

CONTEST MANUAL

4th International Ensemble en Soloist Contest 2011

for young musical talent

JAZZ

Big Bands / Combo's

Concert and 1st Division

Composition:
Stichting WMC Kerkrade
Stichting Muziekschool Kerkrade
Kerkrade, November 2010

1. Introduction

In the last 50 years WMC has built its reputation as an international stage for wind music as well as percussion music. Its core business consists of the four-yearly World Music Contest for amateur woodwind bands, percussion ensembles, marching and show bands. This is now considered the major international festival for the wind music and percussion sector in the world.

“International Ensemble and Soloist Contest 2011 for Young Talent”

In wind music as well as in percussion music, WMC performs an important function in renewal. Within the several contest formats it has implemented a number of radical changes. From this angle the first International Music School Contest took place. Several successful editions later this contest had developed into the first edition of the International Ensemble and Soloist Contest in 2004, in cooperation with Stichting Muziekschool Kerkrade. For several times this event has taken place with success. In October of 2011 this contest will be organized for the fourth time.

In order to inform and prepare participants in the best possible way a contest manual per discipline has been produced. Herewith WMC wants to stress once more, that its contests take place in the utmost openness. There is a contest manual available for each contest format.

Objective:

WMC aims to provide an international stage for young musical talent (top and / or amateur section and recently graduated students at a school of music).

Target group:

Light Music sector: Big Bands (1st and concert division) and Jazz Combos (concert division only).

Adjudication:

1. 1st Division Big Bands: Adjudication by grades (list of grades and written report).
2. Concert division Big Bands / Combos: Ranking system (Determination of the final classification. Public announcement of classification 1, 2 and 3. Participants will not receive an assessment in figures, but a written report only).

2. Contest rules

2.1 General

2.1.1 Contest

The contest will take place on Saturday October 1st, 2011.

2.1.2 Category

The contest is divided in two categories: Big Bands (see article 2.3) and Combos (see article 2.2).

2.1.3 Division

The contest is divided in various divisions: For Big Bands 1st division (amateurs) and concert division (music academy students or freshly graduated students), for Combos concert division only. In the 1st division the participants will be adjudicated by means of grades. Participants will receive a written report and a list of grades. In the concert division a ranking system will be applied. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be proclaimed, all participants will receive a written report.

2.1.4 Age

Participation is not subject to any age limits.

2.1.5 Selection

WMC is entitled to make a selection from the registered Big Bands en Combos.

2.1.6 Registration period

WMC is entitled to extend the registration period for one, some or all parts of the contest.

2.1.7 Program

WMC is entitled, based on the number of registrations, to add or cancel contest days. In case of insufficient entries for one or more parts of the contest, WMC is entitled to cancel this or these part(s) of the contest. All submitted scores will be screened by the organization, after approval of the scores the organization will confirm participation in the requested division.

2.1.8 Time

The organization is entitled to determine the day and time of participation.

2.1.9 Additions to the rules

In any case, not provided for in these rules, or in case of ambiguity of any article of these rules, decisions will be taken by WMC, in consultation with the jury. Decisions by WMC are irrevocable, and are binding upon all participants in the contest.

2.1.10 Manual

All participants will receive a contest manual, to clarify and elaborate on everything expected from a participant during the contest.

2.2 Combos

2.2.1 Division

Participation in concert division only. Participants in the concert division should either be enrolled as students at an academy of music or recently to have graduated as such

2.2.2 Duration

The maximum duration of the performance is 25 minutes. The performance will be timed from the moment of introduction until the last note. In case of exceeding the time limit the jury will end the performance.

2.2.3 Stage

The stage is available to the participants no sooner than the performance of the previous participant has been concluded. If necessary, the organization will provide stage assistants for removal or placing of instruments or music stands.

2.3 Big Bands

2.3.1 Division

Big Bands will be adjudicated in two divisions: 1st and concert.

2.3.2 Category

The 1st division is meant for amateurs such as Big Bands from schools of music. Participating Big Bands in the concert division should consist of students at an academy of music or recently to have graduated as such.

2.3.3 Duration

For both divisions the maximum duration of the performance is 25 minutes. The performance will be timed from the moment of introduction until the last note. In case of exceeding the time limit the jury will end the performance.

2.3.4 Stage

The stage is available to the participants no sooner than the performance of the previous participant has been concluded. If necessary, the organization will provide stage assistants for removal or placing of instruments or music stands.

