
Group B	500	300	200
Group C	700	500	300
Group D	1000	800	600

31. Special prizes:

31.1. For the best performance of a piece by J.S. Bach;

31.2. For the best performance of a piece by a Latvian composer;

31.3. Prize of Latvijas Radio 3 Klasika – a recording with Latvijas Radio;

31.4. Audience sympathy award;

31.5. GRAND PRIX.

32. There can be other special prizes.

33. Decision of the jury is final and cannot be disputed.

VI PROCEDURE OF CONDUCT OF THE COMPETITION

34. The competition is open to the public.

35. The repertoire submitted in the application form cannot be changed.

36. Registration for round I takes place from March 7, 2025.

37. Participants perform in order of the date of birth in each round, starting with the youngest.

38. Competition rehearsals take place from March 7, 2025.

39. Round I of the competition for groups A and B takes place on March 8, 2025.

40. Round I of the competition for groups C and D takes place on March 9, 2025.

41. Round II of the competition for groups A and B takes place on March 10, 2025.

42. Round II of the competition for groups C and D takes place on March 11, 2025.

43. Announcement of the competition results and award ceremony takes place on March 11, 2025.

VII RULES OF THE COMPETITION

44. An applicant becomes a participant in the competition after fulfilling all the competition regulations, requirements and transferring the participation fee by the specified deadline.

45. A participant of the competition that has been qualified to round I submits 5 copies of the sheet music of their chosen piece by Latvian composer or a piece by a composer from the country represented by the participant of the competition to the jury members.
46. Participants of the competition play their repertoire from memory and in accordance with the timing requirements.
47. The repertoire submitted in the application form cannot be changed.
48. Participants of the competition commit to participating in all rounds of the competition that they have qualified for, and in the award ceremony.
49. Travel and accommodation expenses are covered by participants of the competition.
50. On arrival for round I, the participant of the competition must show a valid identity document.
51. By submitting the application form, the participant or his or her legal guardian confirms that they have read the regulations of the competition.
52. In case of non-compliance to the rules, the organizers have the right to disqualify a participant of the competition.
53. The revenue from the participation fees is used to cover the organizational expenses of the competition and the prize fund.

VIII PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

54. The participants of the competition or their legal representatives are hereby informed that the processing of their personal data in the context of the competition is based on their consent, which is necessary for the processing of such data for the evaluation of the participants. Consent can be revoked at any time without prejudice to the lawfulness of the processing carried out prior thereto.
55. The participants in the competition are informed and agree that the information they provide may be used in the publicity materials of the organizers.
56. The organizers of the competition have the right to make the information indicated in the application and its annexes public (except passport data) about the participants and their photographs, as well as to make the results of the competition public.
57. The participants agree that when the results of the competition are made public, information about the winners of the prizes (first name, surname, school, country, result, place won/special prize) and their teachers (first name, surname, country) will be published.
58. Participants agree that EDMS practices photography and filming in its organized events in connection with various activities organized by the educational institution and events involving children and young people in order to show and reflect the events and history of

the educational institution, including in the form of images or photographs. Photographs and/or audio recordings and videos of the participant may be posted on the EDMS website and on the EDMS *Facebook* profile. Only those involved in the evaluation of the competition will have access to the videos of the participants.

59. The organizer of competition, AECC NSA EDMS (the controller), is responsible for the processing of participants' personal data in accordance with the applicable data protection legislation, including the General Data Protection Regulation and other legislation governing the privacy of individuals, including the principles and legal justifications referred to in the school's privacy policy.
60. Personal data obtained by the organizer in connection with the competition will only be processed for the purposes and publishing of the competition and will be stored for as long as is necessary until the objective is achieved in accordance with the law and the privacy policy developed by the institution that is available at <https://nmv.lv/dokumenti/>.
61. The data will be stored for one year from the date of publishing the competition results. The justification for the duration of storage is for the evaluation of the competition and its results in the project aftermath reports of the competition.

JURY

Armands Ābols (*Chile, Latvia*)



Born in Riga, the pianist started his career at Jazeps Mediņš music school and continued at Emils Darzins music school. Graduated from Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of music, he later studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music in the US. Armands Ābols has studied piano with Sergei Babayan, Ilze Graubiņa, Raita Krilova, Rūta Elberte and Brigita Doriņa, as well as participating in the masterclasses of Dmitri Bashkirov and Paul Shanley. Armands Ābols is currently teaching piano at the *Universidad Austral* Conservatory in Waldives, Chile.

