

## VII. INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION ARS ET GLORIA 2026

Vocal and Acting Department of the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice  
[www.arsetgloria.pl](http://www.arsetgloria.pl)

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### COMPETITION RULES

*(The Polish-language version below shall be considered the only official, final, and binding version of these Rules.)*

#### I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The 7th International Vocal Competition “Ars et Gloria” is organized by the Vocal and Acting Department of the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice.
2. The seventh edition of the competition will be held in three stages on the following dates:  
**Stage I:** October 29–30, 2026 – ONLINE, based on DVD recordings  
**Stage II:** December 8–9, 2026 – IN PERSON, at the Organizer’s premises  
**Stage III:** December 10, 2026 – IN PERSON, at the Organizer’s premises
3. The competition is open to:  
**Category I:** undergraduate vocal students (Bachelor’s degree) or students enrolled in the first three years of unified five-year Master’s studies in vocal performance; born after October 29, 1996.  
**Category II:** graduate vocal students (Master’s degree) and graduates born after October 29, 1991.  
Winners of the first prize in Category I from previous editions may participate in a subsequent edition provided they move to a higher category and prepare an entirely new repertoire. First prize winners in Category II may not participate in the competition again.
4. Applicants will be informed by e-mail, sent to the address provided in the application form, by October 20, 2026, about their inclusion on the list of participants after fulfilling the following conditions:
  - correctly completing the application form — together with the declaration — available on the competition website ([www.arsetgloria.pl](http://www.arsetgloria.pl)) and sending these documents by e-mail to the organizer: [p.sobierajski@am.katowice.pl](mailto:p.sobierajski@am.katowice.pl) by October 15, 2026;
  - payment of the entry fee (in the amount specified in section 5) to the bank account of the Academy of Music in Katowice: ING Bank Śląski O/Katowice no. 22 1050 1214 1000 0007 0000 7875; payment reference: “Ars et Gloria 2026” by October 15, 2026;
  - submission of the DVD recording of the works selected for Stage I by October 15, 2026.
5. The entry fee for each participant category is:  
**Category I:**
  - with own pianist: PLN 300
  - with competition pianist in Stages II and III: PLN 350**Category II:**
  - with own pianist: PLN 350
  - with competition pianist in Stages II and III: PLN 400
6. Changes to the repertoire and withdrawal from the competition with refund of the entry fee will only be possible until October 20, 2026.

7. A participant requesting cooperation with the competition pianist during Stages II and III, after paying the appropriate fee, undertakes to:
  - send by November 10, 2026, a printed copy of the scores for the works from Stages II and III (properly organized and signed by the participant) to:  
Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice  
40-025 Katowice, ul. Wojewódzka 33  
with the note: “Ars et Gloria 2026 – Scores”;  
in the event of withdrawal from the competition, the submitted materials will not be returned;
  - contact the competition pianist designated by the organizers and arrange rehearsal dates if necessary.
8. Travel and accommodation costs shall be covered by the participants themselves.

## II. ACCOMMODATION

9. The Organizer does not provide accommodation or meals for participants and their pianists.

## III. PRIZES

10. The following prizes and distinctions are provided in each category:

### MAIN PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

#### Category I

- 1st Prize – PLN 4,000
- 2nd Prize – PLN 3,000
- 3rd Prize – PLN 2,000

#### Distinctions:

- 1st Distinction – PLN 1,000
- 2nd Distinction – PLN 750
- 3rd Distinction – PLN 500

#### Category II

- 1st Prize – PLN 10,000
- 2nd Prize – PLN 7,500
- 3rd Prize – PLN 5,000

#### Distinctions:

- 1st Distinction – PLN 1,000
- 2nd Distinction – PLN 750
- 3rd Distinction – PLN 500

A finalist diploma will be awarded to every participant qualified for Stage III.

