

PIANO CAMPUS 2026

INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

February 13th, 14th and 15th - 24th edition
Pontoise - France

Chairman of the jury : Michel Beroff
Guest composer : Lise Borel

APPLICATION FILE

Free registration

Age : 16 - 25

Prizes : 30 000€

Application deadline :

November 21st, 2025

11:59pm



THE COMPETITION



1. THE SPIRIT

Piano Campus is an annual international piano competition, this year taking place on February 13^h, 14th and 15th 2026.

The spirit of Piano Campus can be defined as followed : ***audacity, excellence, dynamism and youth.***

2. APPLICATION - SEMI-FINAL

> The 2026 competition is open to candidates born between 2000 and 2009.

> The pianistic level of the candidates has to be international.

> The application to Piano Campus is free.

> Each candidate has to complete and return this application file by email, with all documents requested **(Any incomplete file will be refused)** :

- Curriculum vitae

- Letter of introduction of an eminent personality of the international scene or musical pedagogy

- Youtube link (superior quality) obligatory including maximum 15 minutes of recital recorded using only one static camera and a single take without any editing. The video recording has to be under two years old. Several works of different periods including :

- * a baroque piece

- * a piece of virtuosity

- * one movement from a sonata

3. SELECTION

After reception of all the candidates files **(deadline : 2025, November the 21st, 11:59pm)**, the artistic committee of Piano Campus will select 12 candidates for the semi-final by taking into account all the elements of the file and also the nationality of the candidate so that a large number of countries is represented.

4. ALL IS FREE

All is taken into account by the Piano Campus organization.

> **Transport** : when you receive the confirmation of your selection, we ask you to book a low cost train ticket (or a low cost flight if you travel by plane), and to keep the receipt for refunding : Piano Campus refunds the travel fees up to 500€.

> **Accommodation and meals** : nights & breakfasts - lunches - dinners, from February 6th in the evening to 10th in the morning. Candidates are required to stay on site from Thursday evening to Monday morning. **Any candidate disrespecting this rule will be struck off and will not be taken into account by Piano Campus organisation.**

5. SEMI-FINAL

> **30 minutes maximum** (*including the compulsory piece*)
including 4 pieces :

> **A compulsory piece** (to play at the beginning of the program) :

Francis POULENC

Novelette n°3 in E minor

«Andantino tranquillo»,

on a theme of Manuel de Falla

+ One of the 18th century

+ One of the 19th century

+ One of the 20th century
- From Debussy to Ligeti

6. FINAL

The jury will select **only three applicants** to take part in the final with the Orchestra of the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Paris Ida Rubinstein, conducted by Benoît Girault.

The imposed program of the final is :

1) The world Premiere for piano and orchestra of the imposed piece of the guest composer, Lise Borel.

2) *Rhapsody of a theme of Paganini in A m, Opus 43*, Sergei Rachmaninov

NB : the piece of the guest composer can be played with the score and will be sent to the 12 selected candidates approximately at the beginning of december.

REGISTRATION

Nationality

.....

Surname

.....

First Name

.....

Date of birth

.....

Adress

.....

Postcode

.....

City

.....

Country of residence

.....

Email

.....

Mobile

.....

PROGRAMS

1. SEMI-FINAL

30 minutes maximum *(including the compulsory piece)*

> The imposed piece :

Francis POULENC Novelette n°3 in E minor
«*Andantino tranquillo*», on a theme of Manuel de Falla

+ Piece of the 18th century

.....

.....

+ Piece of the 19th century

.....

.....

+ Piece of the 20th century, from Debussy to Ligeti :

.....

.....

2. FINAL

1) The world Premiere for piano and orchestra
of the imposed piece of the guest composer,
Lise Borel.

2) *Rhapsody of a theme of Paganini in A m,*
Opus 43, Sergei Rachmaninov

PIANO CURRICULUM

1. NAME OF YOUR MUSIC SCHOOL, CONSERVATORY, ACADEMY ...

.....

.....

.....

2. PRINCIPAL TEACHERS

.....

.....

.....

3. DEGREES

.....

.....

.....

COMMITMENT

I,

☐ Agree to take part in the 24th Piano Campus, Pontoise - International Piano Days - February 13th, 14th & 15th 2026

☐ And to obey and respect the different rules regarding the entrance form and reception of the candidates.

