

RULES

ENTRANCE RULES

1. Professionals/Novices

CFMDS is a festival for amateur performers. For this purpose, an amateur is defined as one who is in full-time or higher education or is over the age of 22 and does not derive fees from performance or teaching of the subject of the class for which the entry is made. Professionals may only participate in 'Open' classes or as accompanists or conductors. Professionals entering classes not marked as 'Open' will not be adjudicated.

A novice is classed as someone who has not taken part in any Festival previously.

2. Entry

Entries, accompanied by the entry fee, must be made not later than Wednesday 1 December 2021. Entries will not be accepted after this date. No entry will be accepted unless accompanied by the full entry fee. No entry fees can be refunded.

The Committee shall have the right to transfer an entry to any other class or, if expedient, to reject it. Any class may be withdrawn if, in the opinion of the Committee, there are not sufficient entries.

3. Age Limits

Age limit in individual classes is governed by the competitor's age on **1 SEPTEMBER 2021**. It does not apply to accompanists. For School Choirs, School Orchestras / Bands etc., the qualifying age is **1 SEPTEMBER 2021**.

4. Admission Fees & Other Criteria

A timetabling email will be issued to all competitors which gives free admission to the session(s) in which they are to appear. All non-competitors are required to pay the admission charge as printed in the Festival Programme or stated on the door. Performers must be available ten minutes before the class is due to start. Rehearsal is permitted **only** in warm-up rooms provided for entrants.

5. Acceptance of Entries

The Committee reserves the right, at its unfettered discretion, to decline to accept any entry, without giving any reason.

PERFORMANCE RULES

6. 'Own Choice' Pieces

Music and Speech: A copy of the item(s) to be performed, with the competitor's name and class thereon, must be handed to the Adjudicator's steward, **on the day**, before the commencement of each class.

N.B. Where an accompanist has been arranged, a separate copy of 'Own Choice' music must be sent to the accompanist **by the first week in January 2022**.

The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who fails to comply.

Mime Solo classes: Performers must provide their own musical accompaniment if this is required.

Speech and Drama classes, including Musical Theatre: 'Own choice' entries for duos and duologues should preferably be non-copyright plays or poems, but if copyright plays are chosen, competitors **MUST** produce, at the time of the performance, written authority from the author or publisher, to present the selected piece.

7. Copyright

The Festival is affiliated to the British Federation of Festivals and is covered by its group licence for PRS and PPL. In addition to this we have ALCS cover for performers of verse and prose items. It is the responsibility of the performer to ensure all copyright and licensing obligations for their performance piece have been met. Acceptance of entries will be on the assumption that the necessary permission has been given.

8. Set Pieces & Own Choice Pieces

For set pieces, the prescribed editions of Speech & Music must be used and rendered exactly as

written (and in the same key) except where otherwise stated. For all classes, the same piece may not be performed in more than one class in the same year, **except** for one item only of two or more items performed in a recital class. Performance of a repeated piece will not be adjudicated.

9. Time Limits

When set, time limits must be adhered to without exception. Adjudicators' attention will be drawn to this rule. Any infringement will be penalised by reduction of marks or disqualification. The time limit for each class includes time required to set up, including tuning and spoken introduction.

10. Music Stands

Competitors must provide their own music stands if required.

11. Conductors

Choirs and orchestras are allowed a conductor. No competitor other than a conductor may be entered in more than one choir or orchestra in the same class.

12. Junior Orchestras, Ensembles or Groups.

These may include not more than two adult members, provided that they do not play leading roles.

13. Recorded Accompaniment

The use of CD recordings, instead of an accompanist, to provide piano accompaniment for other instruments, is permitted, providing the recording is part of a professionally published musical edition. The means of playing such recordings must be supplied by the competitor.

AUDIENCE RULES

14. Photography/Videos/Mobile Phones

No unauthorised photography or video recording inside the performance area is allowed at our Festival, and all electronic devices (including mobile phones) MUST be switched off. Those failing to comply will be asked to leave the venue.

Where parents/guardians/carers do not wish photos to be taken at all, then the responsible adult attending should ensure that their child/pupil/vulnerable adult is not included in official authorised photos.

CERTIFICATE & AWARD RULES

15. Certificates

Music & Speech classes: All competitors will receive a certificate/adjudication sheet. Marking will be divided into 6 categories as specified by the British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance & Speech:

90+ or OUTSTANDING An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically.

87– 89 or DISTINCTION An excellent performance technically and artistically.

84-86 or COMMENDED A convincing performance technically and artistically.

81–83 or MERIT A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability.

78–80 or MODERATE A performance showing development of technique and/or communication.

75-77 or FAIR A performance limited in its communication.

Dancing classes: All competitors will receive a certificate/adjudication sheet. Marking will be divided into 6 categories as specified by the British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech for use at Dance Festivals:

90+ or OUTSTANDING - An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically.

87-89 or DISTINCTION - An excellent performance technically and artistically.

84-86 or COMMENDED - A convincing performance technically and artistically.

81-83 or MERIT - A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or communication.

75-77 or FAIR - A performance limited in its communication.

Cups and/or medals may also be awarded, depending on the section.

16. Trophies

Recipients will be responsible for their safe custody and return, and for any new inscription thereon. Such inscriptions must not be made on the actual trophy, but upon a small plate/shield to be attached to the base. Joint winners of a single trophy must arrange privately for any share in engraving costs and agree on transfer of the trophy during the year. Any damage must be reported to the Section Leader. Addresses for the return of trophies **IN PERSON** will be notified to winners on the day.

GENERAL RULES

17. Dancing Classes

Competitors may only enter once in each class in solo sections. Competitors can enter twice in duet/trio/quartet and group sections.

Singing is only permitted in the following sections: song and dance solos, cabaret duets, cabaret trios/quartets and song and dance groups.

Character section to be based on classical ballet or Greek technique.

Music for dancing should be provided by the competitor on CD. Amplification is provided by the Festival. The use of resin is strictly prohibited.

For safeguarding purposes only teachers, parents or licensed chaperones are to accompany competitors beyond registration at stage door. Teachers will only be permitted side stage for the purposes of supporting a competitor with use of a prop or costume. For the purposes of health and safety competitors will be required to sign in and out when leaving the backstage area.

18. Adjudicators

The Committee may appoint other adjudicators if the entries should warrant it or if an adjudicator engaged is unable to attend. **Communication with adjudicators by teachers, competitors or other interested parties is prohibited.**

The Adjudicators' decisions shall be final. They shall have the power to withhold any award and may stop any performance at their discretion.

19. Disputes

The decision of the Committee, upon all questions or disputes arising out of or not provided for in these rules, shall be final. The Committee reserves the right to qualify any rule or to make any other rules as occasion may arise.

Complaints, protests, or representation must be made in writing and addressed to one of the Secretaries, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.