

Young Classical Artists Trust

2026 Auditions



Preparing your Application

Thanks for your interest in YCAT! To apply, you must fill out an online application form on [Muvac](#) and pay the application fee (£55). All applications will be evaluated by professional jury members.

Soloists must provide their own pianists at every stage (including the public finals), make all rehearsal arrangements, and pay any fees.

For further information concerning eligibility, audition timeline and selection process, please visit our [website](#).

The application consists of the following sections:

Muvac Registration

- You will be asked to provide the following details as part of your initial Muvac registration:
 - Personal details
 - Expertise (instrument/ensemble type)
 - CV/résumé – this will be entered manually and cannot be uploaded as a separate document.

YCAT application : Information about you and your musical background

- **Portrait photo** - this does not have to be professional quality
- **Short answers to the following questions (800 characters maximum per question)**
 - Why do you think YCAT is right for you at this time?
 - What do you feel you need help with over the next few years?
 - In what ways do you hope to use your music to make an impact outside the concert hall?
- **Sample programmes**
 - Two sample recital programmes (one full-length 90-minute recital; one hour-long programme) that demonstrate your musical personality and awareness of different audiences/performance settings
 - A brief description of each programme
 - *Please note, this does not have to form a part of your audition repertoire. However, you are able to perform repertoire listed in this section in any audition round if you wish.*
- **Audition repertoire**
 - Repertoire at all stages is free choice and should demonstrate a versatile, varied and curious musical personality. All applicants can repeat repertoire in each round.
 - Please note, soloists must provide their own pianists at every stage (including the public finals), make all rehearsal arrangements, and pay any fees.

Preliminary Audition (video submission)

- 1 minute introductory video about why you are applying to YCAT
- 15 minutes of live, unedited performance/s (this can include up to three separate videos)
- The videos must have been recorded after 1 January 2025 and can include both live concert and/or specifically recorded materials

Ensure the following is included in the video description:

- Composer
- Name of work and movements
- Duration of each movement
- Date of recording

Semi-Final Audition (Live performance)

Repertoire from the preliminary video round may be repeated in the semifinal and final rounds. At the live audition, you will choose your opening work, after which the panel will request excerpts from the remainder of the submitted programme.

You may amend your semi-final programme within Muvac until the application closing date (26 February 2026).

You may be asked to verbally introduce some of this repertoire as you would in various concert settings.

Those invited to the live semi-final auditions will be asked to submit a repertoire list for the audition which adheres to the following time limits:

- Instrumentalists - 100 minutes
- Vocalists - 60 minutes (including at least three languages)
- Ensembles - 120 minutes (complete works only)

Final Audition (Public performance)

- Prepare 25 minutes of repertoire to be performed in a live performance at Wigmore Hall, London. This programme will be discussed at the interview following selection of finalists (you are not required to submit this programme at the point of application).

- **Eligibility**
 - For details concerning visa requirements, age limits and other prerequisites, please see our [website](#).
- **Availability**
 - Confirmation of your availability for the semi-final auditions (London or Kronberg) and for the selected finalist shortlist interviews, live final auditions and the day following (8 May). Whilst we cannot guarantee a particular time or location we shall endeavour to accommodate where possible.

(For further information, please visit the '[Dates and Locations](#)' section on our website)
- **References**
 - References must be uploaded to Muvac before submitting your application.
 - You are required to submit TWO separate references, which must have been written within the last 12 months, and include the name and contact details of the referee, as well as their relationship to you. Duplicated references will not be accepted, and may result in your application being void.
 - It is the applicant's responsibility to contact their referees and ensure they supply their references before the application deadline.
 - PLEASE NOTE: Your application will only be reviewed if both references have been received.
- **Other Details**
 - Have you previously auditioned for YCAT or Concert Artists Guild (US)?
 - How did you hear about YCAT?
- **Payment**
 - In order to finally submit your application, you must pay the application fee of £55 (inc. VAT). If there are issues with payment, please contact us as soon as possible. Your application is only fully complete once payment and a confirmation email has been received.
 - Application fees are non-refundable.

NB Using the Muvac platform, it is possible to save your application and return to it at a later date during the application period.

We strongly advise that you don't leave your application to the last minute. Video submissions can take a long time to upload, depending on your internet connection. Please submit as early as possible to avoid missing the deadline.

We look forward to receiving your application!