

LEMISA Composition Competition 2025-26

Call for Entries

LEMISA invites composers to submit original works for **Brass and/or Wind Quintet, Sextet, Septet, or Octet**.

Composers may optionally include a **keyboard instrument** (Piano, Harpsichord, Organ), **guitar** or **electronic component** (samples with click track) as the 6th, 7th or 8th member of the ensemble.

Competition Stipulations

- **Style:** Contemporary concert music for classical instrumentation. Idiomatic writing is essential.
- **Eligibility:** Open to all composers, regardless of age or experience.
- **Originality:** Works must be original and unpublished.
 - They may not have received prior awards or recognition in another competition.
 - They may not have had a public premiere elsewhere.
- **Duration:** 5–8 minutes.
- **Format:** Submit a PDF score and MIDI and/or audio mockup.

Concept

- **Lemisa** is setup with the idea that we provide **more opportunities for more musicians** to participate and not less for fewer.
- In keeping with this underlying intention, the imperative to choose **multiple compositions for debut and promotion** is essential.
- In addition, we strive to pay our participating musicians as well as the competition will allow.
- This is a **non-profit venture** designed to generate opportunities for composers and the performing musicians, this in turn will grow the ecosystem not only locally but globally.
- Thank you for being part of this movement

Submission Process

- Make payment of \$20 (all registration fees will go to the musicians who will be performing the compositions, and the cost of recording/video production).
- Create a folder in your Google Drive, and share it with **lemisamusic@gmail.com**.
- Include the following:
 - PDF score and parts
 - DAW audio rendering as mp3 or WAV
- If you prefer an anonymous submission, replace your name and title with a **four-digit code** on your score.

Prizes and Recognition

- **Ten works** will be selected for debut performance and HD recording.
- Winning composers will receive:
 - Professional audio and video recording of their work
 - Performance by established professional musicians in Cape Town including members of the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra, staff from UCT and Stellenbosch University music departments as well as **LEMISA**.
 - Promotion of your debut performance on our social media channels and

website

- **All participants** will receive written feedback from the adjudication panel.
- **Adjudication panel** will consist of local composers and musicians with extensive experience in composition and chamber music performance.
- An invitation to publish and sell their winning work from Lemisa's site. (All proceeds will go to the composer)

Key Dates

Entries close: Midnight, 31 January 2026

LEMISA continues to create platforms for new music

Entrants interested in simply paying to have their composition performed and recorded can make a payment of \$500 for the work to be added over and above to the ten pieces that will be chosen from competition submissions. The work must conform to the same parameters above.