

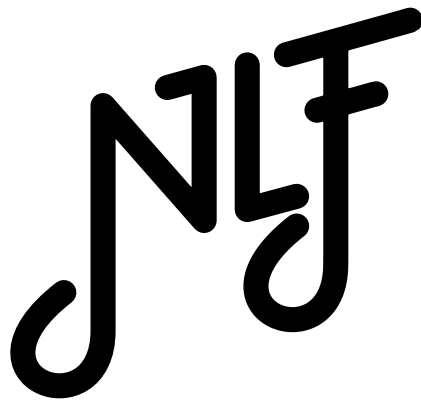
NORTH LONDON *festival* OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA

NORTH LONDON  
*festival*

OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA

Syllabus for Composition

2020



Centenary Year

Monday 2 March – Friday 3 April  
and  
Thursday 16 April – Monday 25 May

## Composition

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 6:00 pm**

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

**Adjudicator: Dr Timothy Bowers**

Public performance, adjudication and prize giving will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. All participants will be notified in writing with specific information relating to their entry shortly after the closing date. If a competitor has been a pupil of an Adjudicator in the six-months prior to the Festival, they should contact the Composition Section Head before entering a class judged solely by that Adjudicator.

### 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. Book prizes from The Music Master Publications Ltd will be awarded to the winners of each category, and an overall winner will be chosen to receive the title of 'North London Festival Best Composer' and will be presented with a certificate and trophy during the end of Festival concert on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020. To be eligible for H02 to H05, pieces must be composed using the fifteen Starting Points for Composition. These are included on page 4 of this section syllabus and can also be downloaded from the Composition page of the Festival website: [www.northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://www.northlondonfestival.org.uk).

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

		Time Limit (mins)	Fee £
H01	Fanfare Competition (see the next page)	15	50.00
H02	Advanced Composition – aged 19 and over.	10	23.00
H03	Senior Composition – aged 16–18 years.	7	20.00
H04	Intermediate Composition – aged 13–15.	5	18.00
H05	Junior Composition – aged 12 years and under.	3	15.00

**Closing date for entries Friday 17 April 2020**

#### How to enter

Please 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](mailto:compositionnlf@outlook.com)

## H01 - Fanfare Composition Prize

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 6:00 pm

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

### Adjudicator: Dr Timothy Bowers

The centenary of the North London Music Festival is in November 2020.

To celebrate this very special year we are holding a competition open to composers of all ages. The challenge is to write a fanfare to commemorate the centenary year. This fanfare must reflect the grandeur, pomp and circumstance associated with the occasion.

The piece can be composed for any single orchestral instrument or for an ensemble of up to eight players using any combination of instruments, but with one player per part. The maximum performance time is 15 minutes.

Adjudication and prize-giving will take place at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church, Central Square, NW11 7AG on Thursday 7 May 2020.

The winner will be awarded a £1000 cash prize and, at the discretion of the Festival Executive Committee, the prize-winning piece will be performed to open the Centenary Concert in November 2020.

**Entry fee - £50**

**Closing date for entries Friday 17 April 2020**

**How to enter**

Please send your completed score with a recording (live or digital) to:  
the Section Head, Graham Bennett:  
18 Uxbridge Road, Wendover, Aylesbury, HP22 5TA.  
tel: 01296 623 351, email: [compositionnlf@outlook.com](mailto: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've written yourself.
15. Compose a piece which brings together two different cultures.

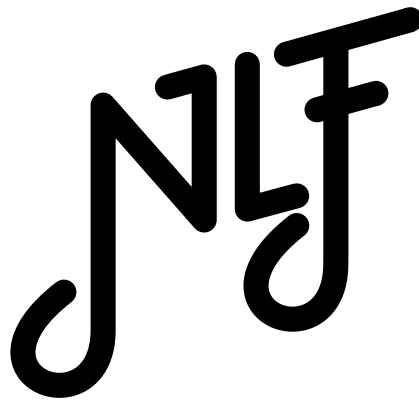
## Building your Commentary

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

[www.northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://www.northlondonfestival.org.uk)

email: [enquiriesnlf@outlook.com](mailto:enquiriesnlf@outlook.com)

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