

**“Relishing Creativeness in the Hong Kong Palace Museum”
Music Composition Competition 2024/25**

1. Introduction

“Relishing Creativeness in the Hong Kong Palace Museum” Music Composition Competition 2024/25 (the Competition) aims to encourage students to compose music with Chinese instruments. It provides opportunities for students to enhance creativity and composition techniques, strengthen knowledge and understanding of Chinese arts, and inherit traditional Chinese culture through composing and observing professional performers rehearsing and performing their original compositions. The Competition is jointly presented by the Arts Education Section of the Curriculum Development Institute, the Education Bureau (the EDB) and the Hong Kong Palace Museum (the HKPM), as well as supported by the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. In support of the implementation of the Competition, various arts-related activities including Workshop on Chinese Instrumental Music Writing, a Guided Tour in the Hong Kong Palace Museum and an Award Ceremony cum Concert Performance will be presented.

2. Schedule

Date	Item/ Event	Content/ Remarks
31 October 2024 (Thursday)	Online Briefing Session	Introduction of the Competition
15 November 2024 (Friday)	Deadline for Application	Submission of Application form and participants' information (Annex 1)
12 December 2024 (Thursday, afternoon)	Guided Tour	Guided tour in the HKPM Key items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Dawn to Dusk: Life and Art in the Forbidden City • Brilliance: Ming Dynasty Ceramic Treasures from the Palace Museum, 1368–1644
17 December 2024 (Tuesday, morning)	Workshop on Chinese Instrumental Music Writing	A half day workshop will be arranged with the following key content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing and music writing techniques of Chinese instruments • Compositional techniques in music • Application of music software to compose music
10 February 2025 (Monday)	Preliminary Selection	Submissions of the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio file of the composition (about 40 seconds) • Score • Declaration and Consent Slip (Annex 2) • Information sheet of the composition (Annex 3)
10 or 12 March 2025 (Monday or Wednesday)	Consultation	Selected compositions in preliminary round will be arranged for an individual consultation
11 April 2025 (Friday)	Final Selection	Submission of the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete audio file • Complete full score • Information sheet of the composition (Annex 3) • PowerPoint File
May 2025 (exact date to be confirmed)	Adjudication and rehearsal (A 3-hour session)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of outstanding compositions • Selected outstanding compositions will be performed by the musicians of the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. Student composers will

		participate and observe the rehearsal, as well as exchange ideas with the performers
18 July 2025 (Friday)	Award Ceremony cum Concert Performance	Premiere of outstanding compositions at the HKPM and Award ceremony
28 – 31 July 2025 (Exact date to be confirmed)	Extended Learning Activity	Outstanding compositions selected for premiere at the HKPM will grant student composers a complimentary art and cultural study tour to Beijing. They will visit the Palace Museum and participate in a cultural exchange at the Central Conservatory of Music

3. Eligibility

- All secondary school students are eligible to participate in the Competition
- A maximum of 5 entries per school (including both solo and ensemble pieces)
- Individual or group basis (up to 3 members in each group)
- Compositions should be original

4. Requirements of the Composition

Based on the context of the selected Chinese Treasures from the Hong Kong Palace Museum, each entrant/group will explore the customs and beliefs of various Chinese dynasties and create instrumental music according to the theme, “Inheritance of traditional Chinese culture from ancient times to the present”, to promote the learning of Chinese culture.

	Solo	Ensemble
Duration of each composition (Preliminary)	Around 40 seconds	Around 40 seconds
Duration of each composition (Final)	2 – 3 mins	3 – 4 mins
Choice of Instruments	Each composition should be written for 1 Chinese instrument selected from the following list	Each composition should be written for 3 to 5 Chinese instruments selected from the following list
	Wind: <i>dizi; xiao; sheng</i>	Wind: <i>dizi; xiao</i> (Choose 1 instrument) (1 player only)
	Bowed-string: <i>gaohu; erhu</i>	Bowed-string: <i>gaohu; erhu</i> (Choose 1 instrument) (1 player only)
	Plucked-string: <i>zheng; yangqin; pipa; yuan; liuqin</i>	Plucked-string: <i>zheng</i> (1 player only)
		Plucked-string: <i>yangqin</i> (1 player only)
		Plucked-string: <i>pipa</i> (1 player only)
		Plucked-string: <i>yuan; liuqin</i> (Choose 1 instrument) (1 player only)
	Percussion: temple bowl, temple block, lotus clappers, wood block, small cymbals, <i>paigu</i> Students are free to choose any percussion instruments and the number of instruments used, however (only 1 player) will be provided, and the total number of instruments is also counted one only	

