



4th year of an international
Bach competition
for children and youth

The Bach Journey

24th–27th October 2025

The year 2018 – 333 years since the birth of J. S. Bach – inspired us to establish the ‘Dobřany Bach Academy’ Endowment Fund. ‘The Bach Journey’ International Bach Competition for Children and Young People is intended to be an impetus for young people to realize that Bach’s music provides broad creative space to all those with the courage to immerse themselves in studying this musical beauty.

MAIN PRIZE NEW
piano S2 Zimmermann.


C. BECHSTEIN

A ONE-ROUND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION MEANT FOR PIANISTS UP TO 18 YEARS OF AGE:

The competition will be carried out in the premises of the J. S. Bach Music School in Dobřany (Stromořadí 439, 334 41 Dobřany)

COMPETITION CATEGORIES (as per age on 31st December 2025)

1. A1 up to 9 years old (inclusive) time limit 4–8 min.
2. A2 10–11 years old time limit 6–10 min.
3. A3 12–13 years old time limit 9–13 min.
4. A4 14–15 years old time limit 13–17 min.
5. A5 16–18 years old time limit 18–22 min.
6. B1 up to 18 years old time limit 24–28 min.

The competition is open in two basic groups: A (five categories) and B (one category). Pupils receiving private tuition and elementary school of arts pupils are in Group A, where as students of music grammar schools (15–18 years old), conservatoires and music academies are in Group B.

COMPETITION REPERTOIRE:

1. **Compulsory piece – one or more pieces selected from the pre-specified music by J. S. Bach. B1 category – two compulsory pieces** (one of each subcategory).
2. **One or more pieces of music by J. S. Bach of own choice** – it is not permitted to choose compulsory pieces from any lower category.
3. **One or more pieces from a different musical era from the worldwide repertoire of own choice** (we recommend that you perform a piece originating from your country)

APPLICATIONS

It is possible to submit your applications until **30th September 2025** (inclusive).

COMPETITION FEE

Until **30th September 2025** A1–A3 CZK 1,000 / A4–B1 CZK 1,200.

Bank Transfer Details: Raiffeisen BANK,

Account Number: **673077002/5500**,

IBAN: CZ815500000000673077002, **SWIFT:** RZBCCZPP

Reference for the Recipient: First Name and Surname of the Contestant. **International Payment:** Euro/SEPA payment – cashless payment from abroad, the fees are shared. **A different form of payment** – cashless payment from abroad, the fees are payable by the Sender.

International competitors can pay the competition fee in cash on the spot.

PRIZES FOR WINNERS

The A1, A2, A3 categories – 1st prize **CZK 4 000** / 2nd prize **CZK 2 500** / 3rd prize **CZK 1 250**

The A4, A5, B1 categories – 1st prize **CZK 6 000** / 2nd prize **CZK 4 000** / 3rd prize **CZK 2 500**

ORGANIZER OF THE COMPETITION

Endowment fund „Bachova akademie Dobřany“ in cooperation with The J. S. Bach Music School, Dobřany.

COMPETITION PARTNERS

J. S. Bach Music School Dobřany,
contributory organisation C. Bechstein Europe, s.r.o. Hradec Králové

CONTACT

E-mail: mail@bachacademy.eu, Web: www.bachacademy.eu

JURY:

Bernhard Klapprott (Germany) Harpsichordist, organist, conductor, F. Liszt Academy in Weimar – Old Music Institute;
Borbála Dobozy (Hungary) Concert harpsichordist, F. Liszt Academy in Budapest;

Tomasz Ritter (Poland) Concert pianist, keyboard player – hammerklavier, harpsichord;

Emilia Jedlička Gogova (Macedonia/Czechia) Concert pianist, J. S. Bach Music School Dobřany, Brno Conservatory;

Anna Kašparová (Czechia/Italy) Concert pianist, organist, Randaberg School of Arts, University of Stavanger;

Lukáš Klánský (Czechia) Concert pianist, Prague Grammar and Music School, Music Academy in Prague;

Marek Čermák (Czechia) Conductor, harpsichordist, organist

Main prize
new piano S2 Zimmermann.


C. BECHSTEIN

HONORARY BOARD OF ARTISTS

Musicians, who perform worldwide and are dedicated to J. S. Bach's music, decided to support our competition: **Ottavio Dantone, Borbála Dobozy, Christine Schornsheim, Andrea Marcon, Pierre Hantai, Mahan Esfahani** (harpsichord), **Piotr Anderszewski, Garrick Ohlsson, Roman Rabinowich, Christopher Czaja Sager** (piano), **Mischa Maisky, Jiří Bárta** (cello), **Erich Bosgraaf** (flute), **Václav Luks** (harpsichord, conductor), **Catherine Mackintosh, Gil Shaham, Pavel Šporcl** (violin); **Petr Šefl** (harpsichordist, historical instruments restorer).

COMPETITION REPERTOIRE

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A1 CATEGORY

Compulsory pieces options

- Minuet B dur BWV Anh. 118 (*unknown author, Piano Notebook for A. M. Bach*)
- March in D Major BWV Anh. 122 (*C. Ph. E. Bach, Piano Notebook for A. M. Bach*)
- Polonaise in G Minor BWV Anh. 125 (*C. Ph. E. Bach, Piano Notebook for A. M. Bach*)

A2 CATEGORY

Compulsory pieces options

- Prelude in D Minor BWV 926 (Little Preludes and Fughettas)
- Prelude in C Minor BWV 934 (Little Preludes and Fughettas)
- Prelude in D Major BWV 936 (Little Preludes and Fughettas)

A3 CATEGORY

Compulsory pieces options

- Prelude in F Major BWV 928 (Piano Notebook for W. F. Bach)
- Minuet in G Major BWV 843 (Piano Notebook for W. F. Bach)
- Fugue in C Major BWV 953 (Piano Notebook for W. F. Bach)

A4 CATEGORY

Compulsory pieces options

- Invention in E Major BWV 777 and Sinfonia in E Major BWV 792
- Invention in F Minor BWV 780 and Sinfonia in F Minor BWV 795
- Invention in B Flat Major BWV 785 and Sinfonia in B Flat Major BWV 800

A5 CATEGORY

Compulsory pieces options

- French Suite in D Minor BWV 812 Allemande and Sarabande
- French Suite in C Minor BWV 813 Allemande and Sarabande
- French Suite in E Flat Major BWV 815 Allemande and Sarabande

B1 CATEGORY

I. Compulsory pieces options

- Toccata E Minor BWV 914
- Toccata G Minor BWV 915
- Toccata G Major BWV 916

II. **prelude and a fugue of own choice of the Well-Tempered Clavier I and II BWV 846-893**



COMPETITION RULES

- The entrant's age on **31st December 2025** is relevant when included in a category.
- **Playing from memory is not obligatory.**
- **The competitors may perform** one of the pieces by J. S. Bach **on a copy of a German harpsichord** made to the design of the Michael Mietke original. **Full terms and conditions of the competition are available at: www.bachacademy.eu.**

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