

SENIOR VOCAL SOLO

3.01 COUNT JOHN MCCORMACK VOCAL RECITAL

A recital of not more than 15 minutes, with texts in 3 languages.

1st Prize: Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: A recital of not more than 15 minutes, with texts in 3 languages. Programme must include one aria from either opera or oratorio (in original language and in original key), two art songs and a setting of an Irish folk song or an original song by an Irish composer.

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.02 GERVASE ELWES MEMORIAL CUP

Open to the winners of the following 2026 competitions:

Plunket Greene, Joseph O'Mara, Geoghegan, Lieder, Dermot Troy, Percy Whitehead, Nancy Calthorpe, German Government, & Dramatic Cups.

Previous winners are not eligible.

Prize: Perpetual Cup & Gervase Elwes Medal

Also The Brendan Dillon €1,000 Award, presented in his memory by his family.

An uninterrupted recital of not more than 15 minutes of the competitor's own choice. Songs already sung in any of the above competitions may be repeated. A proportion of marks will be given for the selection of the programme.

Should a competitor win more than one of the above competitions he/she will select which competition to represent in the Gervase Elwes Cup and the runner-up in the one(s) not selected will be permitted to compete, provided 85 marks or more have been awarded.

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

PLEASE NOTE that the winner of this competition is eligible to apply for the RDS €15,000 Music Bursary. (See www.rds.ie/rds-foundation/arts/music-bursary for further details).

3.03 PLUNKET GREENE CUP

A miniature silver replica of the Plunket Greene Cup *presented by Mrs Molly Reynolds* (tenable for one year) will be presented to the runner-up. For Interpretation.

1st Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Miniature replica silver cup (tenable for one year) and Silver Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: Two songs of contrasting character in any language. A considerable proportion of the marks will be given for the musical value of the songs presented.

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.04 LIEDER PRIZE

A Silver Rose Bowl, *presented by the late Jean Nolan*. Also the *Richard and Cait Cooper Awards* of €300 and €100.

Also, a €300 Award for the best performance of a Mahler song (provided a mark of 85 or higher has been achieved), *presented anonymously*.

1st Prize: Cup and €300

2nd Prize: A miniature silver replica of the Rose Bowl, *presented by Mrs Molly Reynolds*, tenable for one year, and €100

Entrance: €50

Test: Three songs from the Lieder repertoire, no more than two songs by any one composer. Songs to be sung in German to an original German text.

There will be no recalls.

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.05 PERCY WHITEHEAD CUP

Presented by his daughter and former pupils.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: (a) Two songs or arias by 16th, 17th or 18th century British-born composers.
(b) Two art songs by 20th or 21st century British or Irish composers.

Songs should be of contrasting style and tempo and marks will be awarded accordingly. All songs must be sung in English.

Competitors will sing two songs, one each from (a) & (b) of their choice initially. The remaining two songs will be sung on recall.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.06 NANCY CALTHORPE CUP

Presented by her pupils and friends. For French Song

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: Three songs from the French repertoire (songs set specifically to French texts by French composers). Songs must be sung in French and not more than two songs by the same composer may be chosen.

There will be no recalls. Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.08 DERMOT TROY TROPHY

For Oratorio

Prize: Trophy and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: Competitors to sing an aria from an Oratorio.
Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.09 GERMAN GOVERNMENT CUP

Presented by the German Government. For performance of Bach.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: A Bach song or aria in German.
Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.10 DENIS O'SULLIVAN MEDAL

Medal presented by the Royal Irish Academy of Music as Trustees of the Memorial Fund

Prize: Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: The medal is offered for the best rendering of two Irish songs of contrasting character in English or Gaelic, ancient or modern, original or arranged, provided the spirit and form are Irish.
Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.11 THOMAS MOORE CUP

A Silver Cup, *presented by the late Dr Herbert Mackey*, for the best rendering of Moore's Melodies.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: Two melodies by Thomas Moore.
Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.12 MILNE CUP

Presented by the Milne family. For voice and pianoforte.

The competition will be judged as an equal partnership of vocalist and accompanist (i.e. marks will be awarded for the accompanist as well as the vocalist). Both names must be stated on the entry form.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medals

Entrance: €50

Test: Two contrasting songs of own choice.
A proportion of marks will be given for the quality and suitability of the choice of programme.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.13 BRADBURY CUP

Cup presented by the late Mrs. Madge Clotworthy (née Bradbury)

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: Competitors to perform from memory in any language, playing their own piano accompaniment, two songs – one of which must be a folk-song from any land. (Operatic aria not suitable).

