

# RULES & REGULATIONS

## CHAMPS UNIVERSAL MUSIC COMPETITION 2025

	PRELIMINARY SESSION 1	PRELIMINARY SESSION 2	FINALS OPTION 1	FINALS OPTION 2
LOCATION	Penang, Malaysia	Penang, Malaysia	Bali, Indonesia	Sydney, Australia
VENUE	Wawasan Open University	Dewan Sri Pinang	The Stones Hotel - Legian Bali	1. Master Music Studio, Glebe 2. Australian Institute of Music
REGISTRATION OPEN	8 January 2025	8 January 2025	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
REGISTRATION CLOSE	8 March 2025	28 April 2025	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
VIDEO SUBMISSION DEADLINE	8 March 2025	28 April 2025	NO ONLINE	NO ONLINE
VIDEO SUBMISSION RESULTS	18 March 2025	18 May 2025	NO ONLINE	NO ONLINE
LIVE PERFORMANCE & AWARD CEREMONY	22 March 2025	25 May 2025	3 – 6 July 2025	19 – 20 Sept 2025

## GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

- The competition consists to **TWO(2) options for Preliminary Sessions** and **TWO(2) options for Finals**.
- Participants may choose to join **one or both** of the Preliminary Sessions.
- If selected to Finals, finalists may choose **one or both** of the Finals options. Refer to FINALS section for more info.
- For Preliminary Sessions, participants may choose either Online Submission or Live Performance.
- For Finals, there is only Live Performance.
- All fees listed in this document are for Preliminary Sessions only.
- Participant's age is determined by the year of birth, regardless of month.
- Participants are allowed to join multiple categories according to eligibility.
- All performances must be presented from memory only.
- Judging will be within the time limit. Any subsequent performance beyond time limit will not be judged.
- Fee rates are separated into local rates for participants residing in Malaysia, and international rates for participants residing outside of Malaysia.
- To avoid miscommunications, all communications will only be handled through the contact person provided in the application form. The organizer may choose to ignore any communications through unregistered contacts.

## PIANO SOLO

CATEGORY	PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS	LOCAL RATE, ONLINE SUBMIT	LOCAL RATE, LIVE PERFORM	INTERNATIONAL, ONLINE SUBMIT	INTERNATIONAL, LIVE PERFORM
Age 4 years and below	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 3 minutes	RM210	RM250	USD 75	USD 85
Age 5 - 6 years	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 4 minutes	RM230	RM270	USD 80	USD 90
Age 7 - 8 years	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 5 minutes	RM250	RM290	USD 85	USD 100
Age 9 - 10 yrs	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 6 minutes	RM270	RM310	USD 90	USD 105
Age 11 - 12 yrs	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 7 minutes	RM300	RM340	USD 100	USD 115
Age 13 - 15 yrs	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 8 minutes	RM330	RM370	USD 110	USD 125
Age 16 - 18 yrs	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 9 minutes	RM360	RM400	USD 120	USD 135
Age 19 years and above	One or two free choice pieces. Total time limit 10 minutes	RM390	RM430	USD 130	USD 145
Grade 1 - 2	One or two Grade 1 or Grade 2 pieces. Total limit 5 minutes	RM230	RM270	USD 80	USD 90
Grade 3 - 4	One or two Grade 3 or Grade 4 pieces. Total limit 6 minutes	RM260	RM300	USD 90	USD 100
Grade 5 - 6	One or two Grade 5 or Grade 6 pieces. Total limit 7 minutes	RM290	RM330	USD 100	USD 110
Grade 7 - 8	One or two Grade 7 or Grade 8 pieces. Total limit 8 minutes	RM320	RM360	USD 110	USD 120
Diploma	One or two Diploma pieces. Total limit 10 minutes	RM360	RM400	USD 120	USD 135

- Time limit includes gap time between two pieces performed, if any.
- For Graded categories, acceptable pieces are from ABRSM, Trinity College London, Rockscool, London College of Music; and from **syllabus year 2019 onwards**.
- Backing track is allowed **ONLY for Age categories "4 years and below" and "5 – 6 years"**. If performing two pieces with backing tracks, both backing tracks must be combined into one single audio file. Please rename the audio file to participant's full name and category.

