

Oundle Festival of Music & Drama 2027 Syllabus



Drama March 17th 2027

Music April 10th - 16th 2027

Entries Close January 31st



Thank You to

*Barbara Bett, John Grubb, Stephen Moore,
Stefan Pijanowski, Kay Rawson and John Wade,
members of Oundle u3a*

*Camera and Composition Group, for their
photographic record of the 2026 Festival.*

Provisional Timetable

This provisional timetable is based on recent entries.
As always the scheduling of sessions will depend on entries received.

Wednesday March 17th

Group Speaking 10am

Speech & Drama 10am to 8pm

Saturday April 10th

Open Choral 9.30am to 8pm

Vocal 6pm to 8pm

Piano and Instrumental 9.30am to 8pm

Sunday April 11th

Vocal and Instrumental 9.30am to 8pm

Friday April 16th

Schools' Music 10am to 4pm

Instrumental 2pm to 6pm

Concert 7pm

Venues

Queen Victoria Hall, Oundle School, St. Peter's Church

I N D E X		Junior	Open
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	Drama	Page 10	Page 13
	Instrumental	Page 21, 26	Page 23
	Piano	Page 14	Page 15
	Vocal	Page 18	Page 20



Oundle Festival of Music & Drama
is affiliated to

**The BRITISH and INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION of FESTIVALS**

Festivals House, 198 Park Lane, Macclesfield, SK11 6UD

Tel: 01625 428297



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Gwen Radcliffe 4 St. Ann's Court, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4DS 01832 273191

VICE CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY

Gill Potts ofmdmusic@gmail.com

TREASURER

Lorraine Hedges ofmdtreasurer@gmail.com

TROPHY SECRETARY

Lorraine Hedges ofmdtrophies@btinternet.com

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Thank You to

*The Arts Society Oundle and Oundle Town Council
for grants and donations this year*

*Our Sponsors from the retail, business and
professional community of Oundle and surrounding villages*

Our Patrons who give an annual donation

Festival 108

Welcome once again to our Festival, where competitors of all ages are given the opportunity to perform in a friendly, supportive and constructive atmosphere.

We are delighted to welcome back our regular supporters and look forward to seeing some new faces this year too.



With that in mind, if you can't find a class that meets your needs, please do get in touch. We would love to have the opportunity to say **YES**, wherever possible!

Rising costs seem to be an inevitability these days and, despite making the conscious decision to keep entry fees at the 2023 level once again last year, we have made the difficult decision to review our fees for the 2027 Festival.

With the ever-decreasing number of sponsors from local businesses and fewer Patrons, there will be some small increases for many solo performers this year. **Group entry fees for Junior classes, however, remain unchanged.**

We remain passionate about delivering a Festival that celebrates all that is wonderful about the world of Music and Drama. We hope that, despite these increases, you will continue to feel that the Festival offers excellent value for money, as well as a wonderful opportunity for performers of all ages to share their talents.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Festival and wish all our competitors a happy, enjoyable and successful experience.

Gwen Radcliffe
Chairman

Veronica Trotter
Vice Chairman

Sponsored by

Oundle Carpets and Flooring
Units 4/6 Eastwood Road, Oundle (01832 275009)

RULES also on ofmd.org.uk

1. No professional performer may compete.
A professional is someone who derives his/her livelihood from the branch of performance, defined by the class title, in which she/he seeks to enter the Festival. In any ensemble, all members must adhere to that principle.
This rule does not apply to conductors.
2. Age limits, where stipulated, apply to **January 1st 2027** and Year groups to the current school year of the competitor.

The Children and Young Persons Act 1963 Section 37(3)(b)

Schools entering pupils must agree to use absence code V when entering and to provide details of the children participating and supervising adults for North Northamptonshire Council, as part of our Body of Persons Approval (BOPA), by March 16th on the Group Participant Information form that will be sent to you.

Private teachers and parents/carers should be aware that their pupil/child will need a performance licence if they are not entered by their school, should their class be scheduled in school hours. Application forms for a performance licence will be sent to the parents/carers of these competitors. See page 30 for further details.

3. Online entry will close on **Sunday January 31st at 6pm**. Paper entry forms are available on request from the Entry Secretary.
The Festival is under an obligation to the Performing Rights Society to provide accurate details of all works performed. Therefore, it is vital that details of Own Choice items - title, composer/author and publisher are given when entering
By submitting a Festival entry you are also committing to pay class fees.
Refunds will only be given in exceptional circumstances by agreement with the Entry Secretary.
4. Late entries may be accepted if they can be fitted in after initial timetabling, **and will be charged a double entry fee.**
5. No change to the original entry, either performer or own choice piece, is allowed without the prior permission of the organisers.
6. A competitor may enter more than once in a Duet or Duologue Class provided that he/she performs a different piece and a different part or instrument.

7. A piece must not be offered more than once by the same competitor for adjudication during the Festival or in consecutive years.
8. Performers are encouraged to make use of the full time allocation for Own Choice classes, but their performance, including introductions, must not exceed the time limits stated. Performers running over the allotted time will receive verbal and written feedback but not be awarded a mark. Marks will be awarded in accordance with the scale recommended by the British & International Federation of Festivals.
9. Trophies and medallions will only be awarded to class winners when a mark of 85 or over is gained. Winners are responsible for the safe-keeping of trophies which must be signed for and returned in a clean condition on or before **March 7th**. Trophies should not be engraved.
10. Adjudicator's Copy. Copies of all Own Choice items, including those for Grade Classes, must be brought to the Festival for the use of the adjudicator. Copies must be clearly marked with the competitor's name, class number and with the page number of the chosen piece.
11. Competitors requiring an Official Accompanist must state this when entering. Failure to comply means an accompanist will not be timetabled.