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.14 DRAMATIC CUP AND €5,000 MARGARET & TONY QUIGLEY AWARDS

Cup presented by the late George W. Sleater. Monetary awards presented by the late Margaret Quigley in memory of her and her husband Tony's lifelong and passionate love and knowledge of opera. Medals and Miniature cup presented by the late Neasa Nic Fhionnlaoich, a friend of George W. Sleater.

1st Prize: Silver Cup, Gold Medal and Quigley €4,000 Award

2nd Prize: Miniature Cup (for one year), Silver Medal and Quigley €1,000 Award

Entrance: €50

Test: Two contrasting arias from the Dramatic repertoire to be sung in the original key and with appropriate gestures. Each aria must not exceed ten minutes.
One aria to be sung in the preliminary round and both arias to be sung on recall to the final round. Both arias must be specified on the entry form. Costume optional.
Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.15 MRS P.J. GEOGHEGAN MEMORIAL CUP

Open to soprano, mezzo-soprano and contralto voices.

Aria to be sung in original key and in original language, unless otherwise specified.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test:

Soprano

(a) Mozart: **Ei parte... Per pietà** *Così fan tutte*

OR

(b) Humperdinck: **Wo bin ich?** *Hansel und Gretel*

Mezzo Soprano

(a) Mozart: **Parto, Parto** *La clemenza di Tito*

OR

(b) Thomas: **Connais-tu le pays?** *Mignon*

Contralto

(a) Massenet: **Va laisse couler mes larmes** *Werther*

OR

(b) Handel: **Venti, turbini** *Rodelinda*

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

3.16 JOSEPH O'MARA MEMORIAL CUP

Cup presented by the late Mrs. Harriet Simpson.

Open to countertenor, tenor, baritone and bass voices.

The winner also receives one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

Aria to be sung in original key and in the original language, unless otherwise specified.

Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

Entrance: €50

Test:

Countertenor

(a) Britten: **I know a bank** *A Midsummer night's Dream*

OR

(b) Tchaikovsky: **Lenski's aria** *Eugene Onegin*

Tenor

(a) Mozart: **Finch' han dal vino** *Don Giovanni*

OR

(b) Bellini: **Vi ravviso** *La Sonnambula*

Baritone

(a) Handel: **Va tacito e nascosto** *Giulio Cesare*

OR

(b) Handel: **Pastorello d'un povero armento** *Rodelinda*

Bass

(a) Donizetti: **O Lisbona alfin ti miro** *Don Sebastiano*

OR

(b) Handel: **Sorge infausta** *Orlando*

3.17 SENIOR MUSICAL THEATRE

Cup and monetary prize presented by the Rathmines & Rathgar Musical Society.

1st Prize: Perpetual Cup, Gold Medal and €500

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: Competitors to perform a solo song from the Musical Theatre repertoire. Performances should be in the original key and from an official version. Piano accompaniment only. Costume optional. Competitors must provide their own accompanist. (A list of accompanists can be obtained from the Feis Ceoil office if required).

Please Note: A proportion of the marks will be awarded for acting through song, and appropriateness of repertoire to voice type and stage of vocal development.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.18 THE YOUNG CUP

Silver Cup and monetary prizes *presented by the Young family, in memory of Alison and William Young.* Open to all voices.

1st Prize: Cup, Gold Medal and €300

2nd Prize: Silver Medal and €125

Entrance: €50

Test: Two songs of own choice from the Drawing Room Ballad repertoire, excluding opera, operetta, musicals and arrangements of Irish folksongs. To be sung in English. Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.19 THE VINCENT O'BRIEN MEMORIAL CUP

Presented by the O'Brien Family. Open to all voices

1st Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €50

Test: (a) A song or aria from the early Italian repertoire (17th or 18th Century), to be sung in Italian
(b) A song of own choice in English

Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

NB: Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

3.21 JOHN MCCORMACK AND MARGARET BURKE-SHERIDAN CUPS AND BOHEMIANS AWARDS

The John McCormack Cup *presented by the late Count John McCormack. Also a €500 bursary presented by The Bohemians.*

The Margaret Burke-Sheridan Cup *presented by the late Prince Ferdinando d'Ardia Caracciolo. Also a €500 bursary presented by The Bohemians.*

Open to the winners and second-placed competitors (provided they have obtained 85 marks or more) in the following solo vocal competitions in 2026: soprano, mezzo-soprano, contralto/countertenor, tenor, baritone and bass.

