



The European Youth Brass Band Contest 2026

LINZ - AUSTRIA

26 April 2026

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Rationale of the contest

The European Youth Brass Band Contest will provide a platform for Europe's finest youth brass bands to perform a programme of musical excellence which is also entertaining in a competitive environment. In doing so, this will encourage the development of youth brass bands throughout the member countries of the European Brass Band Association, fostering enduring social links between the young people taking part and will help to create a better understanding of the cultural diversity throughout Europe.

Date and venue of the European Youth Brass Band Contest

The EYBBC will take place on Sunday 26 April in Linz, Austria and will be part of the European Brass Band Championships in 2026.

Entry to the European Youth Brass Band Contest

Each EBBA member country will be invited to nominate youth band(s) to participate in the contest. The Executive Committee will decide about the final invitation.

The competition has two sections, the Premier and Development sections. It is up to each EBBA member country to decide how these bands should be chosen.

Bands that wish to participate can also show their interest by contacting EBBA's General Secretary Lilli Anne Grong via general.ebba@gmail.com

In addition, the winning bands from the Premier and Development sections held in Palanga 2025 will be invited to participate in their respective section.

EBBA will also consider the participation of bands from non-EBBA member countries.

The deadline for all bands entering the contest will be the **31 December 2025**.

There will be **no** fee for entering the competition.

Bands participating in the contest may be established youth bands, school bands, regional bands, national bands or "project bands" made up of an amalgam of players selected to form a band to play in the contest. However, as each band will be representing their country, all players in each band **MUST** consist of players who are only from that country. Players will be asked to produce proof of age and identity in the form of an identification card, passport or other form acceptable to the organisers.

Rules for the European Youth Brass Band Contest

1. The European Youth Brass Band Contest will be organised under the auspices of the European Brass Band Association (EBBA).
2. All youth brass bands must be made up of standard British brass band in terms of instrumentation. Bands may play a maximum of 50 players, including percussion.
3. All players taking part in the European Youth Brass Band Contest must be a citizen of, or permanent resident/registered student in the country their band is representing.
4. There will be two separate sections in the contest, Development and Premier.
5. Both sections will have a pre-draw for the order of performance which will be made no later than 1 March 2026. The results of the pre-draw will then be given to the participating bands and will be published by EBBA.
6. Competing bands should submit their programme of music, and two sets of scores-of the pieces to be played by 1 March 2026.

The Premier Section of the European Youth Brass Band Contest

This section is for senior youth brass bands.

-Players should be born on or after 01.01.2002.

-Executive Committee allows up to 2 players to be born on or after 01.01.2000.

Bands entering the Premier Section of the contest will:

1. Play a programme **of 25 minutes a maximum** playing time, which will include a set test piece.
2. The programme may include an item featuring a soloist from the band
There will be a prize for the best soloist in the Premier Section.

The Development Section of the European Youth Brass Band Contest

This section is for younger youth bands.

-Players should be born on or after 01.01.2007.

-Executive Committee allows up to 2 players to be born on or after 01.01.2005.

Bands entering the Development Section of the contest will:

1. Play a programme **of 20 minutes maximum** playing time, which will include a set piece.
2. The programme may include an item featuring a soloist from the band.
There will be a prize for the best soloist in the Development Section.

Adjudication & Results for the European Youth Brass Band Contest

Adjudication

There will be by two adjudicators who will be in the open and therefore able to see the bands performances.

Adjudicators will make written remarks on each performance.

The two adjudicators will consider the following aspects of the band's performances based on the rationale.

1. The musical excellence of the performance.
2. The quality and balance of the programme played.
3. The entertainment value to the audience of the performance of the music.

Results

A results ceremony will follow on after the final band's performance and will take place in the same hall. Each band will be given a written adjudication which will be available following the results ceremony.

Bands in each section will be placed in a merit order, and prizes awarded to the overall winner of each section, and the best soloist in each section.

The winning band in the Premier section will be entitled to call themselves the **European Champion Youth Brass Band Premier Section 2026**.

The winning band in the Development section will be entitled to be call themselves the **European Champion Youth Brass Band Development Section 2026**.

Copyrights and permissions

a) All rights appertaining to the performances by the bands performing at the EYBBC, and associated events organised by the EBBA in conjunction with the championships shall be the property of the EBBA.

EBBA will collect written approval from all bands. This will be done by means of signing the EBBA contest controller form by the band manager.

b) It is the responsibility of the band manager to get consent for photographs, streaming and recording from the players parents or legal guardians.

c) It is the responsibility of the bands to have and be able to evidence in writing, permission for performance, recording/filming of all *non-published* material used at the contest.

Copies of required permissions to be submitted no later than 21 days prior to the contest to general.ebba@gmail.com

d) The European Brass Band Championships are recorded for digital delivery and will be live- streamed through wobplay.com, which will be accessed by subscribers in perpetuity. In doing so, no performance royalties will be paid to bands, but all copyright ownership will be communicated to the PRS for Music who will pay all mechanical royalties in due course, as long as Mechanical Copyright holders are members of MCPS. Any queries should be directed to the PRS for Music. PRS for Music is the trading name of Performing Rights Society Ltd (PRS), Mechanical Copyright Society Limited (MCP{S) and the MCPS-P.

GDPR

By sending in the Online Application Form, the representative of the participating band grants in the name of the participating band and all its musicians the right to EBBA as controller to process the personal data provided in the Online Application Form for the administration of the EYBBC, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union (EU) and the national data protection law applicable to EBBA.

The personal data provided in the Online Application Form, in particular the first name, family name, postal address, e-mail address, telephone number, bank coordinates will be used for the purposes to register the bands, verify the compliance with the conditions of the competition and effectively administer and promote the EBBC.

The band manager of the band grants in the name of the participating band and all its musicians the right to EBBA to publish in any suitable form, including on the internet, the name of the band and name of the conductor.

Furthermore, the representative of each band retains the rights according to the GDPR and the applicable national law. These include the right to be informed about personal data EBBA processes about contact details or to submit a request to rectify or erase any personal data EBBA holds about the participating band.

Requests are to be addressed to general.ebba@gmail.com

Further information

Nominated entries should be send by each EBBA member delegate to the EBBA General Secretary by **1 December 2025**.

EBBA General Secretary: general.ebba@gmail.com

Website EBBA: www.ebba.eu.com

Website EBBC 2026 Linz: <https://ebbc2026.at/>