Vocational Education Competence Centre
National School of Arts

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REGULATION
Riga

17.09.2026

Issued in accordance with AECC ''National School of Arts'' paragraph 12.1.3., part II of the Regulation

II INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION "VOX IUVENTAE"

1. ORGANISER OF THE COMPETITION

National School of Arts "Riga Cathedral Choir School" (hereinafter – RCCS) in collaboration with the Emils Darzins music school (hereinafter – EDMS) Symphony Orchestra. E-mail for information: competition@nmv.gov.lv

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE COMPETITION

To promote the professional development of young singers of academic music at international level.

3. COMPETITION TASKS

3.1. To promote and encourage the development of academic singing culture in Latvia and worldwide.

3.2. To evaluate the participant's individual vocal skills and abilities at an international level, providing feedback.
3.3. To give the finalists the opportunity to sing with a symphony orchestra.

3.4. To ensure professional exchange of experience among vocal teachers.

3.5. Promote the international recognition of the RCCS.

4. CONTESTANTS

The competition is open to singers of academic music aged between 16 and 21, born no earlier than 2005 and no later than 2010.

5. SCHEDULE OF THE COMPETITION

The competition is organised in three rounds.

5.1. Round I of the competition is conducted remotely by evaluating the video recordings. Video entries must be submitted by **16 November 2026** (inclusive) *See: 11. Application procedure.* Information about the participants who have been nominated for Round II are published on https://www.rdks.lv/en/voxiuventae/ and emailed to participants by **10 December 2026.**

5.2. The second round takes place in person on **14 February 2027** at the Emils Darzins Concert Hall (10 Kalnciema St, Riga) and is open to the public. The competition programme will be performed together with an accompanist. The competition organizer does not provide an accompanist for the second round of the competition. The winners of Round II who qualify for the Finals are selected, as well as masterclass participants. The results are posted on the RCCS website and sent to the e-mail addresses provided by the participants.

5.3. The Finals take place on **16 February 2027** at the Emils Darzins Concert Hall and is open to the public. The finalists perform with the EDMS Symphony Orchestra. The jury announces the winners of the competition.

6. **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMPETITION REPERTOIRE**

6.1. For Round I of the competition, the participants sing two pieces (arias, songs, romances) of their choice of different nature, not exceeding a total duration of 10 minutes. *See: 11. Application procedure*

6.2. In Round II, the participants perform two arias of their choice with piano accompaniment (N.B. different from the repertoire of Round I). The jury reserves the right to stop the contestant.

6.3. The finalists prepare two arias from the compulsory repertoire list. *See - Appendix 1: Repertoire for the Finals*. At the conclusion of the Round II, the jury selects a single aria for the finalist to perform with the orchestra.

6.4. All arias entered in the competition must be performed by heart in the original language and in the original key.

6.5. The repertoire submitted in the application cannot be changed.

6.6. The Latvian National Opera and Ballet Library provides the orchestral score and parts for the Finals and the concert.

6.7. Contest participants are to be dressed with respect to the audience. Recommendations are evening dress for the ladies and suit/tuxedo/tailcoat for gentlemen.

7. JURY

7.1. The I round of the competition will be judged by a jury of three RCCS teachers, appointed and approved by the Head of RCCS.

7.2. The II round and the Finals will be judged by an international jury of professionals including Ulla Munch (Denmark), Jolanta Kowalska-Pawlikowska (Poland), Oliver Zwarg (Germany) and others. *See: Annex 2. Jury*.

7.3. Jury members are not entitled to judge their own students' performance.

7.4. The jury is entitled to terminate the performance and to exclude the contestant from the competition if the contestant's performance does not comply with the requirements of the Regulation.

7.5. The jury's decision is final and irrevocable.

8. EVALUATION OF THE COMPETITION

8.1. The performance is judged according to the following criteria:

- technical performance (intonation, rhythm, diction, correspondence of the text to the score, tempo, agogics, dynamics) (score 0 – 5 points);
- artistic performance (incl. content revelation, emotionality, phrasing, etc.) (score 0 – 5 points);
- vocal culture, sense of style (0 – 5 points);
- overall impression of the performance (score 0 – 5 points).