Music must be sent to the Music Secretary to arrive by **March 1st** so that the Official Accompanists may prepare for the Festival.

The piano accompaniment in the original print format (not photocopies) must be sent for the Official Accompanists. This must be clearly labelled with the name of the competitor and class.

In some circumstances a photocopy of a longer work will be accepted provided that the separate sheets are sellotaped together, edge on edge, in page order, and in a pristine condition.

12. Unauthorised photocopying is illegal. To comply with the MPA Code of Fair Practice, any photocopies brought for the use of the Adjudicator will be retained by the Committee and destroyed.
13. CD backing tracks are only allowed where specified in the syllabus.
14. Photographing, videoing or recording by any means of Festival performances is not allowed.
15. The Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any entry and its decision on any point is final.

The Committee accepts no responsibility for damage to or loss of instruments, music copies or personal property of any kind.

Entry opens November 1st

First choose which classes you want to enter. **If in doubt, talk to us.**

Getting it right first time saves time and stress for the small team that manages the entry process, and for yourself.

We advise going to **www.ofmd.org.uk** early in January to check registration, even if competitors and classes to be entered are not finalised.

Registered user? Please update your contact details, personal information and delete students who have left from your list of entrants.

Time will be saved in the entry process if they are made by the same member of staff as last year, if possible.

New user? You should receive a response from **admin@runmyfestival.net** shortly after registering. **Check your spam box.**

Only contact **info@ofmd.org.uk** if no response in 24 hours.

Entry System messages come from **admin@runmyfestival.net**

Entry closes

Sunday January 31st 6.00pm

but please don't leave it to the last minute!

Help notes from our website have been added to the RunMyFestival system.

After checking out **and** submitting your entry, confirmation will come from **admin@runmyfestival.net**. **It is vital you check for entry errors.**

Once timetabling is completed, at the beginning of February, you will receive your timetable from **admin@runmyfestival.net**

Teachers and parents/carers of competitors who need a Performance Licence (see page 30) will be contacted by **info@ofmd.org.uk**

You should only receive a message from us in February:

if you haven't paid fees by the due date

if your performance details are incomplete

if your music for the Official Accompanist has not been received

Save volunteer time by making this unnecessary!

SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES

WEDNESDAY MARCH 17th

Adjudicator Rebecca Vines

Rebecca read journalism at Cardiff University, during which time she wrote a weekly column for The Guardian newspaper. She continues to work for a range of publications as a features writer, ghost writer and theatre critic.

She then studied as an actor at the London Centre for Theatre Studies. Her theatre credits include off-West End, Fringe, tour, educational theatre and voiceover. Rebecca trained as a specialist drama teacher at The Guildhall. She has taught in a range of primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions for the last twenty years and is now the Principal of her own drama school, which operates internationally. She sits on the Adjudicators' Council for the British and International Federation of Festivals and she is also a LAMDA, GCSE and A level examiner.



In 2014, Rebecca was awarded the prestigious Fellowship of the Royal Society of Arts in recognition of her work in the youth theatre sector. She is currently working on a PhD based around Shakespeare's history plays. She is passionate about inclusivity and diversity in the Arts, spending her free time 'making things happen' for people who would otherwise have no agency within the creative sector.

Speech & Drama Prize Winners 2026

<i>Prize</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Class</i>
Oundle Town Council Prize	Ava Farrell	Oundle	Solo Acting, KS2	D18
Oundle Town Council Prize	Florence Fluckiger	Grantham	Solo Acting, KS3	D21
Mrs S A Mc Adam Cup	Kings Cliffe Endowed Primary School		Group Speaking, Year4	D52
Priestman Cup	Oundle CE Primary School, Curie Class		Group Speaking, Year 5	D53
	Nicky Jakeways Trophy		Ava Farrell, Oundle	
Norah Ball Cup	Diana Awdry	Ashton	Bible Reading	D64
Salisbury Rosebowl	Diana Awdry	Ashton	Verse Speaking	D66



Oundle Town Council Awards

Oundle Town Council is delighted to sponsor the Junior Speech and Drama Awards.

Class winners achieving a mark of **87** or more will be considered for these awards on the recommendation of the adjudicator.

Award winners will be invited to perform at the Festival Concert on **Friday April 16th**.

The Nicky Jakeways Trophy

Awarded to the solo performer of school age in the poetry and prose sections of the Festival who, in the opinion of the adjudicator, communicates best with the audience.

Solo Verse Speaking

Competitors in the classes D2 - D12 should speak from memory EITHER the test piece from *Happy Poems, chosen by Roger McGough (Macmillan)* OR choose a poem on the given theme, offering a literary and performance challenge commensurate with the test piece.