## VOCALS SOLO

CATEGORY	PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS	LOCAL RATE, ONLINE SUBMIT	LOCAL RATE, LIVE PERFORM	INTERNATIONAL, ONLINE SUBMIT	INTERNATIONAL, LIVE PERFORM
Age 4 years and below	One free choice song, Time limit 5 minutes.	RM210	RM250	USD 75	USD 85
Age 5 - 6 years		RM230	RM270	USD 80	USD 90
Age 7 - 8 years		RM250	RM290	USD 85	USD 100
Age 9 - 10 yrs		RM270	RM310	USD 90	USD 105
Age 11 - 12 yrs		RM300	RM340	USD 100	USD 115
Age 13 - 15 yrs		RM330	RM370	USD 110	USD 125
Age 16 - 18 yrs		RM360	RM400	USD 120	USD 135
Age 19 years and above		RM390	RM430	USD 130	USD 145

- Participant may choose to use handheld mic, clip-on mic, or standing mic.
- Accompaniment can either be live music or from backing track. Live accompaniment can only be played on piano.
- For backing tracks, please rename the audio file to participant's full name and category.

## DRUMS SOLO

CATEGORY	PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS	LOCAL RATE, ONLINE SUBMIT	LOCAL RATE, LIVE PERFORM	INTERNATIONAL, ONLINE SUBMIT	INTERNATIONAL, LIVE PERFORM
Age 4 years and below	One free choice song. Time limit 6 minutes, include any set-up and drumset adjustments time.	RM210	RM250	USD 75	USD 85
Age 5 - 6 years		RM230	RM270	USD 80	USD 90
Age 7 - 8 years		RM250	RM290	USD 85	USD 100
Age 9 - 10 yrs		RM270	RM310	USD 90	USD 105
Age 11 - 12 yrs		RM300	RM340	USD 100	USD 115
Age 13 - 15 yrs		RM330	RM370	USD 110	USD 125
Age 16 - 18 yrs		RM360	RM400	USD 120	USD 135
Age 19 years and above		RM390	RM430	USD 130	USD 145

- A basic drumset is provided, which consists of 1 bass drum with pedal, 1 snare drum, 1 hi-tom, 1 mid-tom, 1 floor tom, 1 hi-hat, 1 crash cymbal and 1 ride cymbal.
- Participants are allowed to use their own preferred components and adjustments, but take note that the time limit includes any time spent adjusting the drumset. After performance, participants must reset the drumset back to the original setting.
- For backing tracks, please rename the audio file to participant's full name and category.

## OTHER INSTRUMENTS SOLO

(Mix instruments category; Free choice of instrument, eg. bass guitar, violin, ukulele, flute, etc.)

CATEGORY	PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS	LOCAL RATE, ONLINE SUBMIT	LOCAL RATE, LIVE PERFORM	INTERNATIONAL, ONLINE SUBMIT	INTERNATIONAL, LIVE PERFORM
Age 4 years and below	One free choice song. Time limit 5 minutes, include any set-up time.	RM210	RM250	USD 75	USD 85
Age 5 - 6 years		RM230	RM270	USD 80	USD 90
Age 7 - 8 years		RM250	RM290	USD 85	USD 100
Age 9 - 10 yrs		RM270	RM310	USD 90	USD 105
Age 11 - 12 yrs		RM300	RM340	USD 100	USD 115
Age 13 - 15 yrs		RM330	RM370	USD 110	USD 125
Age 16 - 18 yrs		RM360	RM400	USD 120	USD 135
Age 19 years and above		RM390	RM430	USD 130	USD 145

- A basic guitar amp and bass amp is provided. Guitar cables are provided, but participants are encouraged to use their own cables.
- For other instruments, participants may choose a clip-on mic or a standing mic, if needed.
- Accompaniment can either be live music or from backing track. Live accompaniment can only be played on piano.
- For backing tracks, please rename the audio file to participant's full name and category.