On the In

Signature

Don't forget to attach :

> a YouTube link

> A letter of reference

NOTA BENE > For the minor, a parental authorization is needed (please attach it to this inscription).

RULES OF PROCEDURE – CANDIDATES

ARTICLE 1 - Semi-final and Final random draw

Contestants will play in the order determined by drawing lots. The draw will take place during the welcome dinner, on Thursday 12th of February 2026 at the B&B Hotel Cergy Port in Cergy. Contestants are required to attend the draw in person. A second draw will be held to determine the order of the final round, after the semi-final round. The public may attend all rounds of the competition.

ARTICLE 2 - Compulsory piece

Contestants must begin their solo programme in semi-final round on the 13th of February with the compulsory work by **Francis POULENC** Novelette n°3 in E minor «*Andantino tranquillo*», on a theme of Manuel de Falla.

The rest of the programme is a free choice of the candidate as long as it follows the following rule : one piece from the 18th century, one of the 19th century and one from Debussy/Ravel to Ligeti.

ARTICLE 3 - Timing

If contestants play longer than the allotted 30 minutes, the Chairman of the Jury may stop the contestant without penalizing them.

ARTICLE 4 - Jury

Jury members have to attend the two days 13th and 15th of February of the competition for their votes to be valid. If one jury member can not attend the semi-final, he will be excluded from the jury. The guest composer will only vote for his prize during the Finale.

ARTICLE 5 - The international competition

1. SEMI-FINAL

The first vote

Each Jury member will choose 3 candidates they want to send in the final round. The one who receives the absolute majority of vote is automatically qualified for the final round. If 2 candidates receive the absolute majority of votes, both are qualified for the final round ; when it is 3 candidates that receive that same number of votes, they are all qualified for the final round.

* **If none of the candidate receive the absolute majority of vote**, the jury votes again, only between the 6 candidates that received the biggest amount of votes. Each member of the jury chooses 3 candidates, and is sent in the finals the one that received the biggest amount of votes. If 2 candidates received the same amount of vote, they are both taken on for the finals. If 3 of them receive the same amount of vote, those are taken on for the final. No more vote is thus needed.

Second vote

Each jury member chooses 2 candidates among the 5 candidates left. If 2 candidates receive the same number of higher votes, both are qualified to the final round. In the case of an equality, the Chairman of the jury's choice is decisive.

Third vote

Each jury member chooses 1 candidate among the 4 candidates left. If 2 candidates receive the same number of votes, the Chairman of the jury's choice is decisive.

Brigitte Engerer Prize

Jury's members will attribute to one of the 9 candidates left the Prize Rousseau Automobiles « coup de coeur du jury Brigitte Engerer ». This 500€ prize awards a very talented candidate who has got a big potential to start a good career.

2. FINALE

After the final round, each member of the jury chooses 1 candidate to be the Gold Piano Campus. If one candidate gets the majority of votes, they are declared Gold Piano Campus. If none of them gets the majority, the jury votes a second time between the two candidates that had the highest amount of vote. Then, the jury votes for the Silver, and the Bronze is logically deducted. In case of an equality, the chairman of the jury decides.

Piano Campus Prize of the best interpretation of the contemporary piece : in 2026, Lise Borel's piece is compulsory. The piece can be performed with the score. The jury and the composer will determine the prize based on a vote after the finale : the composer has a total of 50% of the votes, and the rest of the jury get the 50% remaining.

3. THE GOLD SILVER AND BRONZE PIANO CAMPUS PRIZES

The Gold Piano Campus - 5 000 € + 200 CDs - The Pontoise city prize & CDs offered by Piano Campus

The Silver Piano Campus - 4 000 € - The Cergy-Pontoise conurbation authority prize

The Bronze Piano Campus - 3 000 € - The Department prize

4. PRIZES OF HONOUR & SPECIAL PRIZES BY PARTNERS

Special prizes, whose representatives attend the semi-final and final rounds as audience members, may be awarded after the eliminatory round. If these prizes are awarded after the elimination round, this information will be kept secret from the Jury and the audience, and will be announced only at the closing ceremony. However, representatives of these prizes may also attend the final round in order to determine their choices.

