

Durham and Open Composition Competition

Criteria for Entry

The following document contains the rules/entry criteria for the Durham and Open Composition, run by the Durham University Brass Band, with generous support from Durham Music Shop and Steve Robson. If there are any questions concerning any part of the competition, or if anything in this document is unclear, please get in touch with Durham University Brass Band by emailing brass.band@durham.ac.uk.

The rules are as follows:

1. Durham and Open Composition Competition is a competition in which university students/recent graduates can submit an original composition for judging by a professional composer. The competition is run by Durham University Brass Band, with support from Durham Music Shop and Steve Robson.
2. There are two categories in which prizes are available:
 - a. Open: Open to any UK university student, or graduate of up to one year (see definitions below), excluding students at Durham University. There will be one winning entry in this category. The winning composition will receive a prize fund of £100, the opportunity to have their work published by Modrana Music Publishers (including competitive rates on royalties), and the opportunity to have their work performed by Durham University Brass Band at a concert in the upcoming academic year.
 - b. Durham: Open to any Durham University student, or graduate of up to one year (see definitions below). There will be one winning entry in this category. The winning composition will receive a prize fund of £100, the opportunity to have their work published by Modrana Music Publishers (including competitive rates on royalties), and the opportunity to have their work performed by Durham University Brass Band at a concert in the upcoming academic year.
3. Entries to the competition will meet the following criteria:
 - a. Be an original composition (meaning it must be entirely free of copyright) arranged for standard brass band orchestration with up to 3 percussion lines.
 - b. Be EITHER a concert piece themed around the North East of England, OR a concert march.
 - c. Be no more than 6 minutes in length.
 - d. Be playable, after rehearsal, by a 3rd section standard band.
 - e. Never have been submitted to another competition, or performed publicly.
4. Submissions should be made to brass.band@durham.ac.uk, and should be in the form of a score (in pdf format) and audio (notation software output in mp3 format). Scores should not have any indication of the composer's identity so as to ensure a fair competition. If possible, the submission should also include the score in a Sibelius format, or in any other freely available notation software, however not providing this will not adversely affect the submission. Submissions are encouraged to also include a brief accompanying note about the composition. Submissions should include proof of studentship meeting the criteria set out below. Valid proof includes copies of a dated student card, a graduation certificate, and a letter of student status from the university. Other forms of proof may be acceptable.

5. The winner of each category shall be decided upon by Steve Robson.
6. The competition will close on 1st September 2020.
7. When referring to a university student, or graduate of up to one year, we mean any person who is currently enrolled at, or has been enrolled at within the last year on the closing date of the competition, a higher-education establishment, full or part-time.
8. By submitting to the competition you are giving permission for Durham University Brass Band to keep a copy of your music without needing to purchase it.
9. The organisers of this competition reserve the right to change and/or withdraw any part of, or the whole, competition at any time, without previous warning.
10. By submitting you agree for your personal information to be held and used in line with the GDPR legislation.
11. By submitting an entry you are agreeing to the above rules.