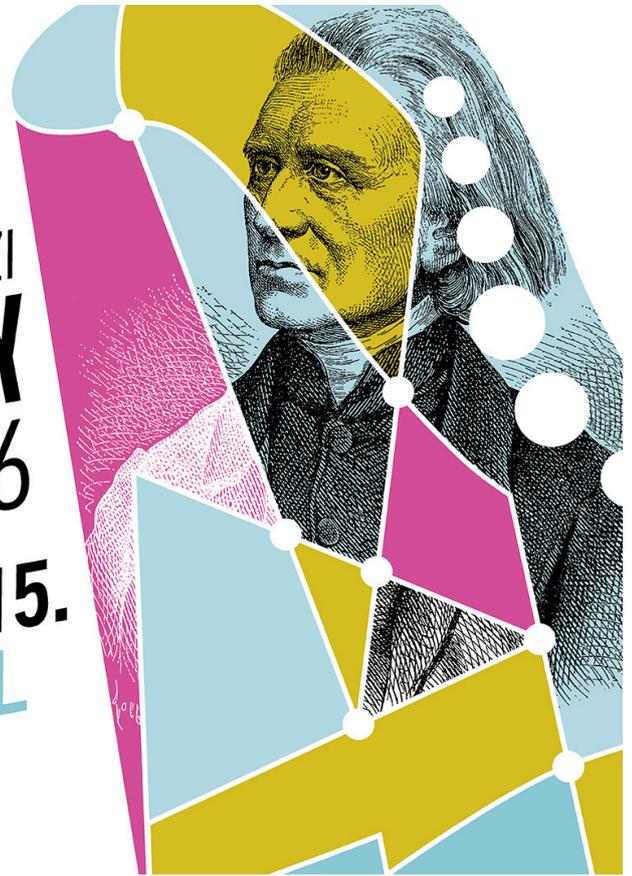


LISZT FERENC NEMZETKÖZI  
**ZONGORÁVERSENY**  
FRANZ LISZT INTERNATIONAL  
PIANO COMPETITION 2026

**PÉCS**  
Kodály Központ

 [filharmonia.hu](http://filharmonia.hu)

JELENTKEZÉSI  
HATÁRIDŐ: **ÁPRILIS 15.**  
APPLICATION  
DEADLINE: **15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**



**Dear Pianists and Dear Colleagues,**

On behalf of Filharmonia Hungary, we are honored to invite your students to apply for the Franz Liszt International Piano Competition, which will take place between September 15 and 20, 2026, in Pécs, Hungary.

With a distinguished legacy dating back to 1933, when the first Liszt Competition was held under the presidency of Ernő Dohnányi and won by the legendary Annie Fischer, the competition remains committed to discovering and supporting the most outstanding young pianists of our time while celebrating the artistic spirit of Franz Liszt.

The competition will be hosted in Pécs, a historic cultural center and former European Capital of Culture, and held at the renowned Kodály Centre, widely regarded as one of Europe's finest concert halls thanks to its exceptional acoustics. Over the past 15 years, the Kodály Centre has welcomed numerous internationally acclaimed artists and orchestras, making it an inspiring and prestigious stage for emerging talents.

The competition is open to pianists born after January 1, 1996, and offers a unique opportunity to perform before a prestigious international jury and gain valuable international exposure.

Filharmonia Hungary is a founding member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC) and the Alink–Argerich Foundation.

The official media partner of the competition is The Violin Channel, which will stream all rounds worldwide.

## **International Jury**

The distinguished jury includes world-renowned pianists and pedagogues such as:

Olga Kern (head of jury)

Lei Meng

Gergely Bogányi

Barry Douglas

János Balázs

Jan Jiracek von Arnim

György Vashegyi

## **Competition Structure**

The competition consists of four stages:

### *Online Preselection Round*

Applicants must submit unedited video recordings via YouTube links. The jury will select 12 competitors to advance to the live rounds.

Application deadline: April 15, 2026 (23:59 CET)

Notification of results: May 1, 2026

Maximum video length: 20 minutes total

### *First Round*

September 16, 2026 – Pécs

12 competitors perform Liszt études, additional Liszt works, and selected excerpts from György Kurtág's *Játékok*, honoring the composer's centenary.

## *Second Round*

September 17, 2026 – Pécs

6–9 competitors perform major Liszt paraphrases, transcriptions, and original works.

## *Solo Final and Orchestral Final*

September 18–20, 2026 – Pécs

4 finalists perform Liszt's Sonata in B minor and one of Liszt's major concert works with the Hungarian National Philharmonic, conducted by György Vashegyi.

## **Prizes**

First Prize: €35,000

Second Prize: €18,000

Third Prize: €9,000

Additional special prizes include concert engagements, recording opportunities, and invitations from major cultural institutions.

All live rounds will be professionally recorded, and participants will receive high-quality orchestral recordings for professional use.

## Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the online application form and submit the required documents and YouTube video links to:

[competition@filharmonia.hu](mailto:competition@filharmonia.hu)

Application fee: €100

Application deadline: April 15, 2026

We kindly ask you to share this opportunity with your students and encourage eligible pianists to apply to this prestigious international competition.

The Franz Liszt International Piano Competition offers a remarkable platform for young artists to present their artistry, gain international recognition, and become part of Liszt's enduring musical legacy.

For further information, please visit: [www.filharmonia.hu](http://www.filharmonia.hu)

Or contact us at: [competition@filharmonia.hu](mailto:competition@filharmonia.hu)

We look forward to welcoming talented young pianists from your institution to Pécs in September 2026.

With kind regards

Competition Team

Franz Liszt International Piano Competition Hungary 2026

