

Rules of the International Guitar Competition GUITARALENT

I. Conditions of the competition 2026

Category I. Guitartalent Junior - for participants born in and after year 2007

Agust 5, 2026

- a) piece of the Romantic or Classical period
- b) free piece of participant's choice *

Time together is 12 min. maximum.

Category II - Guitartalent - Without Age Limit

1st round: Agust 4, 2026

- a) a free piece by J. S. Bach
- b) free piece of participant's choice *

Time for a) +b) together is 12 min. maximum

2nd round: Agust 5, 2026 a) a free piece from Classical or Romantic period

- b) free piece of participant's choice *

All together: 15 min. maximum

** a special prize for the best performing piece by Czech composer from 20th and 21st centuries*

Winners of both categories are obliged to play one piece at evening concert on August 5th at 8 p.m. in New City Hall, Dominikánské nám. 1 one piece, what will be chosen by the jury of the competition. Playing by heart is not a condition.

PRIZES of the International Guitar Competition GUITARALENT '26

The main prizes are concert guitars by master **So Kimishima**, Japan and **Jan Schneider**, Czech Republic. Japanese guitar master So Kimishima is a former collaborator and nephew of master Masaki Sakurai and the grandson of master Masaru Kohno, he took over the management of the company and continues in a masterful way the tradition of building concert guitars and is considered one of the best masters in the world in the field.

Czech master **Jan Schneider** belongs to the top of best Czech guitarmakers.

Category I. Guitartalent Junior

- the 1st prize: **concert guitar** by **Jan Schneider jr.** / *Czech Republic* /, strings and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, special guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.
- the 2nd prize: a solid thermos-guitar case by **IKA – Ing. Jiří Bednář** / *Czech Republic* /, strings, and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, , special guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.
- the 3rd prize: a guitar support, strings and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, , special guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.

Category II. Guitartalent „Without Age Limit“

- the 1st prize: diploma, concert guitar by master **So Kimishima**, Japan, strings and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.

- the 2nd prize: diploma, guitar case by CCCases, voucher for a special hard case for a guitar, strings boxes and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.
- the 3rd prize: a guitar support by **Guitarlift**, strings and special prizes by **SAVAREZ**, guitarists glass fingernail files by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival.
- other prizes: **CD**, **SAVAREZ** strings, guitar accessories, guitar supports, music sheets, special glass fingernail files for guitarists by **SOFIT** co. with the emblem of the BRNO guitar festival, the book **The History of Guitar** by **Vladislav Blaha** (*for the best Czech competitors and the youngest participant of competition*), CD's, diplomas and other equipment for guitarists

II. Appraisal of participants' performances

1. Evaluation is supposed to be the manifestation of a collective opinion of the jury. Every juror is then obliged to manifest their opinion about every single performance by giving points according to their conscience and is not influenced by anyone else. Based on pointing and points average the jury begin to discuss every single performance and the final result. Obligation of the jury president is to ensure this principle.

2. A member of the jury cannot judge and give points to the participant whose performance he or she did not hear in a full range. In this case he or she hands in the list of points with the reason why he or she is not giving points (absence).

3. Every participant is evaluated by giving points: 0 – 25 points, 25 points mean the best qualification. While evaluation a juror follows these aspects:

- 0 – 5 points insufficient performance
- 6 – 10 points sufficient performance
- 11 – 15 points good performance
- 16 – 20 points very good performance
- 21 – 25 points excellent performance

Division of points into halves, tenths etc. is not permitted. Juror can cross out a wrong number of points if he or she writes it by accident and writes down the new evaluation with a note „correction“ and signs this.

4. Juror's hand in their lists of points to the secretary of the competition. After the end of all parts (rounds) of the competition the secretary makes summary of pointing and counts points averages, while the highest and the lowest pointing are crossed out. Based on those averages is determined the order.

5. The jurors meet after closing the 1st round and decide about advances to the 2nd round (only in case of the category Brno – Tokyo). Participants who advance into the next round reach the limit of minimum 16 points and maximum number of points that the jury determine before the beginning of the competition. The jury decides about advances based on the order according to reached points averages.

6. After the end of competition performances after the 1st round (the 2nd round in case of category Brno - Tokyo) begins the final discussion based on the results of pointing and the final order is decided. The best participants will be awarded. The jury decides about awarding (also in a case of honourable mention and other, eventually about material prizes etc.) by simple majority of votes – except for the 1st prize – see par. 8.

7. The jury does not have to award all prizes. The jury has a right to combine some prizes and to divide them in the same parts, **except for the 1st prizes**.

8. To all participants who was awarded with prizes (or honourable mentions) the prizes will be given during the concert of laureates, including diplomas with names and degree of prize.

III. The jury

1. Members of the jury get these rules before the beginning of the competition, and they are obliged to follow these rules.

2. The task of the jury is to listen, judge and evaluate performance of all participants of the competition and to decide about eventual combination, division or not awarding of prizes. The jury is permitted to also award the honourable mentions with a reward or without and is exclusively responsible for deciding about prizes and material gifts.

3. Every member of the jury is obliged to take a part in each meeting of the jury.

4. All resolutions of the jury are made exclusively at the plenary meeting. The jury can adopt resolutions in the presence of at least two thirds of all members, provided that a meeting of members was duly notified. The jury decides about all matters by voting, by a simple majority, except for the 1st prize award. The jury president has a right of decision in a case of equal vote of the members of the jury.

5. The jury meetings are closed to the public, the jury president leads them, and he also determines the agenda of the plenary session of the jury, meetings, and the course of competition in the competition's conditions and time schedule. On behalf of the jury, he announces all decisions, he awards the prizes and diplomas and makes public announcements about the jury meetings.

6. Participants have no right to object to the formation of the jury or to reject one of its members.

Competition director: **Vladislav Bláha**

Secretary of the competition: **Tatiana Bláha - Drobys**