



5th and 6th June 2027

Philharmonie Luxembourg

**EUROPEAN MUSIC COMPETITION FOR
CONCERT BAND – FANFARE ORCHESTRA – BRASS BAND**

Organised by

*Union Grand-Duc Adolphe (UGDA)
Philharmonie Luxembourg*

Artistic Director: Jan COBER

Under the Patronage and with the financial support of:

*The Ministry of Culture
The City of Luxembourg*

www.ugda.lu (see under « concours »)

Application deadline: 15/01/2027

COMPETITION RULES

Preamble

The Luxembourg Music Federation “Union Grand-Duc Adolphe” (UGDA) organises every year music and singing competitions as well as international competitions at regular terms to promote instrumental and choral music in Luxembourg and Europe.

In 2027, UGDA organises a European competition for wind orchestras in collaboration with the Philharmonie Luxembourg in the framework of their concert cycle “Heemspill”. The competition is open to wind and youth orchestras from all countries from Europe. Orchestras including youth orchestras compete in either the concert division or the national division. Luxembourgish orchestras are free to choose their division, while all the international orchestras will by default compete in the highest division.

CATEGORIES

Art. 1

The European Competition takes place on 5th and 6th June 2027 at the Philharmonie Luxembourg.

Art. 2

The competition is open to wind and youth orchestras from all countries (concert bands, fanfare orchestras and brass bands).

Art. 3

The competition includes:

- Two levels:
 - o Concert division
 - o National Division – 1st Division – Grad A
- three different categories: 1. Concert band - 2. Fanfare - 3. Brass band.

CONTEST PIECES

Art. 4

The set pieces will be published on 30th of June 2026 on the website www.ugda.lu.

Art. 5

Each orchestra must perform:

- A set piece
- A free program – one or more free compositions – with an excellent artistic value, and if possible related to a special theme.

Duration of the performance:

- Concert division: 40-50 min (free program + Set piece)
- National division: 30-40 min (free program + Set piece)

The duration does not include the set piece.

The free pieces must correspond to the level of difficulty of their respective division. Performing works of European composers is highly recommended, but not obligatory. Changes to the initial program may be made upon advance notice up to March 15th 2027 and subject to the agreement of the Organising Committee.

The Organising Committee may refuse free compositions which do not meet the requirements.

Art. 6

The detailed schedule of the competition is fixed by the Organising Committee.

JURY

Art. 7

The jury is composed of five internationally reputed members and will be named by the Organising Committee. A secretary, without voting rights, will be appointed to the jury.

Art. 8

Each member of the jury can allocate of a maximum of 100 points.
The set piece and free program are judged separately.

The members of the jury evaluate based on following criteria:

- ensemble playing, rhythm, intonation;
- articulation, phrasing, dynamics;
- quality and orchestral balance;
- style and artistic concept;
- interpretation.

Art. 9

The Organising Committee will hold a meeting with the jury before and after the competition. The jury debates behind closed doors.

Every jury member gives a written assessment for each orchestra. In addition, the president of the jury may, when appropriate, write a short resume of the assessments. The assessments will be made available to the different orchestras after the competition.

The organisers guarantee that the course of events complies with the rules of the competition.

Art. 10

The Jury's evaluations and decisions at the final meeting with the Organising Committee are definitive and incontestable.

RESULTS AND PRIZES

Art. 11

The final result is obtained by adding together the results of the jury members and then dividing the total by the number of jury members. Decimals will not be rounded off.

Art. 12

With the average of the two parts (set piece and free program), the following results and mentions will be awarded:

- From 91 to 100 points, a 1st European Prize with distinction,
- From 81 to 90,99 points, a 1st European Prize,
- From 71 to 80,99 points, a 2nd Prize,
- From 61 to 70,99 points, a 3rd Prize.

A score below 61 points does not qualify for any prize.

The participating orchestras awarded a prize receive a competition cup and a diploma of the "European Music Competition Luxembourg 2027". An Orchestra that gets less than 61 points will receive a certificate of participation.

Art. 13

Bonus:

The first three classified in each of three categories (concert band, fanfare orchestra and Brass band) with a result from 86 to 100 points are awarded a money prize, notably:

Concert division:	National Division:
1 st classified: 3.000€	1 st classified: 3.000€
2 nd classified: 1.500€	2 nd classified: 1.500€
3 rd classified: 1.000€	3 rd classified: 1.000€

A special prize may be awarded by the organisers on proposal by the jury.

In the three years following the competition, the UGDA may invite the prize-winners to a “Laureate Concert”, as well as to other events.

The organisers reserve the right to award a special prize to the best Luxembourgish orchestra.

Art. 14

The announcement of the results and the awarding of the prizes, trophies and diplomas will take place at the end of the competition. In the absence of the participating orchestra or of its official representative for the occasion, the money prize and cup automatically become null and void.

REGISTRATION

Art. 15

Application forms

Application forms are available at the UGDA Office, 3 Route d’Arlon, L-8009 STRASSEN, Phone: (+352) 46 25 36-1, Fax: (+352) 47 14 40 and can be downloaded from the web site www.ugda.lu. (see under “Concours”).

Applications must include:

- 1 copy of the scores of the free compositions selected by the orchestra,
- a biography of the orchestra and a curriculum vitae of the conductor (1 page A4 maximum in DE, FR or GB),
- one photo of the orchestra and the conductor,
- a stage plan for the orchestra with the number of chairs and music stands in each row.

All documents should be sent digitally to direction@ugda.lu.

Application deadline is January 15th, 2027.

For organisational reasons the Organising Committee may

- limit the number of participating ensembles,
- cancel the competition in case there are too few applicants.

Art. 16

Entrance fees

The entrance fee amounts to **250 €**.

The entrance fee must be paid latest by January 15th, 2027, to the following account of the “Union Grand-Duc Adolphe”:

Comptes Chèques Postaux Luxembourg - BIC Code : CCPLLULL - IBAN N° : LU10 1111 0043 0032 0000

Important: The candidate is responsible for all applicable banking charges. Cheques are not accepted.

Art. 17

Travel and subsistence expenses (lodging and catering) must be paid by the participating orchestras.

For more information about lodging and catering opportunities in Luxembourg, please contact the UGDA Office.

Miscellaneous

Art. 18

Following percussion material will be at disposal for the competition: 5 timpani, concert bass drum, mallet instruments (marimba, vibraphone, xylophone and glockenspiel), drum set, tubular bells, 2 congas, bongos, tam-tam... A grand piano will be at disposal at the Philharmonic Hall. Other instruments as well as all accessories for percussion must be brought by each orchestra.

Art. 19

The Union Grand-Duc Adolphe may record the contests for documentary reasons. In this case the ensemble may have a free copy but cannot claim copyright on editorial rights. The UGDA is not responsible for the quality of the recording. Photos of the competition may be made by UGDA for documentation and for media and public relations purposes.

Art. 20

The competition is open to the public with an entrance fee of 20 € (12 € < 30 years) per day. The members and conductors as well as the boards of the participating orchestras may attend to the competition free of charge.

Art. 21

On request, the Organising Committee may propose concerts in Luxembourg-City and the Grand-Duchy to the participating orchestras during the period from June 4th to 6th, 2027.

Art. 22

Application implies full knowledge and acceptance of the above regulations. Non-compliance of the regulations above shall result in exclusion from participation in the competition.

For any dispute, only the original text in French is authoritative.

Art. 24

This regulation will enter into force on February 1st, 2026.