

APPROVED
by Order No. VK-98
of the Director
of Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School
dated 7 October 2026

REGULATIONS FOR THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL BIRŽAI VLADAS JAKUBĖNAS ART SCHOOL'S FLUTE COMPETITION "ROMANTIC FLUTE"

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. These regulations for the 4th International Flute Competition "Romantic Flute" (hereinafter – the Competition), organized by the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School (hereinafter – the Competition Organizer), regulates the Competition's objective, conditions for participation and organization, evaluation, awards, participant safety, personal data processing, and the handling of complaints.

2. The Competition is organized by the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School (hereinafter – the School) in implementation of the School's 2026–2028 strategic plan and 2026 action plan.

3. The Competition partners are the Biržai Educational Support Service and the Biržai Jurgis Bielinis Public Library.

4. The Competition is based on voluntary participation, respect for the child's dignity, equal opportunities, inclusion, transparency of evaluation, and the encouragement of student progress. Participants' achievements are evaluated taking into account their stage of learning; the Competition results do not replace the assessment of student achievement established in the educational curriculum.

CHAPTER II GOAL AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPETITION

5. Goal – to foster the artistic self-expression, creativity, and musical performance skills of flute students, to provide stage experience, and to encourage international musical cooperation.

6. Objectives:

6.1. to provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in musical interpretation, listening, and stage performance;

6.2. to encourage the exploration of music from the Romantic era and other periods;

6.3. to strengthen skills in ensemble playing, cooperation, and responsibility;

6.4. to create opportunities for educators from music and art schools in Lithuania and abroad to share their experience.

CHAPTER III PARTICIPANTS AND COMPETITION PROGRAM

7. **Participants.** The competition is open to students from Lithuanian and foreign music and art schools and conservatories who play the transverse flute, either as soloists or in ensembles.

Competition categories:

7.1. A – soloists;

7.2. B – ensembles in which at least one student plays the transverse flute.

7.3. The performance order of the competition participants is determined based on grade levels and categories:

8. Participants are grouped according to their music (art) school grade or the corresponding stage of musical education.

Group/category	Participants	Program duration
A1	Soloists from Grades 1–2	Up to 5 minutes.
A2	Soloists from Grades 3–4	Up to 7 minutes.
A3	Soloists from Grades 5–6	Up to 10 minutes.
A4	Soloists from Grades 7–8	Up to 15 minutes.
A5	Soloists from Grade 9 and above, as well as those in continuing and/or extended programs	Up to 15 minutes.
B1	Ensembles of students in grades 1–4	Up to 8 minutes.
B2	Ensembles of students in grades 5–8	Up to 10 minutes.
B3	Ensembles of students from Grade 9 and above, as well as those in continuing and/or extended programs.	Up to 15 minutes.

9. **Repertoire.** Soloists and ensembles perform two freely chosen pieces of contrasting character. It is recommended that one piece be from the Romantic era. Performing with sheet music is permitted; this does not in itself affect the evaluation.

10. The specified duration covers the performance of both pieces. The participant or the sending school is responsible for providing accompaniment and an accompanist. If the time limit for the category is exceeded, the jury may stop the performance and evaluate the program heard up to that point.

11. A student may participate both as a soloist and as part of an ensemble; a separate application must be submitted and the corresponding fee paid for each performance. The ensemble application must list all students and their instruments.

CHAPTER IV ORGANIZATION AND REGISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION

12. **The competition will take place on December 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.** at the Biržai Vlado Jakubėnas Art School (addresses: Kęstučio St. 6 and Rotušės St. 14, Biržai); participant registration begins at 9:30 a.m. on the same day at Rotušės St. 14, Biržai. Auditions are open to the public.

13. Applications are accepted **until 5:00 p.m. (Lithuanian time) on November 4, 2026.** Online applications:

Category A – <https://forms.gle/S9rqF68UihNAFUdN9>

Category B – <https://forms.gle/LenCyxSyAGC2Qd4G7>

If the forms are inaccessible, please contact fleita.birzai@gmail.com by the same deadline.

14. The application must include the participant's full name, school, country, musical education grade or level, category, group, the composers and titles of the pieces and their total duration, the names of the teacher and accompanist, contact details for a responsible adult, payment details, and technical requirements.

15. The application is submitted by an adult participant, a minor's legal representative, or a teacher authorized by them. The teacher confirms that the minor's participation has been coordinated with their legal representative and that the participant has been informed of the rules. The person providing data regarding other individuals shall convey information about the data processing to them.

16. Within 5 working days of receiving an application, the Organizer shall notify the applicant of its acceptance or any deficiencies and allow a period of at least 3 working days for such deficiencies to be rectified. If no confirmation is received, the applicant shall contact the Organizer. Substantial changes to the program or the composition of the performing group must be agreed upon in writing.

17. The schedule of performances and rehearsals, specific venue details, and registration information shall be provided to the participants' representatives on the day of the Competition. The performance order is determined by category and group, with alphabetical ordering within each group; however, reasonable adjustments may be made to accommodate the schedules of students or accompanists participating in multiple performances.

CHAPTER V

PARTICIPATION FEE AND EXPENSES

18. Participation fee:

18.1. Soloist fee – €12;

18.2. Ensemble participant fee – €6 per student participating in the ensemble. An accompanying teacher or adult accompanist does not pay the participation fee.