### SPECIAL PRIZES

- Prof. Jarosław Bręk Prize (Academy of Music in Poznań) – participation in a festival concert;
- Prof. Andrzej Chorosziński Prize (Chopin University of Music in Warsaw) – participation in a sacred music festival concert;
- Directors of Silesian music institutions – participation in a philharmonic concert;

- Prize for the best performance of a sacred work;
  - Prize for the best performance of a Polish work;
  - Prize for the best performance of a 20th–21st century work.
11. The Competition Jury reserves the right to change the number and amount of the main prizes and distinctions (e.g. *ex aequo* awards).
  12. Monetary prizes are also planned for outstanding accompanist pianists. Their number and value will be announced together with the competition results.

#### IV. COPYRIGHTS AND OTHER MATTERS

13.1. By entering the Competition, each participant:

- A. agrees to photographs being taken of their image during the Competition, and to their recording, repeated use, editing, and reproduction through any media for promotional and archival purposes of the Organizers, without the need for separate approval each time;
- B. grants the Organizers, free of charge, the right to use audiovisual recordings of their performances during the Competition in the following fields of exploitation:
  - a) recording and reproduction — digital recording of sound and image, production and publication on CD and/or DVD or other media exclusively for non-commercial purposes;
  - b) distribution of copies on which the artistic performance has been fixed, including lending or rental of originals or copies;
  - c) dissemination of performances in ways other than those specified in point b — broadcasting, rebroadcasting, playback, and public sharing on selected websites;
- C. consents to the processing of their personal data for the purposes of organizing and conducting the Competition in accordance with the declaration contained in the Application Form.

13.2. Personal data are collected voluntarily; however, providing the data in the Participant Application Form is a condition for participation in the Competition. Submission of the Application Form constitutes confirmation that the participant has read and accepted these Rules.

13.3. Competition participants are required to comply with health and safety regulations and fire safety regulations applicable in the Academy buildings.

#### V. COMPETITION AUDITIONS

14. Performers will be evaluated by a Jury composed as follows:

*/the final composition of the Jury will be announced at a later date/*

15. The Jury will evaluate participants' performances on a scale from 0 to 25 points. The Jury's decision is final, irrevocable, and not subject to appeal; deliberations and protocols are confidential.
16. The final schedule of Stage II auditions and the order of performances will be determined after the draw of the qualified participants on October 30, 2026, during the Jury session. The results of the draw will be published on the competition website on November 3, 2026, together with the final list and order of performances. In exceptional situations, the Jury reserves the right to make changes to the order of performances.

## **COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

### **October 29–30, 2026**

Stage I – ONLINE – video recording

### **November 3, 2026**

Announcement of Stage I results – [www.arsetgloria.pl](http://www.arsetgloria.pl)

### **December 8, 2026**

Stage II auditions – first part

10:00–13:00

14:00–17:00

18:00–21:00

### **December 9, 2026**

Stage II auditions – second part

10:00–13:00

14:00–17:00

18:00–21:00

22:00–23:00 – Announcement of Stage II results

### **December 10, 2026**

Stage III auditions

11:00–16:00

18:00 – Announcement of laureates

### **December 11, 2026**

18:00–20:00 – Final announcement of competition results and Laureates' Concert

17. The order of performances in Stage III will follow the order established in Stage II, excluding participants not qualified for Stage III.
18. Participants qualified for Stage II are required to report personally at the competition reception desk (Academy Patio) on the day of their performance (December 8–9, 2026), no later than one hour before their scheduled appearance.
19. The Organizers provide participants in Stages II and III with a room for vocal warm-up and changing facilities on the day of the performance, available half an hour before the scheduled performance. Acoustic rehearsals in the competition hall are not provided.

## **VI. LAUREATES' CONCERT**

20. All laureates are obliged to participate free of charge in the Laureates' Concert on December 11, 2026, and to perform the works indicated by the Jury.
21. Withdrawal from participation in the Laureates' Concert (without the Organizer's consent) is equivalent to resignation from all titles and prizes awarded in the Competition.