Armands Ābols gained international recognition in 1992 when he won the Maria Canals International Pianist competition in Barcelona at the age of 18, having been the youngest in the competition. The pianist also won first place and gold medal in the International Luis Sigall pianist

competition in Vinja del Mar, Chile, where he received the Claudio Arrau Special award and the listeners' appreciation award. Later, in 1995, he received the finalist award at Paloma Oshea Santander International Pianist competition in Spain, and was also invited to tour 15 different Spanish cities. In 1999, the pianist received a prize for best interpretation of the Baroque period composition at the Cleveland International pianist contest in the US and the same year also a prize for best interpretation of Frederic Chopin's piece at the Andorra International pianist competition.

Armands Ābols regularly gives concerts in European, North and South American countries, including Carnegie Concert Hall and United Nations Hall in New York. Pianist has performed with the chamber orchestra *Gulbenkian*, Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Bogota Philharmonic Orchestra, Chilean Symphony Orchestra, Chilean Philharmonic Orchestra, Providence Symphony Orchestra. Armands Ābols has participated in notable music festivals like *Semana Musicales de Frutillar*, *Festival de Pirque* and *Grandes Pianistas de Teatro Municipal* in Chile, as well as *Liepaja Pianism Star Festival* in Latvia several times. Armands Ābols has recorded a piano anthology of Chilean composers into two CDs marking the 200-year anniversary of Chilean state independence. His concerts are regularly broadcasted on Spanish, Colombian, Chile and Latvian radio and television.



Hamsa Al-Wadi Juris (*Finland*)

Hamsa Al-Wadi Juris, born in Baghdad, grew up in Damascus, where she began her musical education at the Damascus Conservatory of Music founded by her father, Solhi Al-Wadi (1934-2007), a recognized composer and conductor in Syria. There she started piano lessons with her mother, Cynthia Everett Al-Wadi (1934-2009), a graduate of London's Royal Academy of Music, and later she studied with prof. Vladimir Bunin.

In 1982 Hamsa graduated with honors from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, where in 1985 she completed post-graduate studies. Her teacher was prof. Pavel Messner (1931-2005), former assistant to famous Russian pianist Emil Gilels. At the 1981 International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna she won fourth prize.

Concert appearances have taken Hamsa Al-Wadi Juris to the Baltic countries, Ecuador, France, Germany, Great Britain, Iceland, Scandinavia, the USA, and also to the Near East and Gulf States. She often performs in piano duos with her husband, Ecuadoran pianist Carlos Juris.

Since 1985 Hamsa resides with her family in Finland, where she has a teaching position in the piano faculty of the University of the Arts Sibelius Academy of Helsinki. Among her students are laureates of national and international competitions. She also works as a juror in piano competitions in Finland and abroad.

Sandra Jalaņeckā (*Latvia*)



Latvian pianist and teacher. She has worked at Emils Darzins music school with pianists and violinists for more than 25 years, combining the work of a teacher and concertmaster. Her students continue their studies in Latvian, German, French, Finnish universities with success.

Sandra Jalaņeckā has led masterclasses in Latvia, Estonia and Spain. From 2001 to 2003, she was the assistant of professor Arnis Zandmanis at Jazeps Vītols Latvian

Academy of music.

The pianist creates solo and chamber music programs by performing with Latvian and German musicians like the LNSO string quartet “3 +1”, the string trio, string quartet and wind quartet of the Augsburg Philharmonic, etc.

Sandra Jalaņeckā has recordings on the Latvian Radio - both solo and chamber music (with violinists Dace Salmiņa-Fricena and Eva Bindere).

She has participated in masterclasses with Lisa Pohjola, Antti Hoti, Arkady Sevidov and other pianists. Sandra Jalaņeckā is the 3rd prize winner of the II International Jāzeps Vītols Pianist competition.

The pianist started her musical education at Ventspils Music high school with the teacher Aina Adlere and continued at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of music with Professor Ilze Graubiņa, earning a Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees.

Jurgis Aleknavičius (*Lithuania*)

Jurgis Aleknavičius is one of the most talented Lithuanian pianists of his generation. He has received attention and was acknowledged by both Lithuanian and foreign audiences. Pianist's goal, who is constantly striving for the deep meaning in music, is to find balance between the technique and the intellect: while performing, Aleknavičius tries to find new original ideas empowered with energy to render live emotions.