PRIZES OF HONOUR

Piano Campus « Région Ile-de-France » special prize : 5 000€

« **Aline Foriel-Destezet prize** » - **10. 000€** - engagements for a recital during the Piano Campus Festival 2027 & other festivals or concerts (7.000€) + 3.000€ prize

SPECIAL PRIZES

Piano Campus Audience prize : 1 000€ - *Awarded by The Credit Agricole of Pontoise*

The audience will vote for the « Piano Campus Audience Prize ».

« **Monti Enterprize Prize** » **2000€** - engagement for a recital in the 2027 Piano Campus Festival (1000€) and 1000€ prize

« **Barreau du Val d'Oise prize** » - **1 500€**

« **Les Étoiles du Classique prize** » engagement for a recital in the 2026-2027 season

« **Festival d'Auvers-sur-Oise prize** » engagement for a recital in the 2027 season

« **Festival Baroque de Pontoise prize** » engagement for a recital in the 2026-2027 season

« **Prix de la Ville d'Achères** » - engagement for a recital in the 2026-2027 season

« **Piano retrouvé aux Musicales d'Arnouville prize** » engagement for a recital in the 2026 season

Piano Campus prize for the best performance of the contemporary piece

« **Piano Campus Orchestra prize** »

The Orchestra will also award the « Piano Campus Orchestra Prize » after the final round. This prize will be announced by the Orchestra's conductor.

Rousseau Automobile « coup de coeur du jury Brigitte Engerer Prize » - 500€ - This prize awards a very talented candidate who has got a big potential to start a good career.

« **The viewers prize** » this prize awards the candidate that received the most votes from people watching the competition online.

More prizes could be announced later on

5. SPECIAL MENTIONS - DIPLOMAS

The Jury may award special mentions after the semi-final and final rounds.

ARTICLE 6 - Prizes

The Piano Campus Gold, Silver and Bronze prizes are necessarily awarded at every competition by the jury. These 3 prizes cannot be shared.

The Piano Campus special prizes are necessarily awarded at every competition by partners having followed all the competition. These special prizes cannot be shared.

ARTICLE 7 - Jury's decisions

The Jury's decisions are final.

ARTICLE 8 - Closing ceremony

A closing ceremony will take place on the stage in the presence of all 12 candidates and the results will be announced by the Chairman of the jury and the chairman of Piano Campus, with the members of the jury.

ARTICLE 9 - Dressing code

Piano Campus prides itself on being a youthful, exciting and dynamic experience for all contestants. Originality and naturalness are encouraged. Contestants are free to choose their outfits for the semi-final and final rounds.

ARTICLE 10 - Recording

The international competition Piano Campus is recorded and filmed during the semi-final and the final. These recordings (sound and video) are the property of AEuropAA, association managing Piano Campo, which can use them for its communication and its influence. Every candidate will receive a copy «sound archive» of their program at the end of the semi-final and of the final.

ARTICLE 11 - Rules

All candidates will be taken in charge (transportation / accommodation / meal) and with no registration fees, and will have the obligation to remain on site from Thursday evening until Monday morning to the B&B Hotel Cergy of Cergy-Pontoise and to respect the schedule of the main appointments. All of this guarantees the spirit of the competition encouraging exchanges and conviviality : **any candidate disrespecting this rule will be struck off.**

ARTICLE 12 - Final selection

All the candidates that are not selected for the Final will have to be present at the meeting with the Chairman of the jury, at the lunch which will follow this meeting and at the Masterclass on Saturday the 14th as well as at the end of final of the competition on Sunday the 15th, during the delivery of Trophies on stage and in proper clothing. **Every candidate not respecting this rule will not be taken in charge by the Piano Campus organization.**

DON'T FORGET !

APPLICATION DEADLINE

November 21st, 2025 - 11:59pm

30 000€ prizes, special prizes and mentions

TO SEND THE APPLICATION FILE

> *By email :*

pianocampusconcours@gmail.com

You can download the application file on the website

www.piano-campus.com

CONTACT

A question, a piece of information ?

Contact us :

Tel > (+33) 1 34 35 18 53

email > pianocampusconcours@gmail.com

site web > www.piano-campus.com