D2	Year 2 & under "The Bird's Nest" or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Nature</i>	John Drinkwater	£3.50
D3	Year 3 "Winter Morning" or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Seasons</i>	Ogden Nash	£3.50
D4	Year 4 "A Smile" or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Happiness</i>	Jez Alborough	£3.50
D5	Year 5 "Tell it to the Dog" or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Animals</i>	Joshua Seigal	£3.50
D6	Year 6 "The Moon and a Cloud" or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Nighttime</i>	W. H. Davies	£3.50
D7	Key Stage 3 Own choice of a poem about <i>The Sea</i>		£4.00
D8	Key Stage 4 Own choice of War poem		£4.00
D9	18 years & under Own choice of Sonnet		£4.00

Shared Poems for 2, 3 or 4 Speakers

D10	Year 4 & under		£5.00
	"The Supply Teacher" from Please Mrs Butler (<i>Puffin</i>)	Allan Ahlberg	
	or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>School</i>	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	
D11	Year 6 and under		£5.00
	"High Achievers"	Kate O'Neil	
	or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>Growing Up</i>	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	
D12	Key Stage 3		£5.00
	"Stars"	Pie Corbett	
	or Own choice of poem on theme of <i>The Universe</i>	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	

Group Speaking

Backing tracks allowed

The set pieces in classes D51 to D54 are from the anthology
Poems Aloud by Joseph Coelho (Wide Eyed Editions)

D51	Year 3 & under		£15.00
	"Something Wondrous"	Joseph Coelho	
	and own contrasting choice(s)	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	
D52	Year 4 & under		£15.00
	"On the streets of New Delhi"	Joseph Coelho	
	and own contrasting choice(s)	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	
D53	Year 5		£15.00
	"The Bear"	Joseph Coelho	
	and own contrasting choice(s)	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	
D54	Year 6 under		£15.00
	"From Space"	Joseph Coelho	
	and own contrasting choice(s)	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	

Prepared Reading

In classes D40 to D47 competitors will prepare a passage of their own choice.
 Marks will be given for fluency, audibility, interpretation and posture.

***Oundle Bookshop* knows the books we have chosen and is ready to help.**

D40	Year 2 & under	<i>Time limit 1.5 minutes</i>	£3.50
	"The Owl who was afraid of the Dark"	Jill Tomlinson	(<i>Farshore</i>)
D41	Year 3	<i>Time limit 1.5 minutes</i>	£3.50
	"All because of Jackson"	Dick King-Smith	(<i>Corgi</i>)
D42	Year 4	<i>Time limit 1.5 minutes</i>	£3.50
	"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"	Roald Dahl	(<i>Puffin</i>)
D43	Year 5	<i>Time limit 2 minutes</i>	£3.50
	"The Ghost of Thomas Kempe"	Penelope Lively	(<i>Farshore</i>)
D44	Year 6	<i>Time limit 2 minutes</i>	£3.50
	"The Railway Children"	E. Nesbit	(<i>Faber</i>)

D45	Key Stage 3 "Animal Farm"	Time limit 2.5 minutes George Orwell	£4.00 (Faber)
D46	Key Stage 4 "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy"	Time limit 3 minutes Douglas Adams	£4.50 (Faber)
D47	18 years & under Any extract from a novel by Charles Dickens	Time limit 3 minutes	£5.00

Acting

In Acting Classes simple costume is optional; essential props only.

The title of the play/novel, author and publisher should be submitted at the time of entry. **Your attention is drawn to the ALCS Copyright agreement on Page 13.**

Please ensure that the performance piece is suitable for a family audience.

The final script, indicating cuts, must be sent to the Entry Secretary, clearly marked with class number and name, by **March 9th**.

D18	Solo Acting, Key Stage 2 Own choice from a published play or novel.	Time limit 3 minutes	£4.50
D19	Duologue, Key Stage 2 Own choice from a published play or novel.	Time limit 3 minutes	£5.50
D20	Group Acting, Key Stage 2 Own choice from a published play. Not less than three players.	Time limit 7 minutes	£15.00
D21	Solo Acting, Key Stage 3 Own choice. One character only to be portrayed.	Time limit 3 minutes	£5.50
D23	Duologue, Key Stage 3 Own choice from a published play or novel.	Time limit 3 minutes	£6.50
D24	Group Acting, Key Stage 3 Own choice from a published play. Not less than three players.	Time limit 7 minutes	£15.00
D25	Solo Acting, Key Stage 4 Own choice. One character only to be portrayed.	Time limit 4 minutes	£6.50
D26	Duologue, Key Stage 4 Own choice from a published play or novel.	Time limit 4 minutes	£7.50
D27	Group Acting, Key Stage 4 Own choice from a published play. Not less than three players.	Time limit 8 minutes	£17.50
D28	Solo Acting, 18 years & under Own choice. One character only to be portrayed.	Time limit 5 minutes	£7.00
D29	Duologue, 18 years & under Own choice from a published play or novel.	Time limit 5 minutes	£8.00
D30	Group Acting, 18 years & under Own choice from a published play. Not less than three players.	Time limit 10 minutes	£20.00

OPEN SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES

D61	Open Prose Reading Any extract from a novel by Elizabeth Gaskell	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£7.00
D62	Open Prose Reading at Sight Competitors will be given a few seconds to scan the piece before performance		£7.00
D64	Open Bible Reading Own choice from the King James Version	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
D65	Open Verse Speaking from memory Own choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
D66	Open Humorous Verse Own choice spoken from memory	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
D67	Open Reading a Poem Own choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
D72	Open Poems for more than one voice Programme of published work which may be spoken from memory or read by a group of 4 or less.	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£10.00
D73	Open Solo Acting Any speech or scene from a published play.	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£8.00
D76	Open Duologue Any scene from a published play.	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£10.00

SPEECH AND DRAMA COPYRIGHT

Oundle Festival subscribes to licences from the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society and the Copyright Licensing Agency.

