

JU Art School “Vlado Milošević” Banja Luka

9th INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

“BANJALUKA BIENNALE 2026”

Banja Luka, May 14–17, 2026

The 9th International Piano Competition “Banjaluka Biennale 2026” will take place at the Concert Hall of the Banski Dvor Cultural Centre and the Concert Hall of the Art School “Vlado Milošević” in Banja Luka, from **May 14 to May 17, 2026** (the duration of the competition will depend on the number of registered candidates).

The competition will be held in the following disciplines:

- Piano Solo
- Piano Duo (four hands or two pianos)
- Piano (for students of the Music Associate – Theorist programme)

The application deadline is **April 27, 2026**.

Applications must be submitted electronically via the website:

<https://bijenale.muzicka-skola.org/>

Along with the application, candidates are required to submit:

- Birth certificate
- Copy of passport (for foreign participants)
- Proof of payment of the registration fee

Payment details must include:

- Name of the school / music academy (or full name of the competitor and place of residence)
- Purpose of payment: Registration fee for Banjaluka Biennale
- Recipient: Special-purpose account
- Recipient’s account number: 5510010001603924
- Type of revenue: 722511
- Municipality code: 002
- Budget organization: 0840001

The organizer does not have the possibility to open a foreign currency account. Therefore, foreign competitors may pay the registration fee upon arrival in Banja Luka, at a bank or at the competition secretary’s office.

REGISTRATION FEES

Piano Solo

- €40 – Pre-category, Category I and Category II
- €50 – Category III, IV and V
- €60 – Category VI, VII and VIII

Piano Duo

- €30 per candidate – Pre-category and Category I
- €35 per candidate – Category II, III, IV, V and VI

Piano Solo – Piano Practicum

- €30 for all categories
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COMPETITION REGULATIONS

DISCIPLINE: PIANO SOLO

PRE-CATEGORY

Candidates born in 2017 and younger

Programme of free choice

Maximum duration: 5 minutes

CATEGORY I

Candidates born in 2015 and younger

Programme:

- One movement of a sonatina, sonata (sonata form) or variations
 - Free choice compositions
- Maximum duration: 8 minutes

CATEGORY II

Candidates born in 2013 and younger

Programme:

- One movement of a sonatina, sonata (sonata form) or variations

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 12 minutes

CATEGORY III

Candidates born in 2011 and younger

Programme:

- One movement of a sonatina, sonata (sonata form) or variations
- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 15 minutes

CATEGORY IV

Candidates born in 2009 and younger

Programme:

- One movement of a sonata (sonata form)
- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 20 minutes

CATEGORY V

Candidates born in 2007 and younger

Programme:

- One movement of a sonata (sonata form)
- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 25 minutes

CATEGORY VI

Students of the first and second year of music academies

Programme:

- One movement of a sonata (sonata form)
- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 30 minutes

CATEGORY VII

Students of the third, fourth and fifth year of music academies

Programme:

- One movement of a sonata (sonata form)
- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 35 minutes

CATEGORY VIII – ARTISTIC CATEGORY

(No age limit)

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 40 minutes

Note:

If a competitor performs variations, the variations must constitute an independent work.

DISCIPLINE: PIANO DUO

(Four hands or two pianos)

PRE-CATEGORY

Candidates born in 2017 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 5 minutes

CATEGORY I

Candidates born in 2014 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 8 minutes

CATEGORY II

Candidates born in 2011 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 10 minutes

CATEGORY III

Candidates born in 2008 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 15 minutes

CATEGORY IV

Candidates born in 2005 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 20 minutes

CATEGORY V

Candidates born in 2002 and younger

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 25 minutes

CATEGORY VI – ARTISTIC CATEGORY

(No age limit)

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 30 minutes

DISCIPLINE: PIANO PRACTICUM

For pupils and students of theoretical departments and departments where piano is a compulsory instrument.

CATEGORY I

Students of the first and second year of secondary music school

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 6 minutes

CATEGORY II

Students of the third and fourth year of secondary music school

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 10 minutes

CATEGORY III

Students of the first and second year of theoretical departments

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 13 minutes

CATEGORY IV

Students of the third, fourth and fifth year of theoretical departments

Programme:

- Free choice compositions
Maximum duration: 16 minutes
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Note:

- Competitors in the Piano Practicum discipline must perform from sheet music.
- If a competitor performs variations, the variations must constitute an independent work.