2.4 Contest participation

2.4.1 Information regarding participants

A registration for participation in the contest should consist of the following items:

- A completed registration form
- Curriculum Vitae of the Combo or the Big Band
- A completed list of members
- Scores of the compositions to be performed
- A recording (sound and/or vision; with a minimum of 15 minutes duration) of the Combo or the Big Band

2.4.2 Assessment of the repertoire

Big Bands and Combos have freedom of choice where the repertoire is concerned. The program can consist of one or more compositions. Improvisations are compulsory. The order of playing the compositions is free also. The scores and recordings will be assessed for suitability by the organization. **After approval of the submitted compositions(s), the participant must provide an additional two scores of each composition (a total of three scores of each composition should be available for the juryteam).** WMC takes no responsibility whatsoever where the authors rights for compositions and/or arrangements to be used in the contest are concerned. This responsibility lies solely with the performing Big Band or Combo.

2.4.3 Contest venue

CAMPUS Kerkrade
Spekhofstraat 15
6466 LZ Kerkrade
Netherlands
Tel. 00 31 45 547 35 00

2.5 Prizes

2.5.1 1st Division

The prize for the best performance for Big Bands consist of a diploma, a plaque and a voucher to the amount of EUR 150.00 for the purchase of music scores or instruments.

2.5.2 Concert division

The prize for the best performance for Big Bands as well as for Combos consists of a diploma, a plaque and a voucher tot the amount of EUR 300.00 for the purchase of music scores or instruments.

2.5.3. Restriction

The prizes, with the exception of the plaques, will be awarded only when at least three Big Bands or Combos participate in the category and division in question. One thing and another to be decided by the organization.

2.6 Instruments

2.6.1 Piano

For Big Bands as well as for Combos the following instruments will be provided by WMC: Set of drums / electrical and acoustic piano / PA system and sound technician.

2.6.2 Music stands

Music stands will be available on site.

2.7 Jury

2.7.1 Team

Participants in both categories will be adjudicated by a jury team of three members, appointed by WMC:

- Henk Meutgeert (chairman)
- Vince Mendoza
- Leo Janssen

2.7.2 Decisions

Decisions of the jury are binding and irreversible.

2.8 Categories of assessment

Combos:

- Tuning
- Technique
- Interpretation and timing
- Improvisation
- Musical performance and originality

Big Bands

- Tuning
- Arrangement and interpretation
- Ensemble performing and timing
- Improvisation
- Musical performance and originality

2.9 Adjudication

2.9.1 1st Division

Big Bands in the 1st division will be adjudicated by grades. The jury team will assess the total performance based on the categories of assessment mentioned in article 2.8. The maximum number of points per category of assessment and per jury member is 10 (in full or half marks). The total number of points for all categories of assessment will be divided by 1.5, thus resulting in a 100 points system. Linked to this result the following prizes can be obtained:

- 60 points 3rd prize
- 70 points 2nd prize
- 80 points 1st prize
- 90 points 1st prize with distinction

2.9.2 Concert division

Participants in the concert division of both categories will be adjudicated with a ranking system. The jury team will assess the total performance based on the categories of assessment mentioned in article 2.8. Participants in the concert division of both categories will receive a written report.

3. Agenda

3.1. Arrival – routing

Participants should check in at the contest venue (Campus Kerkrade) at least 90 minutes prior to their scheduled time of performance. On arrival at the contest venue you should report to the check in counter located in the arrival hall of the Campus. Besides confirmation of your presence at the contest venue and reconfirmation of your participation in the contest, you will receive all relevant information about your participation in the contest, such as confirmation of your time and venue of performance, the availability of rehearsal rooms and/or dressing rooms, the general contest program and the time of the results/prize awarding ceremony.

3.2. Performance

You should report to your actual performance venue at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled performance. You will be escorted to the jury secretary, who will check your registration and reconfirm your program (submitted scores). The jury secretary will announce your performance, after the jury gives the appropriate signal, you will start your performance.

3.3 After your performance

Due to the time schedule for the contest you should vacate the stage as soon as your performance has been concluded.

3.4. Results and prize awarding ceremony

The results of each day will be announced at the end of each contest day. On arrival at the check in desk you will be informed about the time and location of this ceremony. You are requested to be present at this location at least 15 minutes before the ceremony starts.