



6th ISAC International Popular Music Composition Competition

Aim

Our mission is to promote composers' activities and to give a chance for them through our competition. This competition is for all types of popular music listed on the link, including song writing works, jazz, rock, film score, etc:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_popular_music_genres

As for classical or classical modern music composition, please try our "Ise-Shima International Composition Competition": <https://en.iseshimaart.com/music-competitions>

ELIGIBILITY

- Our competition is open to all nationalities.
- No age limit.
- Composers who have a close personal relationship with any member of our organization may apply only if they indicate this by answering the relevant question on the application form. Our members: <https://www.iseshimaart.com/about-us>

APPLICATION PROCESS

Competitor Online Application – AVAILABLE September 28, 2025

• DEADLINE: July 1, 2026 (23:59 GMT: <https://greenwichmeantime.com/current-time/>)

- Full score (pdf format) and/or recording composed by applicants must be submitted via application form (<https://en.iseshimaart.com/popular-music-composition-competition>).
- Application Fee – A non-refundable payment of 5,000 Yen (approximately 35 to 40 US Dollars) can be paid via the following page after fulfilling the form (credit card, Alipay or PayPal):

<https://en.iseshimaart.com/popular-music-composition-competition>

- The score has to be sent from the form.
- All important messages will be sent by “info at iseshimaart.com”. Confirm the e-mail settings to receive the messages from this e-mail address.
- Depending on the situation, we may ask winners to send us a copy of ID.
- Full name of applicants, **stage name** must be written correctly on the application form because the name will be used on a certificate. The name may be a stage name, however, in that case, applicants must write their real names on address part of the application form for us to send certificates.
- **It is possible to submit as a group instead of an individual. In that case, do not write the group name on the application form. Instead, each composer's name is supposed to be written separately by slash punctuation: composer 1 / composer 2 / composer 3.**

General rule

- Style and duration of a submitted work are freely chosen by an applicant.
- Submission of a score is not mandatory.
- The score may include lyric page and/or explanation page of the work.
- The submitted work may be already performed or awarded.
- Composers may submit more than one work but must complete a separate entry form and fee for each.
- Composers may apply by submitting the URL of their audio recording, uploaded to any online storage, video, or audio sharing platform, provided that the privacy settings allow the juries to access and listen to the file until the competition results are announced.
- The applicant may submit the score and/or the recording of the work.
- To promote the winners, the awarded works will be published on our website if the audio file's privacy setting is public. In addition, if the winning composers provide their SNS information in the application form, we will also publish it for promotional purposes.
- Due to postal restrictions in certain locations, we are unable to send physical certificates to those areas. In such cases, we will provide a PDF version of the certificate via email instead.
- An incomplete application may be disqualified.
- Under no circumstances can alterations be made to works once submitted.

Prizes

- Grand Prix – 100,000 Yen, certificate
- 35 (at maximum) special prize winners - certificates
- Diploma of Merit - Applicants who state their age on the application form, who do not receive another prize, and whose submitted composition is judged to be of sufficiently high quality for their age, may be awarded a 'Diploma of Merit,' which will be provided in PDF format.

Competition Rules and Regulations

- The judging panel for our competition is selected solely by Ise-Shima Art Committee and the decisions are final.
- Application of the Competition constitutes acceptance by the contestant of all published rules, regulations, and procedures.
- Ise-Shima Art Committee reserves the right, in conjunction with the Competition judge, not to award the prizes, to change the regulation, or to change or split the prize money if, in the opinion of the judge, such action is justified for any reason.
- Submitted works will be evaluated by the jury based on compositional technique, sound quality, and originality.
- During the judging process, jury members may listen to the submitted music files in ways different from ordinary listening, such as repeating a single passage or replaying the entire work multiple times. For this reason, platforms such as YouTube may not register an increase in view counts. Therefore, even if the view count does not rise, it does not mean that your work has not been listened to by the jury.
- The result will be notified by email on 31st July 2026.
- The result will be also published on our website: <https://en.iseshimaart.com/>
- Contact email: [info\[at\]iseshimaart.com](mailto:info[at]iseshimaart.com)

Statistics

Applications per countries (5th ISAC International Popular Music Composition Competition)

Austria	1
Belgium	1
China	23
Denmark	1
Italy	7
Japan	81
Mexico	2
Netherlands	1
Poland	2
Russia	1
Singapore	1
South Korea	2
Spain	1
United States	7

Head of the Jury

Dr. Sumio Kobayashi

He has received formal musical training, excelling with piano and solfège, since 1985. He won at I.C.O.M.S. 29°Concorso Internazionale di Composizione, Gyeongsangnam-do Special Prize at Isang Yun Prize, was second place at the Toru Takemitsu Composition Award in 2013, was a finalist at Pablo Casals International Composition Competition in 2015 and won the International Composers' Competition of the European Capital of Culture Wrocław 2016. He has made appearances at festivals such as Takefu International Music Festival, Tongyeong International Music Festival, and Weimarer Frühjahrsstage für zeitgenössische Musik. Currently, Kobayashi is an associate professor at Nihon University in Tokyo. He received a doctor's degree (linguistics) from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom.

<https://www.sumiokobayashi.com/>