19. The fee is to be paid via bank transfer to the School's account:

19.1. Recipient: Biržų Vlado Jakubėno meno mokykla;

19.2. Account number: LT77 4010 0413 0005 0129;

19.3. Payment reference: "IV International Competition 'Romantic Flute'. School." ...the competition participant's full name, category, and group. When paying for an ensemble, the ensemble's name or the representative specified in the application must be indicated.

20. The fee must be paid by the application submission deadline. If payment is made by an institution that wishes to settle the account after the Competition, a letter of guarantee and the details required for the invoice must be submitted along with the application. In such cases, payment must be made within 10 working days of receipt of the invoice. Pro forma invoices are not issued; the final invoice is issued on the day of the Competition. Transfer fees are covered by the payer.

21. If a participant fails to attend due to their own decision, the fee is non-refundable, except in cases prescribed by law. If the Organizer cancels the Competition, rejects the application, or changes the date—resulting in the participant declining to participate—the fee is refunded in full. Overpayments are also refunded. Funds are transferred to the payer within 10 working days of receipt of the information required for the refund.

22. Travel, meals and accommodation are the responsibility of the participants or the institutions sending them. Competition funds are used to cover organizational expenses in accordance with the procedure established by law.

CHAPTER VI EVALUATION AND AWARDS

23. Participants are evaluated by a commission comprising at least three music educators or performers, appointed by the School Director. The composition of the commission is announced prior to the start of the auditions. Each performance is evaluated by at least three impartial members.

24. A commission member shall not evaluate their own student, a close relative, or any other participant with whom a conflict of interest arises, nor shall they participate in the decision regarding that participant's award. Recusals are recorded in the minutes. Commission members shall safeguard non-public participant data.

25. Each commission member evaluates the performance based on the following criteria:

Criterion	Maximum score
Performance accuracy, intonation, rhythm, and sound quality	3
Technical proficiency appropriate to the stage of education	2
Interpretation, phrasing, and conveyance of musical style	3
Artistry and stage presence; for ensembles – also ensemble cohesion	2
Total:	10

26. The final score is the arithmetic mean of the total points awarded by the jury members, rounded to two decimal places. Participants are compared only within their respective categories and groups. The jury secretary verifies the calculations, and the jury chairperson and members sign the results protocol.

27. In each group, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places are awarded based on the final scores in descending order. Participants receiving the same final score may be awarded the same place. The jury may award additional distinctions, specifying the grounds for doing so in the protocol. Evaluation criteria and their weightings remain unchanged during the Competition.

28. Winners of 1st through 3rd places receive laureate diplomas, while other participants receive participation diplomas or certificates of appreciation. Teachers and accompanists receive certificates of appreciation. Certificates from the Biržai Educational Support Service are issued to organizers and teachers in accordance with the registration and issuance procedure agreed upon with the Service.

29. Results are made available to the participants' representatives on the School's website within 3 working days after the Competition.

30. The Commission's decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

CHAPTER VII COPYRIGHT AND PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

31. By submitting applications and documents (data) and simultaneously transferring the personal data of organization representatives, participants, or any natural persons (hereinafter referred to as "data subjects"), all Competition participants confirm that they have informed the data subjects that their data will be transferred to the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School, as well as the purposes and legal bases for such transfer; they also confirm that they have made the data subjects aware of their rights and informed them that further information regarding the processing of their data can be found in the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School's privacy policy (http://www.muzikosmokykla.puslapiai.lt/duomenu_apsauga.htm). When communicating with a data subject, the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School considers the subject to be informed about the processing of their personal data (Article 14(5)(a) of the GDPR).

32. Personal data of data subjects submitted by Competition participants are processed for the purposes of organizing and conducting the Competition (including the publication of information about participants, as well as the selection and public announcement of winners) and for statistical purposes. The personal data controller is the Competition organizer, the Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School.

33. Competition participants agree that the applications they submit, as well as all information regarding the projects being implemented, may be used for the purpose of publicizing the Competition.

34. Personal data of Competition participants and data subjects may be disclosed to members of the evaluation commission. The personal data of contest participants and data subjects may also be disclosed to other organizations (contest partners) that directly perform functions related to the organization and/or execution of the contest, but only in cases and to the extent that such data is necessary.

35. Contest participants and data subjects whose personal data is processed for the purposes of organizing and executing the contest have the right to access their data and be informed about how it is processed, as well as the right to request the rectification or erasure of their personal data, or the suspension of processing activities (with the exception of storage) where the data is processed in violation of these provisions or legal requirements.

CHAPTER VIII FINAL PROVISIONS

36. Competition coordinators:

36.1. Rima Venskienė, Deputy Director for Education, Flute Teacher (Methodologist), Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School; e-mail: rima.venskiene@gmail.com, fleita.birzai@gmail.com; tel.: +370 624 95059, +370 68333582;

36.2. Gitas Korsakas, Clarinet and Saxophone Teacher (Methodologist), Biržai Vladas Jakubėnas Art School; e-mail: gitas.korsakas@gmail.com; tel.: +370 693 94524.

37. The regulations and any amendments thereto are approved by an order of the School Director and published at <https://www.muzikosmokykla.puslapiai.lt>. Registered participants are informed of any amendments via the e-mail addresses of their representatives. Amendments to essential conditions that disadvantage participants shall not apply retroactively after the start of registration; in the event of objective obstacles, participants shall be given the option to withdraw from the competition and receive a refund of the fee.

38. The competition organizers are not liable for incorrect or incomplete data (e.g., incorrectly stated first name, surname, school name, or contact details) provided by participants or their representing institutions in registration forms, applications, or payment documents. Such inaccuracies can lead to the incorrect issuance of certificates, diplomas, or other documents.