## JUDGING CRITERIA & GRADING

CRITERIA	ALLOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Technical Accuracy	30%	Precision in notes, rhythm, articulation, intonation, and overall technical mastery.
Musicality & Expression	20%	Effective use of dynamics, phrasing, and emotional communication
Interpretation & Creativity	20%	Personal interpretation, stylistic understanding, and originality in performance
Stage Presence & Confidence	15%	Performer's engagement, poise, and confidence on stage
Repertoire Choice	15%	Difficulty of performance piece/repertoire

- A Jury is not allowed to adjudicate his/her own students. Marks will be awarded only by the remaining Juries. A 'student' is defined as having studied under the particular Jury within the previous 12 months. Attending masterclasses/workshops/seminars does not apply for this rule.
- Decision of Juries are final and is not open to further discussion.
- Contacting Juries before or during the competition is not permitted.

GRADING	SCORE
Platinum	93% to 100%
Gold	82% to 92%
Silver	71% to 81%
Bronze	60% to 70%
Certificate	50% to 59%
Participation	Below 50%

- Whenever there is Gold or Platinum achievers in a category, the **top 3 achievers among the Gold and Platinum will be converted to 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, and 3rd Prize** respectively.
- The organizer reserves the right to combine or divide any category depending on the numbers of participant in each category.

## AWARDS

- All participants will receive a certificate and comment sheet from Jury.
- Achievers of 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze will receive a trophy.
- Additional awards may be presented to selected top achievers or special achievements.
- Teachers of 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze achievers will receive a certificate.

## FINALS

- Finals at Bali, Indonesia, will be a collaboration with the International Music & Performing Arts Festival (IMPAF) 2025, Indonesia. The rules and regulations will follow IMPAF 2025 Indonesia.
- **Finals at Bali ONLY cater for piano, violin and vocals.** Finals at Sydney cater for **ALL** instruments and categories.
- Finals will include external participants from other collaborations.
- Finalists are **not required** to perform the same piece(s) from Preliminary Session.
- Depending on the numbers of Finalists in each category, the organizer may combine or divide any category for Finals.
- Scholarship Award at Sydney is **ONLY** applicable for finalists age 13 and above.
- Other details regarding Finals (fees, categories, procedures, rules & regulations, etc.) will be communicated directly to Finalists. All communications will only be handled through the contact details provided in the application form.

## APPLICATION FOR PRELIMINARY SESSION

- All fees listed earlier in this document are for Preliminary Sessions only.
- If joining multiple categories, please submit separate application forms.
- Payment can be made for separate entries or combined multiple entries, by banking in the appropriate fee.
- Only payment through online banking is accepted. For international transfers, payments through [www.wise.com](http://www.wise.com) is also accepted.
- Save/Screenshot the proof of payment and upload proof of payment on the application form.
- Details for local/international transfers:

Beneficiary Name	Champs Universal Services
Beneficiary Bank	Malayan Banking Berhad (Maybank)
Account Number	557148359489
Bank Address	Floor 8, Menara Maybank, 100, Jalan Tun Perak, 50050 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Swift Code	MBBEMYKL

## ADDITIONAL CHARGES/REFUND

- RM50 (local) or USD20 (international) penalty will be charged if participant makes changes to any application details after the closing date.
- No refund will be made for no-show or pull-outs/wrongly registered/double registration after submission of registration forms and payments, regardless of reason.
- Delivery cost will be charged if participants choose to deliver certificate and/or trophy. To avoid this, participants can send a representative to collect the items on the Award Ceremony day.
- ONE audience is FREE for every participant (multiple entries by same participant is considered one participant). Every other audience is required to purchase a pass.
- For participants with live accompanist, the accompanist gets FREE entry.

## ONLINE SUBMISSION

- Ensure the video quality is 720p and above.
- Horizontal or vertical orientation is allowed.
- Any form of editing is NOT allowed.
- If performing two pieces, both pieces must be recorded in one take.
- If joining multiple categories, post separate videos accordingly.
- Upload video to Facebook or YouTube.
- **Add hashtags #champsuniversalfestival and #CUMC2025.**
- Caption must include participant's full name, category and song name(s).
- Set post/link to public. Copy and paste video link into registration form.

## LEGAL AGREEMENT

- All information in this document is correct on the date of post, stated at the beginning of the document. The organizer reserves the right to make changes if circumstances dictate.
- By submitting the application form, the participant, or the parent/guardian of participants under the age of 16, acknowledges that they have read, understood, and accepted all applicable rules and regulations in this document.