

DBIS Pianist of the Year: Rules and Guidance

1. Eligibility:

- The competition is open to all students of Discovery Bay International School enrolled in the current academic year.
- Participants will be divided into four categories:
 - Pre-Grade 1
 - Grades 1-3
 - Grades 4-6
 - Grade 7 and Above
- Students should register for the category corresponding to their current piano grade level.

2. Repertoire:

- Participants must perform one or two pieces of their choice within the allotted time limit (see below).
- Pieces must be appropriate to the student's category and skill level.
- Memorisation is encouraged, especially for higher grade levels, but not mandatory for Pre-Grade 1 and Grades 1-3.
- Original scores or authorized photocopies must be used.
- Arrangements are permitted, provided they are appropriate for the student's level.
- The use of electronic keyboards is not permitted.

3. Time Limits:

- Pre-Grade 1: Maximum 3 minutes.
- Grades 1-3: Maximum 5 minutes.
- Grades 4-6: Maximum 7 minutes.
- Grade 7 and Above: Maximum 10 minutes.
- Exceeding the time limit may result in a deduction of points at the judge's discretion.

4. Performance Order:

- Entries will be collected via a Google Forms link, where participants are required to upload a video performance.
- Successful participants will be invited to perform at the DBIS Piano Recital. There will be approximately four participants in each category.
- The performance order will be determined by a random draw and announced prior to the competition.
- Participants must be present and ready to perform when their name is called.

5. Judging:

- Performances will be judged by a panel of qualified musicians.
- The first round will be judged by our team of music teachers. The recital will be judged by external musicians.
- Judges will use the provided judging sheets, focusing on accuracy, technique, musicality, and presentation.
- Judges' decisions are final.
- Constructive feedback may be provided to participants after the competition, at the judges' discretion.

6. Conduct:

- Participants are expected to maintain respectful and professional conduct throughout the competition.
- Parents and spectators are asked to remain quiet and respectful during performances.
- No photography or videography is allowed during performances unless authorized by the school.

7. Awards:

- House Points will be awarded to the top performers in each category.
- In each category the award of 'Winner' and 'Runner Up' will be awarded.
- One person will be awarded 'DBIS Pianist of the Year'.
- Certificates of participation will be given to all participants.
- The judges reserve the right to withhold awards if the standard of performance is not deemed sufficient.

8. Registration:

- Participants must register by the specified deadline.
- There is no registration fee.
- Registration forms should include the participant's name, category, and the title(s) of their chosen piece(s).

9. Practice and Warm-up:

- A designated warm-up area and practice piano will be provided.
- Participants will have a limited time for warm-up before their performance.

10. Technical Issues:

- In case of technical issues with the piano or audio equipment, the competition organisers will attempt to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.
- If a participant's performance is significantly affected by a technical issue, the judges may allow them to perform again.

11. Organiser's Discretion:

- DBIS reserves the right to make changes to the rules and schedule as necessary.
- Any disputes or issues not covered by these rules will be resolved at DBIS's discretion.

Guidance for Participants:

- Choose pieces that you enjoy and are comfortable playing.
- Practise regularly and consistently.
- Focus on musicality and expression, not just technical accuracy.
- Perform with confidence and enjoy the experience.
- Listen carefully to the judges' feedback and use it to improve your playing.

By adhering to these rules and guidance, we aim to create a fair, enjoyable, and enriching experience for all participants in our Pianist of the Year Competition.