

# **“JOSÉ ALARCÓN” COMPOSITION COMPETITION – TOTANA 2026**

## **RULES**

### **1. TARGET**

- The Culture Department of the Totana Council, with the sponsorship of other public and private entities, announces the present composition contest, being its organisation assumed by the Organizing Committee constituted for this purpose, as a parallel activity of the XXXV Habaneras y Polifonía Contest Totana 2026.
- The aim of the competition is to support and promote the composition of habaneras and choral music. On the other hand, to support and bring choral music composers and their works closer to the public.

### **2. CALENDAR**

- Opening of the submission period: from the publication of these rules.
- 26th Abril 2026: deadline for submission of works.
- Before 30st June: publication of the jury's decision.
- 11th July: awarding of the composition prize to the winning work on the evening of the XXXV Habaneras y Polifonía Contest Totana 2026.

### **3. CONTESTANTS**

- Any person, student, composer, music teacher of any nationality, regardless of age, may participate.
- Each contestant may submit a maximum of 3 compositions.

### **4. COMPOSITION CHARACTERISTICS**

- Compositions will have a text in Spanish, 2/4 time signature in habanera form.
- The habanera tempo will be respected.
- Duration will be between 3-5 minutes.
- A version for mixed voices (SATB with optional divisi) and a version for equal voices SSAA or TTBB, as well as a version for soloist and piano must be submitted.
- Compositions must be a cappella (except the version for soloist and piano) and for amateur choir.
- Texts on which the composition is based must be free of copyright or the composer must have the authorisation of the holders of the intellectual property rights of the poem used.
- Compositions submitted must be original, not premiered or awarded in any other contest, nor recorded or broadcast by any broadcasting means.

## 5. REGISTRATION

- Entries must be submitted in digital format using the following [entry form available](#) on the competition website.
- Each composer must fill in a separate form for each of the compositions they submits.
- Compositions will be uploaded in .pdf format and in digital format compatible with Musescore, Sibelius or Finale, without the composer's name.
- Digital form must also include a signed copy accepting the rules of this competition according to the model attached to these rules, which can be downloaded [here](#).

## 6. JURY AND AWARDS

- A single prize of €1000 and a diploma is established. The prize will be awarded at one of the musical evenings programmed for the XXXV Habaneras y Polifonía TotanaContest, during 2026.
- The jury will be appointed by the organising body of the competition.
- The jury's decision will be final, and the jury may declare the contest void if none of the works reach the required quality. No prizes may be awarded ex aequo.
- The jury will receive the material under the pseudonym of the participants, and will not know the personal details of the authors until its deliberation.

## 7. RIGHTS OF THE WINNING COMPOSITION

- The Totana Council and the Habaneras Polifonía of Totana Contest will have the rights over the winning composition for its use in the Contest, which may be edited, published and disseminated without the author/composer being able to claim in this respect, without detriment to the inalienable rights conferred on their by Spanish law.
- Furthermore, it reserves the right to perform the premiere of the winning composition.
- Regardless of the fact that the property rights of the composition belong to the author, the winner will state, after obtaining the prize in any edition, recording, publication, concert... where the work is presented: Winning work of the Habanera Composition Contest "José Alarcón" - Totana 2026.

## 8. FINAL NOTES. ACCEPTANCE AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

- The works submitted to the competition will remain in the possession of the Department of Culture of the Totana Council, forming part of the archive of compositions in the competition, unless the author wishes to the contrary, who must communicate this in writing to the Department of Culture of the Totana Council or by e-mail to the Department of Culture of Totana Council or by e-mail to [habanerastotana@gmail.com](mailto:habanerastotana@gmail.com) no later than 15 days after the publication of the jury's decision.
- Participation in the José Alarcón composition competition implies acceptance of

these rules.

- The organisers reserve the right to modify any section of the rules and to cancel this competition at any time, in which case the files received by the participants will be destroyed.
- The Department of Culture will resolve any questions that may arise in the interpretation of the rules.

In Totana, 14 th November 2025

Organising Committee of the Habaneras y Polifonía Contest of Totana(Murcia)