



Japan Jazz  
Pop Piano  
Competition

# JAPAN JAZZ POP PIANO COMPETITION

ジャパン・ジャズ・ポップ・ピアノコンペティション

**DATE : September 17th (Saturday), 2022**

**VENUE : TOKYO FM HALL**

2F FM Center, 1-7 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

The aim of this competition is to recapture the artistic freedom that was prevalent in the past. Through jazz and pop music, the participants will rediscover or further enhance their creativity and personal expression. The panel of judges consists of artists with active performing careers and extensive experience in teaching. The requirements and standards of the competition will differ depending on the level of the contestant. It goes without saying that advanced players would also be welcome.

The criteria of assessment would change accordingly based on the divisions. However, beauty of tone is essential and will be taken into consideration for all levels. The team of judges will evaluate the contestants' performances and offer individual advice. I hope you will join us, and most importantly, take something away from this experience.

**主催** : Sobkowiak Piano Association

**後援** : Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Japan / Polish Cultural Institute in Tokyo / IMC Music Publisher Ltd. / European Piano Association

**APPLICATION DEADLINE : August 27th (Saturday), 2022**

## GENRES / DIVISIONS

**Genres :** Please choose from the following

### JAZZ

This genre is for piano pieces that contain what is commonly understood as a "jazz" style, including ballad, bebop, blues, Latin, ragtime, swing, or other variations and combinations.

- ① Performer
- ② Creator
- ③ Specialist

### POP

This genre is for piano pieces that contain what is commonly understood as "pop", which has undergone transformations since its birth in the 1950s. We understand this vast genre to include anime, country, dance, folk, lounge music, rock, urban, or other variations and combinations.

- ① Performer
- ② Creator
- ③ Specialist

**Divisions :** Participants can choose from either a solo or a four-handed performance, as well as one of the 3 Divisions.

#### ① Performer

One may select any piano piece written in a jazz or pop style, including compositions and arrangements published by others. (If playing an original piece composed by the contestant, please refer to the **Creator Division**) The piece could be played while reading music, but playing by heart is recommended and will be taken into consideration when judging.

Due to the fact that some published pieces or arrangements may not be widely known, all contestants must submit the music scores beforehand when replying to the confirmation mail sent after the application. With respect to the composers and arrangers, the contestants must play the piece exactly as written, including all repetitions. Otherwise, points will be deducted.

#### ② Creator

One may arrange a composer's piece or even compose an original piece at home and perform in front of the judges. The piece (arrangement or composition) needs to be kept in the style of jazz or pop and be the contestant's own work. In case of an arrangement, we will require the submission of the original music score (or lead sheet). Contestants will be asked to attach the file when replying to the confirmation email that will be sent after the application. If it is an original piece composed by the contestant, the submission of the music score is optional. The

contestants may play by reading the score, but playing by heart is recommended and will be taken into consideration when judging.

### ③ Specialist

This is a Division in which participants will be required to arrange a piece of music chosen at random by the judges. Once they signal to the judges that they are seated comfortably, the participants will be given a lead sheet out of a prepared list of jazz standards as well as 30 seconds to prepare. Once the bell rings after 30 seconds, the participants will start playing. A free spontaneous arrangement can be based on any chosen style but must include jazz or pop elements.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

- \* If you do not know which genre (Jazz or Pop) is more fitting, please feel free to contact us prior to your registration. Send us a sample link, PDF file, or audio file and we would be happy to assist you.
- \* When playing multiple pieces, the break between pieces would also be included in their total playing time.
- \* The timer will start after the contestant has sat down.
- \* If the contestants go over the allotted time, their performance will be cut off, but this will not affect their result. It is advisable to bring a watch to keep track of the time. It is also acceptable to use smartphones as timers, but please make sure that it is on silent mode and would not disrupt the performance.
- \* There will not be any support piano pedals for children, so please bring if needed.
- \* Due to common restrictions of the hall, techniques involving the manipulation of the strings are prohibited.
- \* The performance can only be recorded (audio or video) by the contestants themselves or their supporters. However, please note that the comments by the judges, as well as comments during the awards ceremony may not be recorded.
- \* Separate changing rooms will be available.

