Regulations
Prix du Piano Bern

Version 7.0; October 2026



1. Prix du Piano

The Prix du Piano is a joint event held by Interlaken Classics and Kursaal Bern.

The Prix du Piano Bern is organised by the Interlaken Classics Association. It aims to encourage young pianists and give them the opportunity to have their skills acknowledged by an expert audience in an amicable and festive competition. The event is co-organised by Kursaal Bern.

The Prix du Piano is a competition under private law within the meaning of Art. 8 of the Swiss Code of Obligations (Obligationenrecht, OR).

2. Participation

The competition is open to music students of any nationality who have already won a prize at a major piano competition. The age limit is from 16 to 30 years old.

3. Public

The competition is public. The competition may be recorded. The recordings may be transmitted for broadcasting purposes (radio and television, digital media and social networks) in whole, in part and/or in clips, live or with a time lag. They may also be made accessible to the general public. Interlaken Classics reserves the right to use clips from the competition for a CD or DVD, which is intended as advertising of the competition and its documentation.
The consent required for this use is regarded as given, once an entrant registers for the competition. These regulations constitute an integral part of the registration. The prizewinners are not entitled to any additional remuneration.

4. Programme

There are two parts to the competition (A and B) with a short interlude between them. Each pianist prepares two programmes, each lasting 15 minutes. The order will be drawn by lots on the morning of the competition and is binding for both parts.
Program A must contain the following compulsory piece: *Beethoven - Bagatelle op.126 Nr. 4*. The rest can be chosen free.

The pianists will agree on their programme with the art director of the Prix du Piano Bern. This is intended to avoid a situation where pianists play the same pieces (expect the obligatory piece).

Performance of self-composed pieces is not permitted.

Participants must arrive at the venue 30 minutes before their performance.

The audience in the hall have one vote per program. After each pianist has performed his program A, the audience will vote for the candidates of their choice.
The 2 pianists who receive the most votes will go to the finals and perform their program B. After that, the audience will vote a second time. The pianist who receives more votes is the winner and will receive the prize money for the “Prix du Piano Bern”.

5. Prizes

Two prizes will be awarded: The prize money for the Prix du Piano Bern is CHF 10’000.- (for the winner) and second prize CHF 5’000.- (the second pianist who reached the finals).

The two other participants who did not reach the final, will each receive CHF 500.-.
Travel expenses and accommodation is covered for each candidate.

6. Dress code

The participants will perform in formal dress. It is not permitted to change clothes between the two parts of the concert.

7. Final provisions

7.1. Duration

These regulations apply from the award of the Prix du Piano 2027 until further notice.

7.2. Changes and additions

The representatives of Interlaken Classics may, by mutual agreement, decide at any time to make changes or additions to these regulations.

7.3. Legal recourse

The organiser's decision shall be final and no recourse to law shall be permitted in respect of the competition (nomination, award, etc.).
No further correspondence will be entered into regarding the competition.

7.4. Jurisdiction

If disputes should nonetheless arise, the ordinary courts in Bern / Switzerland shall be competent to hear any and all disputes. Swiss law shall apply exclusively.

7.5. Languages

These regulations have been drafted in the German language and may be translated into other languages.