8.2. The maximum number of points that can be awarded by one member of the jury is 20.

9. AWARDS

9.1. The jury decides on the results of the competition and awards the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize diplomas and cash prizes to the winners.

9.2. The best male and female contestant aged 16 – 18 may be awarded the Young Singer Award.

9.3. The jury reserves the right not to award any of the diplomas or prizes.

9.4. The total prize fund is EUR 1100.

10. **FEE**

10.1. The entry fee for Round I is EUR 40.

10.2. The entry fee for Rounds II and III is EUR 80.

10.3. The entry fee for Round I shall be paid by **17 November 2026** (inclusive) and for Rounds II and III by **16 December 2026** (inclusive) to the account number indicated:

> **Mākslu izglītības kompetences centrs ''Nacionālā Mākslu vidusskola''**
> Reg. No. 90010937516
> Address: Kalnciema iela 12, Rīga, LV-1048
> Bank: VALSTS KASE, TRELLV22
> Account: LV44TREL222068900300B

Payment purpose: Participant's Name, Surname; entry fee for the contest Vox Iuventae Round I / Round II and III

10.4. Participants who have not paid the entry fee will not be accepted for the competition.

10.5. In case of non-attendance, the participation fee will not be refunded.

10.6. The competition organizer does not provide an accompanist for the second round of the competition. If necessary, the competition organizer is ready to provide support to the participant offering contacts of available accompanists upon request.

10.7. Travel and accommodation costs during the competition are to be borne by the competitors out of their own funds.

11. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

11.1. Applications for Round I must be submitted electronically by filling in the application form up to and including **16 November 2026**. The application form is available at: https://forms.gle/ymS6FDdibix7JCTi9

11.2. The application must include a video link of an unedited vocal performance of two pieces accompanied by a pianist.

11.3. Video recording quality requirements:

- video recording must be done with a fixed camera;
- the contestant is seen in full height in the video;
- the position of the camera must not be changed during the performance;

• the recording must have excellent audio quality;
• editing of video and audio is not allowed;
• the description of the video must include the title of the competition, the name and surname of the participant, authors and titles of the vocal pieces;
• the applicant uploads the video to *YouTube* (not randomised);
• a link to the video recording must be submitted with the application for Round I.

11.4. The shortlisted entrants for Round II are announced on **10 December 2026**. The information is posted on https://www.rdks.lv/en/voxiuventae/ and sent to the email address provided by the participant.

12. **COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

Application and submission of videos for Round I	**Until 16 November 2026**
Announcement of the results of Round I	**10 December 2026**
Online draw for the order of performances	**January 2027**
Registration and rehearsals with pianists	**13 February 2027**
Round II at the Emils Darzins Concert Hall	**14 February 2027**
Rehearsals with orchestra	**15 February 2027**
Feedback sessions with the jury and masterclasses	**15 and 16 February 2027**
Finals	**16 February 2027**

13. DATA PROTECTION

13.1. RCCS is responsible for the processing of contestants' personal data.

13.2. The processing of personal data is carried out in accordance with the applicable data protection legislation, as well as the principles and legal bases set out in the RCCS Privacy Policy.

13.3. The processing of personal data in the framework of the competition is subject to the consent of the participants or their legal representatives.

13.4. By submitting the application form, the contest participant or their legal representative attaches a consent form confirming that they have read and understood the Contest Rules and Regulations and agree that the information provided by them will be published in the contest's informational materials (excluding email address and telephone number). To ensure the publicity of the contest, selected materials from the course of the event will be published on the RCCS website and various social media accounts. When publishing the contest

results, information regarding the prize winners will be disclosed (first name, surname, country, and the place obtained).

13.5. Personal data may be updated, modified or stopped up to and including 16 November 2026.

13.6. Personal data and competition materials will be stored on the RCCS website and archives.