

Regulations

Music Prize Kiefer Hablitzel | Göhner

As of: 01.12.24

Art. 1 The KHS and the EGS award prizes to young Swiss musicians every year. Musicians from other countries must have been resident in Switzerland for at least one year after expiry of the registration form or be enrolled in a Swiss University of Music.

Art. 2 The goal of the competition is to discover musicians with outstanding talent, to support them through further education, to provide them with access to a larger audience, and to facilitate their entry into the professional world.

Art. 3 The competition is publicly advertised. Prizes can only be awarded after auditions. Candidates with the following instruments/vocals can register for the audition:

Accordion, string instruments in historical tuning (violin and violoncello, viola da gamba), recorder, harpsichord, bassoon, flute, voice, guitar, harp, horn, clarinet, piano, double bass, oboe, organ, trombone, saxophone, percussion, trumpet, tuba, violin, viola, violoncello.

Auditions 2025: 4 – 8 April in Bern

Art. 4 Candidates must have obtained a Bachelor of Arts – in the subject of the audition – by the application deadline (31.1.2025). Exceptions may be granted by the Pre-Examination Board. Swiss candidates studying in their fourth Bachelor degree abroad can be admitted for audition. Registration for the competition opens on 1 December of the previous year. Applications are processed in the order they are received. If the maximum number of registrations is reached, applications are placed on a waiting list and moved up in the case of cancellations.

Art. 5 Age Restriction:

- **Participation is open for those born in 1995 or earlier. Singing is open those born in 1993 or earlier.**
- Each candidate can apply up to a total of **three** times. The Kiefer Hablitzel | Göhner prize can be awarded only **once** to the same candidate. Applications of previous recipients are not considered.

Art. 6 The registration must be made via the fully completed online form on the KHS website (<http://www.kieferhablitzel.ch>) between **1st December 2024 and 31st January 2025, 24.00 hrs**. Incomplete or late applications cannot be considered.

Art. 7 Application fee:

There is a compulsory registration fee of **CHF 200.-** to be transferred to the account of **Postfinance 70-202035-5**, 3000 Bern, **IBAN CH93 0900 0000 7020 2035 5** (BIC-SWIFT Code POFICHBEXXX)

Please note that the registration fee is a processing fee, half of it will be refunded to the candidate **at the audition**. Candidates who are not admitted to the competition will be fully refunded.

However, the application fee will not be refunded if the candidate does not attend to the audition or withdraws their participation without compelling reasons. In case of illness, a medical certificate must be provided.

Art. 8 The following documents must be enclosed with the application:

- a) A copy of the applicant's ID (or passport) or a valid residence permit valid for at least 8 months from the application date
- b) A CV and description of the professional goals
- c) A list of previously obtained scholarships and study support
- d) Copies of diplomas, certificates, confirmation of studies / enrolment
- e) A detailed programme for the competition, including the movements and duration (in minutes)
- f) Proof of payment of the application fee (see Article 7 above)
- g) In the case of a second or third application, all documents must re-submitted

Please note: A work that has already been presented in a previous application cannot be included in the repertoire. If this rule is ignored, the applicant will be excluded from participating in the competition.

Art. 9 A preliminary examination commission decides on admission to the audition.

The number of admitted candidates is limited. The commission is authorized to refuse candidates, even if they meet the requirements of Articles 4 – 8. Registrations will be considered in the order receipt. The decision of the Commission on admission is final and will be communicated to the applicant without explanation.

Art. 10 Candidates shall be notified of the place and time of the audition **at least one month** beforehand. It is not possible to postpone the audition time or make changes in the repertoire selection. The duration of the audition is 20 minutes; if the time limit is exceeded, the audition will be interrupted by the jury.

Programme Requirements for the Competition

Programme Concept

The programme requirements are designed to give applicants ample freedom to showcase their instrumental or vocal strengths and key areas of focus. A programme that is based on artistic ideas and contexts allows applicants to make personal statements through their choice of works, creating an overall concept that also includes a compelling performative arc.

Repertoire Requirements

The 20-minute programme must include a work (or a self-contained section of a work) by a living Swiss composer. Additionally, the programme must feature works from at least two different musical periods must be integrated into the programme.

In total, at least three different works (or more) must be performed during the competition.

All works, except for contemporary and chamber music pieces, must be performed from memory. In case of any doubt, the jury president will make the final decision.

Two copies of the scores or works from the competition programme must be submitted to the jury prior to the audition.

Instrument-Specific Provisions:

Singing

The 20-minute programme must include works in at least three different languages. In addition to a song (Lied), the programme must feature a work by a living Swiss composer, as well as an opera aria and/or an aria from an oratorio. All works must be sung in their original language.

A total of at least four different works (or more) must be performed during the competition.

Percussion

The 20-minute programme should showcase a variety of percussion instruments and include works from at least three different categories of the percussion family (keyboard instruments (vibraphone, marimba, xylophone), skin instruments, timpani, drum set or other set-ups). At least one of the pieces must be by a living Swiss composer. A total of at least three different works (or more) must be performed during the competition.

Baroque string instruments (baroque violin and cello, viola da gamba), recorder and harpsichord

In addition to a work by a living Swiss composer, the 20-minute programme must include pieces from at least two different stylistic genres. The programme must feature at least three different works (or more).

Art. 11 Candidates can bring their own piano accompanist, or may choose to be accompanied by our **official accompanist**, in which case following rules must be respected: A short rehearsal of 20 minutes may be held before the audition. Further preliminary rehearsals are not permitted. Rehearsals or installations (video/electronics) in the audition hall are also not permitted.

Vocalists: must specify the keys of the pieces on their repertoire list and please send the scores by e-mail.

Instrumentalists: we recommend choosing as a contemporary piece a SOLO piece without piano accompaniment unless you bring your own pianist.

Art. 12 Candidates who withdraw their application without a valid reason or do not appear at the competition will no longer be admitted to the KHS. In case of illness, a medical certificate must be provided.

Art. 13 The auditions are not open to the public. They are held before a jury consisting of at least three members, appointed by the Board of Trustees of KHS. The jury president of the KHS assembles the jury and has the deciding vote.

Members of the Board of Trustees of the KHS and of the Ernst Göhner Foundation may attend the competition at any time, without voting rights.

Art. 14 The jury decides on the awards. Their decisions will be confirmed by the KHS Board of Trustees. The decisions taken will be communicated to the applicants in writing and without justification. These decisions are final, an appeal is not possible.