

Féile Luimnigh

Vocal Syllabus 2026



Rules & Regulations

1. Entries must be made on an official entry form which must be completed in every detail. Additional entry forms may be photocopied.
2. The committee reserves the right to refuse entries if any classes are oversubscribed. Entries will be accepted in the order received.
3. Entries are to be made through our online system on our new website and payment made via stripe on our site. Should you experience any difficulties in doing so please email the committee at vocal@feileluimnigh.com
4. The **CLOSING DATE** for vocal competition entries is **Friday 23rd January 2026 5:00pm.**
5. Competitors entering Féile must be of AMATEUR status only. An amateur is considered to be one who does not derive the main part of his income from performing as a singer. However, holders of Diplomas of Singing (Performers or Teachers ARE eligible to take part).
6. Age restrictions are applicable to the competitor's age as of the **1st January 2026** Please see age restrictions listed after relevant competitions.
7. Should a competitor not meet the given requirements in a competition they will be disqualified from that competition. The Adjudicator may provide feedback of their performance at their discretion.
8. During Féile, any enquiry or representation to the Adjudicatory must be made only through the administrator.
9. The Committee reserves the right to appoint replacement or additional Adjudicators and Official Accompanists.
10. The order of competing will be decided by ballot, and competitors will be advised in writing of the time and date of their classes. This written confirmation will allow free admission for the appropriate session only, and must be shown to the Door Steward on arrival.

11. No competitor will be permitted to perform more than once in the same class.

12. Competitors should not begin until the Adjudicator so indicates. The Adjudicator may also stop the performance at any point.

13. Singers are not permitted to use copies of music or text except in the Oratorio Class.

14. Video and sound recording and flash photography are not permitted during the performance or adjudications.

15. MARKS: All competitors will receive an adjudication and a written report.

16. CUPS may be awarded to winners gaining a mark of 85% or over. Prizes may be withheld at the discretion of the Adjudicator, whose decision in all cases will be final. Cups will be presented at the end of the adjudication. Cup winners will be required to sign safe custody and safe return undertaking for each cup awarded. All Cups must be returned to the Administrator, properly cleaned and in good repair, you will be contacted by a committee member. Suitable inscription, preferably on the plinth where appropriate, is permitted at the holder's expense.

17. OFFICIAL ACCOMPANISTS are provided for all classes. The entry fee for all classes includes the services of the Official Accompanist in competition. Rehearsal with the accompanist is the responsibility of the competitor and at their own expense. The Accompanist must be provided with a clean copy of each piece of music, clearly labelled with competitor name and competition name. Should a competitor wish to provide their own accompanist, they do so at their own expense. Details for the 2026 will be posted on the website once the official timetable and accompanist assignments have been announced. Please refrain from contracting the accompanists to organize rehearsals until the official timetable and accompaniment assignments have been announced.

18. An original copy of each piece of music must be made available to the Adjudicator at the beginning of each competition.

19. COPYRIGHT ACT. The Music Publishers Association has issued a revised Code of Practice on photocopying copyright works, and the following concession is made for photocopying

Own Choice pieces from VOLUMES ONLY for the Adjudicator. Other items must not be photocopied without the permission of the copyright holder, usually the Publisher: "When an Own Choice work is selected from a publication containing several different works and which is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the Adjudicator, provided that the competitor has already purchased his/her own copy, and that the photo copy is retained and destroyed by the Administrator immediately after the event."

20. The Committee reserves the right to:

- a) Disclaim all responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any competitor or member of the audience, or for the loss of music or personal effects not collected at the end of each session.
- b) Decide all other matters connected with the conduct of the Féile not provided for in these regulations, and reserves the right to change or cancel any rules or arrangements it deems necessary for the smooth running of the Féile.
- c) Refuse any entry due to over-subscription of classes, and also to withdraw any class where there are insufficient entries. In no other case is the entry fee refundable.
- d) Decide on all questions or disputes arising out of or not provided for by these rules, which shall be final.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCOMPANISTS

1. Féile Luimnigh provides Official Piano Accompanists for the vocal section.

2. If intending on using the Official Accompanist you must submit prepared copies of your performance selections to the Féile Accompanists no later than **Monday 26th January** with clear copies of chosen pieces, pages taped together (if necessary), with any repeats clearly marked together with the competitor's name and competition details.

3. N.B. After this date official accompanists are not obliged to play for a performer.

It is not acceptable to hand music to an accompanist before the competitions, if you do not provide music before the deadline, please make arrangements for your own accompanist at your own expense.

Forward accompaniments to:

FAO Féile Luimnigh Vocal Music,

ACCOMPANIMENTS (C/O Peter Barley)

Limerick School of Music,

Mulgrave Street,

Limerick.

4. Please indicate on your entry form if you are not using the official accompanist for your competition.

5. We strongly recommend arranging a rehearsal with the official accompanist in advance. The fee for a rehearsal with an Official Accompanist is €12.50 per 15 minute rehearsal, €25 per half hour rehearsal and €50 per one hour rehearsal.

6. Each accompanist is assigned to certain competitions, this information will be provided in early January.

7. Deadline for sending music the Official Accompanists is **Monday 26th January** (5 weeks prior to competition.)

2026 Official Accompanists

To be announced via the website once the official timetable is announced.

Féile Luimnigh 2026 Vocal Competitions

Wednesday March 4th-Saturday March 7th

at Mungret College, Mungret, Co. Limerick **All age groups are applicable from the 1st January 2026*

1.Corn Mhichíl Ó Ceallacháin For Operatic Solo

Presented by Cáit Bean Uí Cheallacháin

Performers to sing one aria from any opera in the original key

Entrance Fee €25

2.The Duggan Cup For Lieder

Presented by Messrs P J Duggan

Performers to sing two contrasting songs by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Strauss, Wolf or Mahler

Entrance Fee €25

3.The Todd Cup For Oratorio Solo

Presented by Messrs Wm Todd & Co.