## FEEs

<b>KIDS</b> ages 12 and under		<b>TEENS</b> ages 13-19		<b>ADULTS</b> ages 20 and above		<b>FOUR-HANDS</b> (per pair) age does not apply	
¥9,000	~ 2min	¥12,000	~ 3min	¥14,000	~ 3min	¥16,000	~ 3min
¥10,000	~ 3min	¥13,000	~ 4min	¥15,000	~ 4min	¥17,000	~ 4min
¥11,000	~ 4min	¥14,000	~ 5min	¥16,000	~ 5min	¥18,000	~ 5min
¥12,000	~ 5min	¥15,000	~ 7min	¥17,000	~ 7min	¥19,000	~ 7min
¥13,000	~ 7min	¥17,000	~ 10min	¥19,000	~ 10min	¥21,000	~ 10min
¥15,000	~ 10min	¥20,000	~ 15min	¥22,000	~ 15min	¥24,000	~ 15min

## APPLICATION

Please apply through the competition website and transfer the participation fee. If the application number reaches the limit before the deadline, the notice will be posted on this website. We cannot respond to any inquiries regarding this matter.

**Deadline:** **Saturday August 27th, 2022**

\* The payment should be completed within 2 weeks after the application. All bank charges are to be paid by the contestants.

\* The participation fee is non-refundable.

\* In the event of natural disasters, like typhoons and earthquakes, or further outbreak of the corona virus, this competition may be cancelled and will be announced on this website. In such unavoidable cases, entry fees will be fully refunded to the participants.

### Bank account:

Mizuho Bank, Kyodo Branch  
Account number: 3026049  
Swift: MHCBJPJT  
Recipient: SOBKOWIAK PIANO ASSOCIATION

### After the application :

A confirmation message will be sent within 3 business days once the application has been received. If you do not receive the email, please contact the committee (info@jazzpiano.jp).

We ask you to attach the following when replying to the confirmation email:

1) The photo of the participant

2) If applying for the **Performer Division**: the music score of the chosen piece  
 If applying for the **Creator Division** and wish to arrange a composer's piece:  
the original music score

\* The scores should be in a PDF format

\*

\* Please be sure to provide us an address that accepts emails from our  
 "info@jazzpiano.jp" domain.

\* The contestants will receive their schedule by **September 7th**.

### GENRE / DIVISION / GROUP

<b>JAZZ</b>	① Performer	KDIS	<b>POP</b>	① Performer	KDIS
		TEENS			TEENS
		ADULTS			ADULTS
		FOUR-HANDS			FOUR-HANDS
	② Creator	KDIS		② Creator	KDIS
		TEENS			TEENS
		ADULTS			ADULTS
		FOUR-HANDS			FOUR-HANDS
	③ Specialist	KDIS		③ Specialist	KDIS
		TEENS			TEENS
		ADULTS			ADULTS
		FOUR-HANDS			FOUR-HANDS

## JURY

### Jury Members :

Michal Sobkowiak (Chairman)

Mayuko Katakura

Jonathan Katz

Simon Cosgrove

\* The list of jury members is subject to change

**Comments :** Written comments regarding the individual performances will be available within 2 to 3 hours at the reception desk

## RESULTS / PRIZES

**Results :** The results will be announced and prizes will be handed out during the awards ceremony.

### 1) Prizes (Gold, Silver, Bronze)

For every age group under each Division, winners will be chosen to receive a diploma and a medal.

### 2) Grand Prize

Out of all the contestants, regardless of Genre, Division or age group, the 3 most superior players (or four-hand duos) will receive a Grand Prize trophy and have their names published in the jazz magazine "JAZZ JAPAN".

### 3) Special Jury Prize

The most outstanding pianist (or a duo) will be granted a cash prize of ¥100,000.

\* Depending on the level of the performances, medals may not be given, and there may also be multiple recipients of the same award.

\* Winners who cannot attend the awards ceremony will receive their diploma / medal / trophy by post.

## INQUIRY

### **JAPAN JAZZ POP PIANO COMPETITION Office**

MAIL: [info@jazzpiano.jp](mailto:info@jazzpiano.jp)

TEL: 050-3134-5654

### **Sobkowiak Piano Association**

〒156-0044 1-38-7-212 Akazutsumi Setagaya-ku, Tokyo

<https://jazzpiano.jp>



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