

DON COWELL MEMORIAL PRIZE

Solo Recorder Competition 2016

About this Competition

The competition is organised by the Don Cowell Memorial Trust.

The trust was set up to perpetuate the memory of Don Cowell, a gifted player and teacher of the recorder and other instruments, who was killed in a car accident in 1979. Don was a founding member of the Victorian Recorder Guild and was the recorder soloist for the Melbourne mandolin orchestra. The funds to establish the trust were donated by recorder and mandolin players and other musicians.

This competition was made possible by a generous bequest from the Estate of Dr James Smibert to the Don Cowell Memorial Trust.

The aim of the competition is to encourage young players of talent, and to assist them in the early stages of their career Recorder students from Australian and New Zealand are invited to participate in this competition.

Judging and Prizes

The initial judging will be by review by the principal adjudicator of a CD of the competitor's performance. The finals will be judged by the principal adjudicator in conjunction with a second experienced adjudicator. The adjudicators of the 2016 competition are **Greg Dikmans** (principal adjudicator) and **Hannah Coleman** (associate adjudicator).

A maximum of three finalists from each section will be chosen to compete in a live performance on 2 July 2016

Open section first prize is \$5,000, second prize is \$1,000 and a James Smibert Encouragement Award of \$500.

Under 18 section first prize is \$1,000, second prize is \$400 and a James Smibert Encouragement Award of \$200

In the event of a tie for first place, the first and second prizes will be pooled and divided equally. All prizes will be in Australian currency

The prize winners will also be invited to perform in a public concert with The Melbourne Mandolin Orchestra at a suitable time and venue.

The competition is conducted by the committee of the Don Cowell Memorial Trust. It will be conducted in accordance with the rules below, and the decision of the committee on any matter associated with the competition shall be final.

Timeline

8 April 2016 Final date for submission of CD and entry form for preliminary judging.

6 May 2016 Preliminary results and up to six finalists notified by post and/or email

- 20 May 2016** Finalists submit details of chosen programme
- 1 July 2016** Performance Facility available for rehearsal with accompanist.
- 2 July 2016** Live performance before adjudicators and audience (in Melbourne); and winners of each section announced
- Morning** Under 18
- Afternoon** Open section
- Later** Public performance with Melbourne Mandolin Orchestra

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Rules

Who can enter

1. The competition will consist of two sessions: Under 18 years and Open
2. Competitors in the Under 18 section must be under 18 years of age on 1 July 2016. Competitors in the Under 18 section may also enter the Open section.
3. Competitors must be studying music but do not have to be full-time students. The competitor's teacher is asked to sign the entry form.
4. Competitors must be either citizens or permanent residents of Australia or of New Zealand.
5. Winners in previous years are not eligible to enter the same section.
6. Entrants may perform at either A440 or A415.

How to enter

7 Competitors are required to submit two identical copies of an audition CD, including both of the two set pieces for the section being entered and one other piece chosen by the performer. The duration of the own-choice piece should be between 3 and 6 minutes.

The CD must be a direct recording of a performance by the competitor which has not been subsequently enhanced by any post-production techniques.

Both CDs should be unmarked (no labels).

Competitors entering both sections need to submit separate entries (ie two CDs and one entry form per section)

8 Audition CDs must be submitted by 8 April 2016, together with the entry form and a non-refundable entry fee of \$25. Cheques or money orders are to be made payable to The Don Cowell Memorial Trust.

9 Finalists will be selected from the audition CDs. All competitors will be informed by post and/or email of the results of the preliminary round by 6 May 2016. The adjudicator will also advise finalists of the movements or sections of the prescribed pieces which are to be performed at the finals.

If you reached the finals

10 At this point, finalists may choose to select a different own-choice piece from the one on their audition CD. It is important to ensure that whatever piece is chosen, its duration is between 3 and 6 minutes. In the final performance, the duration of each finalist's performance is expected to be about 20 minutes. Finalists may be disqualified or their playing cut short if the duration of their own-choice piece exceeds 6 minutes.

11 Finalists are required to submit the following documents to the competition administrator by 20 May 2016:

- * a brief personal CV (about 50 words)

- * the final programme for their performance, including edition details of the set pieces and the own-choice piece.

- *three photocopies of the score of their own-choice piece.

12 The finalists in each section will be required to perform in front of the adjudicators and a public audience on 2 July 2016 in Melbourne.

Copies of music

13 Competitors will be required to perform from original copies of music.

Accompanists

14 An accompanist experienced in piano and harpsichord will be provided at the public performance for the judging. A finalist may make arrangements for prior practice with this accompanist at their own expense. Finalists may **NOT** provide their own accompanist.

15 A piano at A=440 and harpsichord at A=415 will be available for accompaniment at the final. Competitors may use continuo and other instruments as appropriate to their programme but must make arrangements to provide these themselves at their own expense. Any electronic equipment required will also need to be provided and set up by the competitor within the set up time allocated to them.

Photographs and recordings

16 Names of finalists and prize winners will be published on the DCMT websites.

17 Competitors are asked to indicate on the entry form whether or not they agree to have their photograph being published with their name in the event they reach the final.

18 The organisers reserve the right to record the final concert and organise broadcasts and/or distribute without recompense to the competitors

And finally...

19 The adjudicators' decision shall be final and no individual feedback will be provided.

Send entry forms and CDs together with entry fee to:

The Administrator, DCMT Recorder Competition, 345 Elgar Road, Surrey Hills Vic 3127

FURTHER INFORMATION: dcmt.au@gmail.com or phone 03 9890 4697

Updated: 24 August 2015