The agreement with ALCS covers performers for the **speaking of verse, prose and solo dramatic items** during the Festival.

Dramatic items must be announced with title and author at the time of performance to qualify for copyright indemnity, and the performer must not change the words or the gender of the character.

If you intend to perform **a duologue or group scene** from a play, you must contact the copyright owner directly, **before the entry is made**.

"Performers and teachers will be delighted to know that their participation in this Festival means that authors will be directly reimbursed as a consequence of their works being performed at this Festival."

PIANO CLASSES

SATURDAY APRIL 10th

Gascoigne Recital Room

Adjudicator Susan Clark

Susan attended the Trinity College of Music Junior Department for ten years, then continued her studies at Cambridge and successfully completed a Post-graduate Diploma in performance at the Royal College of Music.

She has appeared at many major London concert venues and throughout the country as a soloist, accompanist and given concerto performances in Harrow and Lincoln.



Susan teaches at Merchant Taylor's School and Latymer Upper School and the Royal Masonic School for Girls and is London based. She examines for the Associated Board in the UK and internationally and is an adjudicator for The British and International Federation of Festivals.

Susan has had three articles about teaching techniques published in the Music Teacher magazine and has published her own music theory book to help students prepare for their grade 5 theory exams.

We are delighted to welcome back Susan.

N0 Novices Class Any instrument

Time limit 1 minute

£2.00

*Non-competitive class for beginners on any instrument, **including piano and keyboard.** A chance to experience the Festival atmosphere and receive valuable feedback*

Piano Solo

M31	Grade I	One piece from a current examination list	£5.00
M32	Grade II	One piece from a current examination list	£5.50
M33	Grade III	One piece from a current examination list	£6.00
M34	Grade IV	One piece from a current examination list	£7.00
M35	Grade V	One piece from a current examination list	£8.00

M30	10 years & under	Own Choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
M36	12 years & under	Own Choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£10.00
M37	15 years & under	Own Choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M38	18 years & under	*YM QUAL*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00
M201	Piano Solo, Open	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£16.00

Piano Duets (See Rule 6)

M40	10 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£8.00
M41	12 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£11.00
M42	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£13.50
M43	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£15.00

Instrumental Prize Winners 2026

<i>Prize</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Class</i>
Whiteman Cup	Molly Waldeck	Oakham	Piano Solo, Grade 5	M34
Festival Award	Philip Ziao	Sawston	Piano Solo, 15 & under	M37
Arts Society Oundle Awards				
	Rohith Varadarajan	Barnet	Piano Solo, 18 & under	
	Anjali Khela	Peterborough	Strings Solo, 18 & under	
	Ethan Chan	Peterborough	Oundle Young Musician 2026	

OUNCLE YOUNG MUSICIAN 2027

The Arts Society Oundle Awards

The competition will take place at the Festival Concert on **Friday, April 16th**.

The winner will receive £125.

The other finalists will receive £25 each.

Competitors will qualify for the final by **winning** an 18 years & under Instrumental Solo Class, indicated by ***YM QUAL*** with a mark of 88 or more.

The award may not be won more than twice.

Your performance should make full use of the time allowed.

You must perform your qualifying programme. Exceeding the time limit of 8 minutes will lead to disqualification. If you qualify on more than one instrument, you must choose which one to play in the final.



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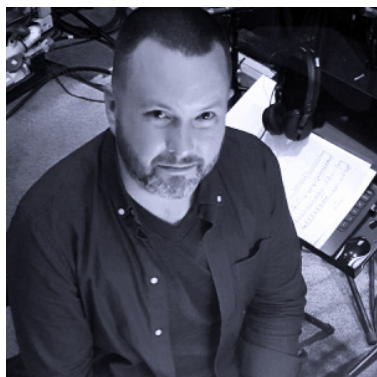
Goldsmith's Chartered Surveyors & Valuers
The Stables, Churchfield Farm, Oundle (01832 272349)

OPEN CHORAL CLASSES

SATURDAY APRIL 10th

Oundle School Chapel

Adjudicator Ben Costello



Ben is an artistic director, musical director and singing coach working nationally and internationally. He is Artistic Director of Thames Concerts and the City Music series, a music adjudicator and mentor for the British and International Federation of Festivals, and a music examiner, consultant and recording artist for LCM Exams.

A specialist in musical theatre and vocal performance, Ben has been musical director for numerous productions across the UK.

He has taught singing (incorporating Estill and Bel Canto), acting through song, audition technique and performance at many of London's leading conservatoires and drama schools, including ArtsEd, Mountview, Trinity Laban, Guildford School of Acting, LAMDA, the Royal Academy of Music and the London School of Musical Theatre. He has auditioned thousands of prospective students, and many of his former pupils enjoy successful careers in the West End and beyond. He also teaches singing at Tiffin Girls' School.