## **VII. REPERTOIRE**

22. Stage I of the competition will be conducted online. For this purpose, participants should prepare a video recording of the competition repertoire, record it in an

appropriate format, upload it to YouTube, include the link in the application form and in a regular e-mail (clickable link only), and send it to p.sobierajski@am.katowice.pl by October 15, 2026.

Stages II and III will be held in person at the Academy of Music in Katowice on the dates specified in these Rules.

The recording with piano accompaniment (in addition to the best possible sound quality) must also be flawless in terms of image quality. With proper lighting, the camera should continuously capture the full figure of the vocalist without any cuts or editing of image or sound during the recording of all works for the given stage (one continuous recording of the entire Stage I performance without turning the camera off between works, while maintaining appropriate pauses between pieces, as during a live competition performance, without fading or blacking out the image). Edited recordings in terms of image or sound will be disqualified.

Recordings should be labeled with the performers' names and include information about the repertoire performed (e.g. J.S. Bach – Aria “Deposuit potentes” from “Magnificat”; S. Moniuszko – “Na skrzydłach pieśni”; G. Puccini – Liu’s aria “Signore, ascolta” from Act I of “Turandot”).

## **REQUIRED COMPETITION REPERTOIRE**

### **Stage I: October 29–30, 2026 – ONLINE**

Performance duration: up to 10 minutes

- any sacred work
- any opera aria or oratorio/cantata aria  
/the program must be performed in two different languages/

### **Stage II: December 8–9, 2026 – IN PERSON**

Performance duration: up to 15 minutes

- any sacred work different from those performed in Stages I
- any oratorio or opera aria different from those performed in Stages I
- any vocal work composed in the 20th–21st century  
/the program must be performed in three different languages/

### **Stage III: December 10, 2026 – IN PERSON**

Performance duration: up to 10 minutes

- any work / a work from Stage I may be repeated
- an oratorio/cantata, opera, or operetta aria / different from those performed in Stages I and II  
/the program must be performed in two different languages/

23. In each stage, the participant shall present works whose total duration may not exceed the time indicated above. Exceeding the performance time may result in disqualification.

Participants must perform all works from memory during recordings, competition auditions, and laureates' concerts. The participant decides the order of the performed works.

24. Oratorio/cantata, opera, and operetta arias must be performed exclusively in their original keys, preserving the original language and the voice type intended by the composer. Songs may be performed in any key and in translation unless the Organizer explicitly specifies the language of performance.

## VIII. COMPETITION ORGANIZER

### 25. Competition contact address:

“ARS ET GLORIA 2026 Vocal Competition”  
Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice  
40-025 Katowice, ul. Wojewódzka 33  
[www.arsetgloria.pl](http://www.arsetgloria.pl)

### Competition bank account:

Account holder: Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice  
Bank: ING Bank Śląski O/Katowice  
Account No.: 22 1050 1214 1000 0007 0000 7875  
IBAN: PL 22 1050 1214 1000 0007 0000 7875  
SWIFT: INGBPLPW  
Payment reference: “Ars et Gloria 2026”

### Competition organizing committee:

Prof. Ewa Biegas, Dean of the Vocal and Acting Department  
tel. (+48) 501-009-143  
e-mail: [ebiegas@wp.pl](mailto:ebiegas@wp.pl)  
/in English, auf Deutsch/

Dr. hab. Paweł Sobierajski, prof. AM  
tel. (+48) 604-484-003  
e-mail: [p.sobierajski@am.katowice.pl](mailto:p.sobierajski@am.katowice.pl)

### Competition and Jury Office:

Dr. Katarzyna Ćwiek  
tel. (+48)724-466-480; e-mail: [korra@wp.pl](mailto:korra@wp.pl) /in english/

Dr. Anna Noworzyn-Sławińska  
tel. (+48) 607-437-573; e-mail: [annanoworzyn@wp.pl](mailto:annanoworzyn@wp.pl) /in english/