

Orpheus Music Composition Competition 2025



Apply for the opportunity to have your work published, promoted, and performed.

Winners may receive a **publishing contract with Orpheus Music** and have their compositions reviewed by *Recorder Magazine (UK)* and *The American Recorder Magazine (USA)* in 2026/2027.

Application Deadline: 1 November 2025

<https://www.trybooking.com/CZGKF>

Eligibility:

- Open to **Australian and New Zealand citizens** and **international/national students** currently enrolled in an Australian course of study.
- Open to any age.

Composition Requirements:

- **Original Work** – Must have been composed in the last **two years** and must not have won any other composition competition.
- **Entry Limits** – Up to **two** compositions per person. You may submit:
 - One entry in either **Solo, Solo + Accompaniment, or Duo**
 - OR two entries (choosing any two of the three options).
- **Duration** – Each composition should be between **3-10 minutes**.
- **Instrumentation:**
 - **Solo** – for unaccompanied recorder.
 - **Solo + Accompaniment** – for recorder and **piano/harpsichord** only.

- **Duo** – for two recorders in any combination (e.g., SA, TB, AT, etc.).
- Any recorder from the **recorder family** may be used, including garklein, soprano, soprano, alto, tenor, bass, great bass, contrabass, sub-great bass, and sub-contrabass.
- Ensure your score contains **no identifying information** (no name, publisher, or dates). Metadata in audio files should include **only the title** of the piece.

Restrictions on Previous Winners:

- First-place winners from previous Orpheus Music Composition Competitions **may not** re-enter.

How to Apply:

- **Step 1:** Fill out the **application form** via TryBooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/CZGKF>
- **Step 2:** Email your composition as a **PDF score** to alex@orpheusmusic.com.au.
- **Optional:** Submit an **MP3/MIDI recording** (preferred but not required).
- **Anonymity:** Ensure your score contains **no identifying information** (no name, publisher, or dates). Metadata in audio files should include **only the title** of the piece.

Application Fee:

- **\$40** for one entry
- **\$60** for two entries

Important Notes:

- If you purchase a **Two Score Ticket (\$60)** but choose to submit only **one** score, you will **not** be eligible for a refund.
- If you originally purchased a **One Score Ticket (\$40)** and later decide to submit a second score, you will need to **purchase an additional One Score Ticket (\$40)**.

Final Deadline: 1 November 2025 Submit Score

Finalists Notified: 1 December 2025

Winners Announced: 13 January 2026, at the Australasian Recorder Festival

All Finalists Notified by Email: January 14, 2026

Prizes & Publishing Opportunities

1st Place:

- **\$1,000 AUD**
- **Publishing contract** (subject to Orpheus Music's discretion)
- **Recording of the composition**

2nd Place:

- **\$500 AUD**
- **Publishing contract** (subject to Orpheus Music's discretion)

3rd Place:

- **\$300 AUD**
- **Publishing contract** (subject to Orpheus Music's discretion)

Honourable Mentions & Other Considerations:

- Prize winners receive cash prizes **with or without a publishing contract**.
- Compositions that do not place **may still be considered for publication** by Orpheus Music.

All Published works will be promoted with a **recording** and sent for review in *Recorder Magazine (UK)* and *The American Recorder Magazine (USA)* in 2026/2027.

Orpheus Music reserves the right to offer or withhold publishing contracts for prize-winning compositions.

Judging & Competition Process

- **Anonymous Selection:** Judges will evaluate scores without knowing the composer's identity.
- **Panel of Three Judges:** Featuring national and/or international recorder specialists.
- **Finalists Notified:** By 1 December 2025 via email.

- **Winners Announced:** At the **Australasian Recorder Festival (13 January 2026)** and via email on 14 January 2026.
- **Decisions Final:** All judges' decisions are **final and irrevocable**, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Disclaimer: By entering, you consent to Orpheus Music using photos, audio recordings, and video footage for promotional purposes.

Questions? Contact alex@orpheusmusic.com.au

Apply now for your chance to **have your work published, performed, and recognised internationally.**