The pianist's devotion to music has been internationally appreciated – Jurgis had organised solo concerts in Poland, Norway, Belgium, Italy, China. He participated in prestigious piano competitions in Italy, France, Sweden, and, of course, Lithuania. In 2010 he was awarded a diploma at an international S. Vainiūnas piano competition in Lithuania. 2021 he won grand prix in A. Dvarionaitės international piano competition grand prix in teachers category. Also he has given performances with Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra (artistic director M. Pitrenas) and Lithuanian National Chamber Orchestra (artistic director S.

Krylov).

Jurgis has studied in Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre where he received MA degree (Prof. A. Žvirblytė). In 2008 Jurgis underwent a traineeship in Royal Conservatory of Brussels, in the class of Prof. Blumental and Assist. Veekmans. In 2010 he studied in Norway, the Grieg Academy, his supervisor was Prof. Kayser. In 2015 he finished doctorate course (Aspirantura) in Rimsky-Korsakov St. Petersburg State Conservatory (lect. Prof. Nina Serilogina) then he came back to Vilnius and finished artistic doctorate studies (Prof. Jurgis Karnavičius).

In recent years Jurgis Aleknavičius became a well-known piano teacher. He works in Lithuanian Academy of Music and theatre as asistent under Prof. Jurgis Karnavičius. Also, gives lessons in National M.K. Čiurlionis school of art and Vilnius Juozas Tallat-Kelpša conservatory and occasionally gives masterclasses to young generation.

Martti Raide (*Estonia*)



Martti Raide began his piano studies in 1972 at the Tallinn Music High School, *under the tutelage of* Ell Saviak. In 1980, Martti Raide won the first prize in the competition for young pianists held in the Czech city of Ústí-nad-Labem. He graduated *cum laude* from the Tallinn State Conservatory (Prof. Bruno Lukk) and obtained his master's degree from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theater (Prof. Vilma Mallene). In 2010, he defended his doctoral thesis with a research on the performance style in the interpretation of Estonian song classics. In addition Martti Raide has studied in Berlin, at the Hanns Eisler School of Music with Prof. Wolfram Rieger and participated in a masterclass of Prof. Irwin Cage.

Martti Raide is one of the most sought-after Lied pianists in Estonia and has won the title of best accompanist in several competitions. As an active chamber musician and soloist, Raide has performed not only in his native Estonia, but also in several countries in Europe, America and Canada. Close cooperation ties him with tenor Mati Turi and his other stage partners include singers Helen Lokuta, Helen Lepalaan, Arete Kerge, Kädy Plaas, Jaakko Kortekangas, Villu Valdmaa, Rene Soom and many others. Raide has premiered more than 50 new works by Estonian composers including Amor, Grigorjeva, Mägi, Sumera, Kangro, Kõrvits, Tally, Siimer, Remme, Lattikas, Tulev, Lill and Uusberg. Estonian music recorded by Raide can be heard on several CDs, most notably the 2002 release "Estonian vocal music from the 20th century" (with Villu Valdmaa) and the 2017 album "Incantation of Snakes" with songs by Mart Saar (with Mati Turi).

Martti Raide is the chairman of the Estonian Richard Wagner Association, the vice-chairman of the Estonian Piano Teachers' Association and a member of the board of the International Artur Kapp Association. He is the artistic director of several competitions (Estonian Young Pianists' Competition "Sound of Estonia", Mart Saar Singers' Competition), frequent tutor at various masterclasses and member of many juries.

Martti Raide has written several music articles, mainly for the magazine "Music" and the newspaper "Sirp". In the 2014/15 season, he was the initiator and artistic advisor for the concert series "Die schöne Müllerin / The Lovely Mill-maiden". In 2020, he participated as an actor and pianist in the musical play "Shadow Circle. A musical evening with Aino Tamm".

Martti Raide has been working as a teacher at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theater since 1993, from 1993 to 2022 he was the head of the piano department of the Tallinn Music High School and from 2022 he is Head Teacher of Keyboard Studies at the Tallinn Music and Ballet School. In 2021, he received the Pedagogue Recognition Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia.

Headmaster of AECC NSA Emils Darzins music school

signature* Iveta Lāce

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