Born and based in London, Ben studied at Kingston University and the London College of Music, later joining the latter as its first resident Musical Director. A sought-after accompanist, he collaborates with distinguished singers across a wide range of genres and is a regular pianist for Cantabile (The London Quartet). He is a Liveryman and Court member of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, and currently chairs its Jazz Committee.

Outside music, Ben is a keen motorcyclist.

V69	Vocal or Madrigal Ensemble (3 to 12 voices) Own choice of a varied programme	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£20.00
V70	Close Harmony Quartet Own choice of A Cappella songs	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£20.00
V70B	Close Harmony Quartet, 18 years & under Own choice of A Cappella songs	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£15.00

Entries from maintained schools in Class 70B can be timetabled on Friday April 17th.

V71	Close Harmony Chorus Own choice of A Cappella songs	<i>Time limit 12 minutes</i>	£35.00
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In Part Song Classes V72, V73 and V74, the choir should present a varied programme showing a range of contrasting styles, moods and periods.

Marks will be awarded for choice of repertoire.

V72	Part Songs SATB	<i>Time limit 12 minutes</i>	£35.00
V73	Part Songs for Women's Voices	<i>Time limit 12 minutes</i>	£35.00
V74	Part Songs for Men's Voices	<i>Time limit 12 minutes</i>	£35.00
V75	Youth Choirs 18 years and under Own choice of programme	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£30.00
V76	Show Songs Two contrasting songs, not medleys, from a Musical Show or Shows.	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£30.00
V77	Sacred Music Own choice of one or two items.	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£30.00
V78	Community Choirs, Any voices. This class is for non-auditioned choirs, whose members are drawn from the local community, that have not won a class at Oundle Festival in the last two years. Own choice of two contrasting songs, not medleys.	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£30.00
V79	Church or Chapel Choirs Own choice of programme	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£30.00

Open Choral Prize Winners 2026

Prize	Name	Place	Title	Class
Oundle G & S Cup	Ocho	Lount	Vocal Ensemble	V69
Lady Lilford Shield	Alchemy	St. Neots	Close Harmony Quartet	V70
Classic Harmony Shield	The Bright Accord	St. Neots	Close Harmony Chorus	V71
Lady Proby Memorial Cup	Ocho	Lount	Part Songs SATB	V72
Lady Violet Brassey Cup	The Decibelles	Kettering	Part Songs for Women	V73
Ray Sharpe Cup	Northampton Male Voice Choir Lite		Part Songs for Men	V74
Sir Richard Proby Cup	The Decibelles	Kettering	Show Songs	V76
Cotterstock Male Voice Cup	Northampton Male Voice Choir Lite		Sacred Music	V77
Lady Culme Seymour Cup	Junction 18	Crick	Community Choirs	V78

Weekley & Warkton Rosebowl

Ocho Most Artistic Choral Performance

VOCAL CLASSES

SATURDAY APRIL 10th - SUNDAY APRIL 11th

OUNDL E YOUNG SINGER OF THE YEAR

V32 Young Singer 14 to 18 years

Time limit 8 minutes

£15.00

Attention is drawn to the Festival Rules on page 6, particularly nos. 7 and 8.

Competitors should perform two contrasting songs. The selections should demonstrate a clear contrast in style, mood, character, tempo and/or period, and should allow the competitor to showcase different aspects of their vocal ability and musicianship.

Examples of suitable choices could include: Any 20th-century Art Song, British Folk Song – accompanied or unaccompanied, Solo song from Musical Theatre (including Gilbert & Sullivan and Operetta), sacred song, or aria. Chart pop songs, whether released as singles or album tracks, are not permitted.

Competitors are encouraged to choose repertoire appropriate to their age, voice and stage of vocal development. The award may not be won more than twice.

You are strongly advised to bring your own accompanist or, if this is not possible, arrange a rehearsal with the Official Accompanist. This can be arranged through the Music Secretary and will be charged at the current BIFF rates for Accompanists.

The Shirley Malster Award **£50**

The Shirley Malster Award will be presented to the winner provided they have achieved a mark of at least 88.

The winner will be invited to perform at the Festival Concert on the evening of **Friday April 16th**

Solo Song

Contact Gill Potts, ofmdmusic@gmail.com, before you make an entry if you require further clarification.

- | | | |
|------------|--|--------------|
| V21 | Solo Song 9 years & under | £4.00 |
| | Any song from the ABRSM Grade 1 syllabus, including Musical Theatre. | |
| V22 | Solo Song 11 years & under | £5.00 |
| | Any song from the ABRSM Grade 2 syllabus, including Musical Theatre. | |
| V23 | Solo Song 13 years & under | £6.00 |
| | Any song from the ABRSM Grade 3 syllabus, including Musical Theatre. | |

In classes V24 to V26 the song should be chosen from the current Grade syllabus list of ABRSM or Trinity College.

V24	Grade IV		£7.00
V25	Grade V		£8.00
V26	Grade VI		£9.00
V27	Disney Song 13 years & under	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£7.00
	Own choice from The New Illustrated Treasury of Disney Songs		

Backing tracks must be used in classes V28 to V31.

Competitors must bring their own PAT tested equipment.