Performers to sing one aria from any oratorio in the original key

Entrance Fee €25

4.The Boyd Cup For Interpretation of Art Songs

Presented by Messrs J & G Boyd

Performers to sing two art songs of contrasting nature

Entrance Fee €25

5.Elfrieda Atkinson Memorial Cup for Sacred Songs

Performers to sing one sacred song, excluding oratorio.

Not open to performers in the Todd Cup

Entrance Fee €20

6. Corn Uí Riordáin for Boy Trebles

Performers to sing two contrasting songs; one of which must be by an Irish composer to be sung in Irish or English.

Entrance Fee €25

7. The Glenstal Cup for male singers 18 and under on 1st Jan 2026 – excluding boy trebles

Presented by Glenstal Performers to sing two contrasting art songs.

Entrance Fee €25

8. The Drennan Perpetual Cup for Girls Open Solo 11 – 14 years

Performers to sing two contrasting art songs. Excluding songs from shows.

Entrance Fee €25

9. The McCarthy Cup for Girls Open Solo 15–18 years

Performers to sing two contrasting songs; one of which must be by an Irish Composer

Entrance Fee €25

10. The James & Nellie Penny Memorial Trophy 18-23 years

Performers to sing two contrasting songs of contrasting character.

Entrance Fee €25

11. Musical Theatre 10-11 years and under on 1st Jan 2026

Performers to sing one song from any musical with appropriate gestures.

Costumes optional.

Entrance Fee €20

12. Musical Theatre 12-13 years and under on 1st Jan 2026

Performers to sing one song from any musical with appropriate gestures.

Costumes optional.

Entrance Fee €20

13. The O'Dowda Cup for Musical Theatre 14-15 years and under on 1st Jan 2026

Performers to sing one song from any musical with appropriate gestures.

Costumes optional.

Entrance Fee €20

14. Musical Theatre 8-11 years on 1st Jan 2026 (non-competitive)

Performers to sing one song from any musical with appropriate gestures.

Costumes optional.

This is a non-competitive class, open to young performers to build confidence and develop performance experience. All performers will receive a participation certificate.

Entrance Fee €15

15. The Treaty Competition

Performers to sing one song from any musical with appropriate gestures.

Costumes optional

(i) **The Junior Treaty** for singers 16-18years (under 18 on the 1st Jan 2026)

Gold medal

(ii) **The Senior Treaty** for singers 18 years & over on the 1st Jan 2026

Treaty Cup

Entrance Fee €23

16. Art Song Performance Class

The committee is pleased to add a new competition, the Art Song Performance Class. We are introducing this to encourage students to try new genres of music and hope that this addition to the syllabus will encourage students and teachers to explore Art Songs. This section will be all inclusive and welcomes any song from the likes of German Leider, French Mélodie, and folk songs arranged for recital (such as Aaron Copland and Benjamin Britten). Arias and Sacred songs will be excluded from this class as we do offer a single song competition for both Arias and Sacred Songs.

Competitors entering any of our age brackets for the Art Song Performance Class will need to prepare any one Art Song of their choice.

The Art Song Performance Class will be offered to the following age brackets. All entries will be 20euro.

Performers to sing one Art Song of their choice.

- (i) Boy Trebles**
- (ii) Male Voices under 18 years**
- (iii) Girls 11-14 years**
- (iv) Girls 15-18 years**
- (v) Singers 18 and over**

Entrance Fee €20

Popular Music Syllabus

The committee's aim is to expand the vocal syllabus to encompass the reflected interests of our students, particularly those wishing to get additional feedback during preparation for their Junior and Leaving Cert practical examinations.

Please remember our focus is on the development of young performers. We would like to remind all students and teachers that we are **not** looking for a cover or imitation, we are looking for your artistic interpretation utilizing your voice to showcase your artistic range and vocal command, and as in all our competitions our adjudicators are looking for healthy vocal production.

Genres: Below are the acceptable genres for song selection in this popular music section of the syllabus. (Please note, Jazz standards and song arrangements that have been taken from Musical Theatre productions should be presented in the Musical Theatre competitions, such as "My Funny Valentine" from *Pal Joey* or "Holding Out For a Hero" from *Footloose the musical* while a Jazz style Sarah Vaughan or Ella Fitzgerald arrangement of "My Funny Valentine" in which notable variation or scatting is included or a Pop style Bonnie Tyler arrangement of "Holding Out for a Hero" would be acceptable for this section).

- ☐ Alternative
- ☐ Country
- ☐ Jazz
- ☐ Pop
- ☐ R&B
- ☐ Rock

17. The Vocal - Popular Music Competition

Performers to sing one song from any of the popular music genres listed in the new popular music syllabus.

(i) Junior Popular music competition

a. Aimed at secondary students currently preparing for Junior cert music

Entrance Fee €20

Performers to sing two contrasting songs from any of the popular music genres listed in the new popular music syllabus.

(ii) Senior Popular music competition

a. Aimed at secondary students currently preparing for Leaving cert music

Entrance Fee €25

The following Competitions will be offered on a rotational basis with the Duggan and Todd Cups until we can build interest and a sustainable number of competitors.

The George MacDonagh Memorial Cup (offered 2027)

Performers to sing one song from each of the genres listed below:

1. Song by an Irish Composer
2. Song by a 17th or 18th century composer
3. Song by a 20th century composer

Entrance Fee €30

The Canon Hayes Memorial Cup for Moore's Melodies (offered 2027)

Presented by Muintir na Tíre

Performers to sing two contrasting songs from the melodies of

Thomas Moore

Entrance Fee €25