



2026 edition

Baroque Legacy

6 - 8 February 2026
IAȘI, ROMANIA

Elite Musicians - International Festival & Competition

PIANO AND STRINGS

Iași, Romania | 6-8 February 2026

REGULATIONS

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The status of participant in the **Elite Musicians Festival & Competition** offers candidates the opportunity to be evaluated by musicians of international prestige, thus contributing to the development of an objective perspective on their artistic level and motivating them to continue their professional journey.

Winners will have the opportunity to perform **solo and chamber recitals**, essential experiences for artistic growth and stage maturity.

Participants may also be invited to attend **masterclasses, workshops, and conferences** offered by jury members, activities designed to support interpretative improvement and professional development.

In 2026, the **George Enescu National University of Arts, Iași**, in partnership with the **Octav Băncilă National College of Arts, Iași**, and the **Iris Vox Association**, organizes the **6th International Edition** of the Elite Musicians Festival, to be held in-person in Iași, Romania.

The Festival–Competition is open to **students from public and private educational institutions**, offering them a high-level competitive environment intended to encourage **artistic excellence and musical performance**.

In conformity with the legal regulations in force, **no competitions will be organized for students in grades I-IV**, corresponding to **categories A1, A2, A3, and B1, B2**.

For these age categories, within the **Elite Musicians program**, a **non-competitive festival** shall be organized, aiming to promote **creativity, artistic expressiveness, and active involvement in musical activities**.

Participants will be **acknowledged and rewarded with Certificates of Merit and Certificates of Excellence**, in recognition of their **talent, effort, and passion for the musical arts**.

I. CATEGORIES AND REPERTOIRE

Category A – Piano

Subcategory

A1	6–7 years
A2	8–9 years
A3	10–11 years
A4	12–13 years
A5	14–15 years
A6	16–17 years
A7	18–19 years (only school students may compete)
A8	University and master’s students specializing in piano (main major)
A9	University and master’s students studying piano as a secondary specialization

Repertoire category A

Candidates will perform:

- One work from the **Baroque or Pre-Classical period** (for Suites or Partitas, only three contrasting dances/movements), and
- One **stylistically different work of choice** (for Classical Sonatas or Sonatinas, only the first movement).

One of the two pieces may be a virtuosic study at least at the level of the candidate's academic curriculum.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Performance time limits:

Categories A1–A3: max. 10 minutes

Categories A4–A5: max. 15 minutes

Categories A6–A9: max. 25 minutes

Category B – String Instruments (Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Guitar)

Subcategory

B1	8–9 years
B2	10–11 years
B3	12–13 years
B4	14–15 years
B5	16–17 years
B6	18–19 years (only school students may compete)
B7	University and master's students specializing in viola, cello, double bass, or guitar (main major)
B8	University and master's students studying one of the above instruments as a secondary specialization

Repertoire categories B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B8

Candidates will perform:

- Two stylistically different works of choice from the **Pre-Classical, Classical, Romantic, or Modern** repertoire.

One of the two works may be a virtuosic study at the level of the curriculum.

One piece must be performed with piano accompaniment.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Performance time limits:

Categories B1–B2: max. 10 minutes

Categories B3–B5: max. 15 minutes

Repertoire categories B6, B7

Cello:

- Two contrasting dances from a **J.S. Bach** Suite and one stylistically different work of choice, with piano accompaniment.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Viola:

- Two contrasting movements from the Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin (transcriptions) or from the Cello Suites (first three transcriptions) by **J.S. Bach**, and one stylistically different work of choice, with piano accompaniment.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Double Bass:

- **Category B6:** Two contrasting movements from a Pre-Classical Sonata (by W. de Fesch, A. Ariosti, H. Eccles, B. Marcello, A. Vivaldi, or J.S. Bach) and one stylistically different work of choice, with piano accompaniment.
- **Category B7:** Two contrasting movements from the Cello Suites, Partitas, or Sonatas for solo violin (transcriptions) by **J.S. Bach**, and one stylistically different work of choice, with piano accompaniment.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Guitar:

- One work from the **Baroque/Pre-Classical period** (two contrasting dances/movements in the case of suites) and one stylistically different work of choice.

The repertoire will be performed from memory, without repetition.

Performance time limits

Categories B6, B7: 25 minutes

II. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration is completed via a **Google Forms application**, filled out in uppercase letters and using diacritics.

Forms may be submitted between **20 December 2025 and 20 January 2026** via the following link:

Registration form

The **registration fee** consists of **a donation of 200 RON**, payable to the **Iris Vox Association** at Banca Transilvania:

- **RON:** RO03BTRLRONCRTOCQ1134201
- **EUR:** RO47BTRLEURCRTOCQ1134201
- **USD:** RO59BTRLUSDCRTOCQ1134201

The donation is non-refundable in case of non-participation.

Proof of payment must be uploaded in the Google Form along with the other required documents.

By submitting the registration form, the participant:

- Consents to the processing of personal data and personal image for purposes strictly related to the competition.
- Accepts and agrees to fully comply with all provisions of the present Regulation.

III. THE JURY

- The jury shall be composed of **renowned pedagogues and musicians** with significant achievements nationally and internationally.
- Jury members will present **lectures (online or live)** on specialized musical topics and will perform **recitals at the opening and closing** of the competition.
- The jury members will be honored for their contribution to **the promotion of authentic values** and for **the fairness of evaluation**.

IV. AWARDS

- Prizes (I, II, III, IV) shall be awarded **only for categories A4–A9 and B3–B8**.
- The jury's decisions are final and cannot be contested.
- Participants in categories **A1, A2, A3 and B1, B2** will receive **Certificates of Merit, Certificates of Excellence**, and **Special Diplomas**, their performances being evaluated **outside the competitive framework**.
- Candidates achieving **the Absolute First Prize (100 points)** will perform in the **Laureates' Gala**.
- Jury members will offer **live or online lessons** to Absolute First Prize winners.
- Awards will include **monetary prizes, masterclasses, and academic exchange opportunities** at universities in Romania and abroad.
- The jury will also award **teachers of the most outstanding students**.
- The Grand Prize consists of recital engagements on **prestigious stages in Iași throughout 2027**.

V. COMPETITION SCHEDULE

- **6 February:** Elite Musicians Gala Concert
- **7 February:** Competition / Festival
- **8 February:** Competition / Festival and Award Ceremony

CONTACT

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