V28	Solo Song from Musical Theatre, 13 years & under	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£7.00
	Own choice		
V29	Solo Song from Musical Theatre, 14 to 18 years	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
	Own choice		
V30	Pop Song, 15 years & under	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
	Own choice		
V31	Pop Song, 18 years & under	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
	Own choice		

Vocal Duets

V41	Vocal Duet 11 years & under	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
	Own choice		
V42	Vocal Duet 14 years & under	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£8.00
	Own choice		
V43	Vocal Duet 18 years & under	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£9.00
	Own choice		

Vocal Prize Winners 2026

Prize	Name	Place	Title	Class
Salsbury Cup	Josephine O'Keeffe-Mulot	Geddington	Solo Song	V21-23
Janet Mary McMichael Cup	Hreyansha Nath	Peterborough	Solo Song	V24-26
Gladys Risely Cup	No competition			V43
Marjorie McAdam Cup	Christopher Trotter	Northampton	Vocal Solo	V51-54
Meg Bates Cup	Chris Pearman	Uffington	Folk Song	V56
Miller Trophy	Chris Pearman	Uffington	Vocal Solo	V57-66

Open Vocal Classes

Apart from Class V55 and V69, a Song should be a stand-alone composition or part of a Song Cycle, not an extract from a longer dramatic or religious work

V51	British Art Song Composed from 1900 onwards	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
V52	Operatic Solo An aria (with or without recitative) sung in the original language or English	<i>Time limit 7 minutes</i>	£12.00
V53	Oratorio Solo An aria (with or without recitative) from an Oratorio or other Sacred work	<i>Time limit 7 minutes</i>	£12.00
V55	Solo Song from Musical or Operetta Own choice, including Gilbert & Sullivan	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£10.00
V56	Folk Song with or without accompaniment	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£6.50
V61	Solo Song A song in any language, other than English	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£10.00
V62	Young Adult Singer, 19 to 25 years Own choice of two contrasting songs	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00
V66	Sacred Song	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
V67	Veteran's Solo Open to anyone 65 & over who has NOT entered classes V51 to V53	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£8.00
V68	Vocal Duet	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£12.00
V69	Musical Theatre Song, with backing track	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£10.00

Competitors must bring their own PAT tested equipment.

Mark Scheme



65-69 Developing	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry
70-74 Progressing	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment
75-79 Merit	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability
80-84 Commended	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills
85-89 Honours	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
90-94 Outstanding	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality
95+ Exceptional	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality

INSTRUMENTAL CLASSES

SATURDAY APRIL 10th to SUNDAY APRIL 11th

Adjudicator Ben Costello

N0 Novices Class All instruments *Time limit 1 minute* £2.00

*Non-competitive class for beginners on all instruments, **including piano and keyboard**.
A chance to experience the Festival atmosphere and receive valuable feedback.*

**What
shall
I play?**

You should enter a **Grade Class** at the grade level at which you are currently working or have recently been successful. One piece should be chosen from any current examination Grade List. You may enter only one grade class per instrument.

In **age group classes**, you should always consult your teacher before choosing the class and the own choice piece(s) to be played.

Instrumental Solo - Any instrument, **except Piano**, including Bagpipes, Harp, Keyboard, Ocarina, Recorder, Ukulele for example

The aim of the classes N1-N3 is for competitors to listen to performances of other instruments at the same grade level. Entrants can enter to play more than one instrument.

N1	Grade I	One piece from a current examination list	£5.00
N2	Grade II	One piece from a current examination list	£5.50
N3	Grade III	One piece from a current examination list	£6.00
N4	10 years & under	Own choice <i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
N5	12 years & under	Own choice <i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£10.00

Brass Solo

M4	Grade IV	One piece from a current examination list	£7.00
M5	Grade V	One piece from a current examination list	£8.00
M6	Grade VI	One piece from a current examination list	£9.00
M7	15 years & under	Own choice <i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M8	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23* <i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Classical Guitar Solo

M16	12 years & under	Own choice <i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£10.00
M17	15 years & under	Own choice <i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M18	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23* <i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Rock & Pop Solo**Backing tracks permitted****Competitors must provide their own PAT tested instruments and equipment.**

M25	10 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£7.00
M26	12 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£10.00
M27	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M28	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Percussion Solo**Instruments not provided**

M61	12 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£10.00
M62	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M63	18 years & under	* YM QUAL See Page 23*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Strings Solo

M74	Grade IV	One piece from a current examination list		£7.00
M75	Grade V	One piece from a current examination list		£8.00
M76	Grade VI	One piece from a current examination list		£9.00
M77	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M78	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Woodwind Solo

M84	Grade IV	One piece from a current examination list		£7.00
M85	Grade V	One piece from a current examination list		£8.00
M86	Grade VI	One piece from a current examination list		£9.00
M87	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M88	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Instrumental Solo not offered elsewhere in Syllabus*(e.g. Bagpipes, Harp, Ocarina, Recorder, Ukulele)*

M91	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£12.50
M92	18 years & under	*YM QUAL See Page 23*	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£15.00

Instrumental Duet, with or without piano accompaniment (See Rule 6)

M96	10 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 3 minutes</i>	£8.00
M97	12 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£11.00
M98	15 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£13.50
M99	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£16.00

OUNDLÉ YOUNG MUSICIAN 2027

The Arts Society Oundle Awards

The competition will take place at the Festival Concert on **Friday, April 16th**.

The winner will receive £125.

The other finalists will receive £25 each.



Competitors will qualify for the final by **winning** an 18 years & under Instrumental Solo Class, indicated by ***YM QUAL*** with a mark of 88 or more.