The McCormack Cup, silver medal and €500 Bohemians Award will be presented to the best singer in the tenor, baritone and bass categories.

The Burke-Sheridan Cup, silver medal and €500 Bohemians Award will be presented to the best singer in the soprano, mezzo-soprano and contralto/countertenor categories.

Both winners will also be offered one year's honorary membership of the Bohemians

Competitors will be required to repeat their test and own choice pieces.

Official accompanist must be used.

3.22 SOPRANO SOLO

The Music Lovers Cup *presented anonymously*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) Liza Lehmann: **When I am dead, my dearest**, Key A-flat / F min (Thames Publishing)

(b) Own choice – a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish Composer.

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format ***only***.

3.23 MEZZO SOPRANO SOLO

The Pearl Atock Trophies. Silver salvers to the winner and runner up, *presented by associates and friends in recognition of her long service to the Feis Ceoil*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Trophy and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Runner-up Trophy and Silver Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) Herbert Howells: **Gavotte**, Key G

(b) Own choice – a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish composer

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format **only**.

3.24 CONTRALTO SOLO

The Mrs 'K' Trophy. A silver salver *presented by Mary Meehan Kinsella*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Trophy and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) Britten: **Sephestia's Lullaby**, Key G (Boosey & Hawkes)

(b) Own choice -a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish composer

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format **only**

3.25 TENOR SOLO

The William T. Watt Trophy. A silver salver *presented by his daughter Patricia*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Trophy and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) Quilter: **Now sleeps the Crimson Petal**, Key G-flat (Boosey & Hawkes)

(b) Own choice -a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish Composer

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, ***as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.***

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format **only**.

3.26 BARITONE SOLO

The Frank Cowle Trophy. A silver salver, *presented by his friends and pupils*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Trophy and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) Bernadette Marmion: **Sleep Now**, Key A (CMC)

(b) Own choice – a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish composer

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, **as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.**

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format **only**.

3.27 BASS SOLO

The James Cuthbert Cup, *presented by Desmond & Margaret Cuthbert*. First prize also includes one year's honorary membership of The Bohemians.

1st Prize: Cup and Gold Medal

2nd Prize: Silver Medal

Entrance: €40

Test: *Songs to be sung in English*

(a) German Traditional: **Drinking Song**, Key F (Imperial book of Bass Songs)

(b) Own choice – a setting of an Irish Folk Song or an original song by an Irish composer

Official accompanist must be used, both for test and own choice pieces

NB: Song (a) to be sung in first round, song (b) to be sung on recall only. Recalled competitors will be required to provide a copy of song (b) for the adjudicator.

Please ensure the name of your own choice piece is submitted at time of entry, **as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.**

A legible copy of your own choice music must be provided in advance of the competition for the official accompanist. This must be uploaded to the competitor portal - pdf format **only**.

3.30 CORN CUIMNEACHÁIN MHIC CATHMHAOIL

Corn a bronnadh i gcuimhne ar an gCairdinéil Aodh Mac Cathmhaoil OFM ('Aodh Mac Aingil')
Cup presented in memory of Cardinal Hugh MacCaghwell OFM ('Son of an Angel')

Amhránaíocht aonair do gach cineál gutha, fireann agus baineann

Solo singing for all types of voice, male and female

Duais: An corn

Prize: Cup

Táille iontrála: €40

Entrance: €40

Triail: Dhá amhrán chodarsnacha i nGaeilge de rogha an iomaitheora agus iad le tionlacan pianó nó gan é

Test: *Two contrasting songs in Irish of competitor's own choice with or without piano accompaniment*

Ní mór do na hiomaitheoirí a dtionlacaí féin a bheith acu más gá tionlacaí.

Competitors must provide their own accompanist if required.

NB: *Cinntigh, le do thoil, go gcuirtear na dréachtaí ar fad a roghnaíonn na hiomaitheoirí isteach tráth na hiontrála mar ní cheadófar aon athrú ar an rogha ceoil tar éis spriocdháta iontrála an chomórtais.*

NB: *Please ensure that all own choice pieces are submitted at time of entry, as no change of repertoire will be allowed after competition entry deadline.*