



**NORTH LONDON FESTIVAL OF
MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA**

2022 Syllabus for Composition

North London Festival of Music,
Speech and Drama:

Monday 14 March – Friday 1 April
and

Saturday 23 April – Saturday 14 May

Composition Competitions at 3 pm
on Sunday 8th May

Venue: Hampstead Garden Suburb Free
Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG

Adjudicator: Paul Harris



Information and Rules of Entry

Compositions can be performed live, or a CD recording provided on the day of adjudication. All compositions must be presented with a commentary to introduce the piece prior to its performance.

To be eligible for 700 to 703, pieces must be composed using the fifteen Starting Points for Composition. These are on page 3 of this section syllabus and can also be downloaded from the Composition page of the Festival website: www.northlondonfestival.org.uk.

The timings below refer to the maximum length of performance including the commentary presentation.



The Music Master Publications Ltd will award book prizes to the winners of each category, and an overall winner will receive the title, 'North London Festival Best Composer' and will be presented with a certificate and trophy during the end of Festival concert on Saturday 15th May 2022.

		Time Limit (mins)	Fee £
700	Junior Composition — aged 12 years and under.	3	15.00
701	Intermediate Composition — aged 13—15.	5	18.00
702	Senior Composition — aged 16—17 years.	7	20.00
703	Advanced Composition — aged 18 and over.	10	23.00

Closing date for entries Friday 15th April 2022

How to enter

Enter online via the Festival's website – northlondonfestival.org.uk

Then send your compositions — a musical score or graphic realisation, recording and written commentary
— to the Section Head, Graham Bennett:

18 Uxbridge Road, Wendover, Aylesbury, HP22 5TA.

tel: 01296 623 351, email: compositionnlf@outlook.com



Starting Points for Composition

1. Compose a solo piece for the pianoforte — any style.
2. Compose a piece which explores counterpoint — free choice of instruments, but no more than five.
3. Compose a Pop Song - must include both chorus and verse.
4. Compose a piece for any stringed instrument — free choice.
5. Compose a piece which reflects an important feature of the Classical era (1750— 1800).
6. Compose a piece which reflects an important feature of the Late Romantic era (1850—1900).
7. Compose a piece for three different instruments. Each instrument must belong to a different family.
8. Compose a piece which explores and challenges the playing techniques of a solo instrument of your choice.
9. Compose a piece with two contrasting sections.
10. Compose a piece which explores musical movements of the 20th century; for example, minimalism, serialism, aleatoric music etc.
11. Compose a soundtrack suitable for a film scene. This could be for a well-known film or an imaginary scene.
12. Compose a piece which represents a jazz style (free choice).
13. Compose a percussion piece to celebrate an African harvest festival.
14. Compose a piece inspired by a poem. This could be a well-known poem, or a poem you have written yourself.
15. Compose a piece which brings together two different cultures.

Building your Commentary

When writing your commentary please consider the three questions below:

1. What were the stimuli or starting points for your composition?
2. What compositional processes and developments did you explore/discover whilst composing your piece?
3. What challenges did you encounter relating to instruments, textures, and playing techniques?



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Festival Administrator:

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For venues, a full list of competitions and an online entry form, visit

www.northlondonfestival.org.uk

or email: enquiriesnlf@outlook.com