The award may not be won more than twice.

Your performance should make full use of the time allowed.

You are strongly advised to bring your own accompanist or, if this is not possible, arrange a rehearsal with the Official Accompanist. This can be arranged through the Music Secretary and will be charged at the current BIFF rates for Accompanists.

You must perform your qualifying programme. Exceeding the time limit of 8 minutes will lead to disqualification. If you qualify on more than one instrument, you must choose which one to play in the final.

M202 Open Instrumental Solo	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£16.00
Own choice of any instrument		

M203 Veteran's Solo	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£10.00
Open to anyone 65 & over who has NOT entered M202.		
Own choice of any instrument including piano.		

M204 Open Partnership Class	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£17.50
Any combination of voice (spoken or sung) and instrument,		
or two instruments, including piano. Both performers will be adjudicated.		

All members of an ensemble, which is any group of 3 to 15 players, must perform in all items of their programme.

M206 Open Instrumental Ensemble	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
Any combination of 3 or more instruments, with or without vocal.		

M207 Open Ukulele Orchestra	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
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M208 Family Music	<i>Time limit 5 minutes</i>	£12.50
A programme of vocal and/or instrumental music performed by members of one family.		

SCHOOLS' MUSIC DAY

FRIDAY APRIL 16th

St. Peter's Church

Adjudicator Liz Childs

Liz studied Flute with Gareth Morris and Piano with Graeme Humphrey at the RAM and has performed all over the world. Her varied career includes performing with Quintessimo, adjudicating at both home and abroad and she was visiting Flute Teacher for the University of East Anglia when it had a full time music department. Liz is flute/piano/ensemble teacher at Beechwood Park School in Markyate, Hertfordshire a role that she thoroughly enjoys on many levels.



Liz is founder and Musical Director of the Bedfordshire Woodwind Academy (www.bedfordshirewoodwind.co.uk) which includes the Bedfordshire Woodwind Academy Flute Ensemble, which is thriving, having undertaken 3 European concert tours. Most players in this ensemble are adults returning to their flute playing having learnt at school. They play a varied repertoire including jazz, classical, and modern music. They have even commissioned pieces to play on their tours.

Liz is passionate about her work as an Adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, regarding it a real privilege to be able to encourage and inspire performers. She believes that a positive experience at a Federation Festival can change a performer's life forever. It did hers!

School Choirs

No Conductor is allowed to sing with the choir

V1	Choir, Year 4 & under	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.00
	Own choice of two contrasting pieces		
V2	Choir, Year 6 & under	<i>Time limit 9 minutes</i>	£17.00
	Own choice of three contrasting pieces including a traditional folk song		
V3	Choir, Year 6 & under	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.00
	Own choice of two contrasting hymns or worship songs		
V4	Small Choir, Year 6 & under	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.00
	(No more than 30 in choir) Own choice of two contrasting pieces		

V5	Choir, Key Stage 3	<i>Time limit 9 minutes</i>	£17.00
	Own choice of three contrasting pieces including a traditional folk song		
V6	Choir, Key Stage 4	<i>Time limit 10 minutes</i>	£22.00
	Own choice of contrasting pieces		
V7	Choir, 18 years and under	<i>Time limit 10 minutes</i>	£22.00
	Own choice of contrasting pieces		
V8	Vocal Ensemble, 18 years and under	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.00
	Own choice. An instrumental accompaniment may be played by one of the group of up to 12 performers.		

Entries from Performing Arts and Dance schools for the following classes may be timetabled after 5pm or with the Youth Choirs on Saturday April 10th

V10	Songs from the Shows, Year 9 & under	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
	Own choice of two contrasting pieces		
V11	Songs from the Shows, Year 11 & under	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
	Own choice of two contrasting pieces		
V12	Songs from the Shows, 18 years & under	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
	Own choice of two contrasting pieces		
V70B	Close Harmony Quartet, 18 years & under	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£15.00
	Own choice of A Cappella songs		

School Music Winners 2026

Prize	School	Class	
Gleemen Cup	no competition	Choir, Year 4 & under	V1
Brudenell Cup	John Clare Primary School, Helpston	Choir, Year 6 & under	V2
Rev E.F. Lake Shield	Bourne Abbey Primary Academy	Hymn, Choir, Year 6 & under	V3
Mrs George Brudenell Cup II	Polebrook CE Primary School	Small Choir, Year 6 & under	V4
Brudenell Picture	Malcolm Sargent Primary School, Stamford	Most Artistic Choral Performance	
Oundle Middle School Cup	Oundle CE Primary School	Orchestra, Keystage 2	M112
Mrs George Brudenell Shield	Oundle CE Primary School Wind Band	Band, Keystage 2	M115
Lady Margaret Proby Shield I	The Peterborough School	Orchestra, 18 & under	M114
Lady Magaret Proby Shield II	Oundle Primary School Hand Chimes	Ensemble, Keystage2	M104
Westminster Cup	Westwood Ensemble, TPS	Ensemble, 18 & under	M106

All members of an ensemble, which is any group of 3 to 15 players, must perform in all items of their programme.

In all orchestral and ensemble classes, if a piano/keyboard part is included in the music, the pianist should also be within the required age group.

You are strongly advised to use the time allocated for your own choice programme.

Primary Music Making

M100	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.50
May include improvisatory style, with any classroom instrument, pitched or unpitched or voices.				