Score	Please indicate clearly the tempo, performance directions or any other specific playing techniques on the score
Submission of the composition	<p>Schools should submit students' composition(s) with the following in the preliminary selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signed original copy of the Declaration and Consent Slip (Annex 2) • score written in stave notation (PDF format) • audio file of the composition (MP3 format) • completed information sheet of the composition (DOCS format) (Annex 3) <p>Schools should submit students' composition(s) with the following in the final selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete full score written in stave notation (PDF and score writer format) • complete audio file of the composition (MP3 format) • part scores (if any, in PDF and score writer format) • completed information sheet of the composition*, update if necessary (DOCS format) (Annex 3) • PowerPoint file which can accompany the music performance (Content may include the ideas of the composition e.g. pictures, music scores, etc. Copyrights should be cleared by schools) <p><i>*Description of the Composition: Chinese, around 300 words</i></p>

5. Intellectual Property Rights



- All participating students, students' parents or guardians, and schools should note and agree with the following terms:
 - All entries should be original and have not been released or publicised; and
 - Participants need to ensure that the content of the entries does not infringe any copyright and publication rights.
- Please visit the website of Intellectual Property Department (<https://www.ipd.gov.hk/filemanager/ipd/en/share/publications/IP-in-Hong-Kong.pdf>) or scan the QR code on the right for details.
- Any entries that infringed any intellectual property rights would NOT be accepted. The EDB takes no liability whatsoever for such infringement.
- The EDB retains the right to edit, modify, publish and use any entries in any forms for display and educational purposes, and has the final decision of the above actions.



6. Adjudication

- A judging panel comprising professionals from the areas of Music Composition and Chinese Music, representatives from the Hong Kong Palace Museum and the Arts Education Section of the EDB, will select entries for the Final Selection, as well as outstanding compositions to be performed in the concert.
- Adjudication criteria as follows:
 - Originality
 - Musical Structure
 - Idiomatic writing for the instruments
 - Accuracy and practicability in notation
 - Musical ideas and atmosphere matching with the story of the selected Chinese Treasures
- The decision of the judging panel will be final.
- All results will be announced by May 2025.

7. Application and submission of music composition(s)

Online Briefing Session	<p>Date: 31 October 2024 (Thursday) Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm Mode: Online meeting</p>  <p>Schools interested in joining the Online Briefing Session should complete the Application Form via the link below or scan the QR code above. Login details will be provided via email upon receipt of the form. https://forms.office.com/r/RXPdyBfJfk</p>	Deadline 28 October 2024 (Monday)
Submission of application form and participants' information	Please send email to Curriculum Development Officer (Arts Education)1, cdoae1@edb.gov.hk or fax to 2336 8510	15 November 2024 (Friday)
Submission of composition (Preliminary selection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload to a Cloud Drive and send the link to Curriculum Development officer (Arts Education)1, or • Store in a CD-ROM or USB flash drive and submit it by hand or by post to the Arts Education Section; and • Submit the signed original copy of the Declaration and Consent Slips by post or by hand to the Arts Education <p>Address of Arts Education: Room W325, 3/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon</p>	10 February 2025 (Monday)
Submission of composition (Final selection)		11 April 2025 (Friday)
<p>For details, please visit the website of the Arts Education Key Learning Area: http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/arts/mcc or scan the QR code on the right.</p>		

8. Awards and Prizes

Awards	Prizes
Outstanding Award – Gold prize, Silver prize and Bronze prize (Solo)	A certificate and a music product for each participant of the winning entry
Outstanding Award Gold prize, Silver prize and Bronze prize (Ensemble)	A certificate and a music product for each participant of the winning entry
Certificate of Appreciation	All participants who submit entries that meet the basic requirements will be awarded a “Certificate of Appreciation”

The awarded compositions will be performed at the Hong Kong Palace Museum and the recording of the performances will be uploaded onto the webpage of the Arts Education Key Learning Area, EDB Multimedia (EMM) online platform, CDI’s e-Gallery, as well as various media platforms.

9. Enquiries

For enquiries, please contact Ms NG Chin-ting, Kathleen of the Arts Education Section of the Curriculum Development Institute, the EDB at 3698 3542.