Ukulele Orchestra

M101	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£15.00
M102	Key Stage 3 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.50
M103	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00

Instrumental Ensemble

M104	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£15.00
M105	Key Stage 3 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.50
M106	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00

Jazz Ensemble Any combination of three or more instruments, with or without voice

M107	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 4 minutes</i>	£15.00
M108	Key Stage 3 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 6 minutes</i>	£17.50
M109	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00

Orchestra

M112	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
M113	Key Stage 3 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 10 minutes</i>	£22.50
M114	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 15 minutes</i>	£25.00

Band

M115	Key Stage 2 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 8 minutes</i>	£20.00
M116	Key Stage 3 & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 10 minutes</i>	£22.50
M117	18 years & under	Own choice	<i>Time limit 15 minutes</i>	£25.00



COME AND JOIN US!



AS A VOLUNTEER

During the Festival over 50 volunteers are needed to keep it running smoothly. Could you spare 3 hours?

Stewarding Refreshments Logistics
are areas where help is required.

Could you help with admin tasks
in February or March?

Other roles need a little time on a regular basis, such as

Publicity Social Media/Web site

To find out more, please get in touch with

Gwen Radcliffe, 01832 273191 or info@ofmd.org.uk



COME AND JOIN US!



AS A PATRON

The support of our Patrons is vital in keeping the Festival running.

Patrons give a minimum of £15 per year (£25.00 per couple).

Benefits

Discount for Festival Concert tickets
and a vote at the AGM.

Patrons' names are published in the Festival programme
For further information contact Diana Awdry 01832 274180

Application / Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from

www.ofmd.org.uk

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Oundle Festival of Music & Drama
is affiliated to
The BRITISH and INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
of FESTIVALS



Child Protection Policy

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech work for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for children and young people each year.

The Federation, and our member Festivals, are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This Policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The purpose of the policy:

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safeworking practice for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and safeworking practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The Federation will review this policy each year in November in line with Safe Network guidance or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our member Festivals in time for the start of the new Festival year.

Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone

The Federation and its member Festivals use the following policies and procedures to create Safer Festivals for everyone:

1. A single, definitive Child Protection Policy adopted by all Federation Festivals.
2. One or more designated Festival Safeguarding Officers (FSO) appointed for each Federation Festival.
Name: Gwen Radcliffe **Phone: 01832 273191**
Carolyn Traynor **ofmdsafe@gmail.com**
3. Best practice advice in the form of Safe Working Practice and Festival Child Protection leaflets, with support and training for all Festival staff and volunteer, including clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child.
4. Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new Festival staff and volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending/performing at a Federation Festival.
5. All Festival staff and volunteers wear a badge to identify their roles and all teachers/parents/guardians /carers are asked to report all incidents of any nature to anyone wearing a badge. All reported incidents will be handled in accordance with the Safe Working Practice and Festival Child Protection best practice advice. In addition we will ensure the availability of a quiet area/room where concerns can be expressed in private.
6. For the duration of a Festival all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils. If they are unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/pupils are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout all Festival venues, performance, practice and changing areas that may be provided.
7. Please note that public toilets, the limited changing facilities and any practice rooms that may be available are not supervised by Festival stewards.
8. Care should be taken when crossing the road to move between Festival venues and facilities, which are spread round the centre of Oundle.
9. No unauthorised photography or video recording of children and young people is allowed at our Festivals. Where parents/guardians/carers do not wish photos to be taken at all, then the responsible adult attending should ensure that their child is not included in official photos.
10. Oundle Festival actively seeks to meet the special needs of participants notified to the Entry Secretary by parents, guardians or carers.
This should be done by contacting **01832 273191**.
11. The Festival's Child Protection Policy and approach to Creating Safer Festivals for everyone is published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and on our website.

By completing and signing the entry form all parents/guardians/carers and teachers of entrants under 18 confirm that they give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the entrants to take part in the Festival. Without consent the entry to the Festival cannot be accepted.



North
Northamptonshire
Council



Why you may need a Performance Licence?

Under the Children & Young Persons Act 1963, any public performance by a compulsory school age child may require a performance licence.

This is required if a performance meets any of the following criteria:

- **requires time off from school – i.e if the class your child is performing in requires them to have time off school and they are not part of a school group, then this will apply to you.**
- it takes place on licensed premises e.g public house, club
- is broadcast, filmed or recorded for public exhibition – this can be TV, internet, DVD
- performs for 4 or more days in rolling 6 month period
- is being paid

It is illegal for the child to perform without a licence if any of the above apply.

The Festival applies for the Performance Licence for your child, if it is needed. We will contact parents/carers to provide required information.

The application is made to the local authority in which the competitor lives.

However if your child is entered in a class that is

- after school or ▪ at the weekend

then the Festival will include them on its Group Participant Information form, as required by our Body of Persons Approval (BOPA) contract with North Northamptonshire Council.

Schools that enter students will complete their own Group Participation Information form which should be emailed directly to

ceeadmin.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk

with OFMD27 in the subject line.

Copies of the Group Participant Information and Performance Licence forms can be found at www.ofmd.org.uk.



FESTIVAL CONCERT

Friday April 16th at 7.00pm

St. Peter's Church, Oundle

featuring

Oundle Young Musician 2027 Final



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