



5th International Guitar Competition

IDA PRESTI

March, 6th – 8th, 2026.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

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International guitar competition, further named as Competition, is a three-day event intended for everyone, especially guitar students and young musicians.

Any natural person can participate in the Competition as a guitar soloist.

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The competition will begin on Friday, 6th and end on Sunday, 8th of March 2026 with the awards ceremony.

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The order in which competitors will perform is alphabetical, starting with a letter determined by a draw. The exact time of the Competition and the schedule for each category will be announced at least 8 days before the Competition starts, on the website: www.guitarprestisamobor.com.

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The organizer of the Competition keeps the right to record and publish (audio, video) all the activities of the Competition. By submitting their own application, participants accept the above mentioned provision, disown their rights, waive the authorship and agree with the public nature of this Competition.

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Participants of the Competition will bear the costs of travelling and accommodation in Samobor on their own, as well as the costs of renting the instruments.

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By submitting their application, participants accept terms and rules of the Competition.

PROPOSITIONS

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The Competition is international and public.



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The competition can be applied by:

- pupils and students of music schools
- attendees of non-institutional music education
- university students
- independent performers
- professional guitarists

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Registered competitors compete in 3 categories classified according to the year of birth:

JUNIOR up to 14 yrs old (born on April 1st 2011. or after)

SENIOR up to 18 yrs old (born on April 1st 2011. or after)

PROFESSIONAL no age limit

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PROGRAM

JUNIOR

- up to 15 minutes of performance
- the program must include at least two different musical periods and
- a piece composed by a Croatian composer (or a composer from the competitor's native country)

SENIOR

- up to 20 minutes of performance
- the program must include at least two different musical periods
- one of which has to be from the classical or romantic period

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PROFESSIONAL

1st round - online

- submission of a video recording of 6–10 minutes in length
- a free-choice program that may later be repeated in the subsequent stages
- the recording must be made in a single take
- the recording or the link to the recording should be sent to info.guitarprestisamobor@gmail.com

2nd round – live in Samobor

- maximum duration 15 minutes
- free program which must include a composition by Ida Presti

3rd round – FINALE

- maximum duration 25 minutes
- a free-choice program that must include at least one work from the Classical or Romantic period.
- Compositions from the 2nd round can not be repeated in the 3rd round

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It is allowed to play single movements from pieces in cyclic forms.

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Changes to applied program are not allowed.

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Determined maximum duration involves the entire performance of a competitor.

In case of exceeding maximum duration of the performance, the Jury has the right to interrupt the performance.

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Competitors perform all pieces by heart.

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- ONLINE applications for the JUNIOR and SENIOR categories are open from January 1 to February 15, 2026.

- ONLINE applications for the PROFESSIONAL category, as well as video submission, are open from January 1 to February 1, 2026.

- After advancing to the second round, Professional category competitors are required to confirm their participation in Samobor by email no later than February 15, 2026

JURY, POINTS AND REWARDS

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Competitors are evaluated by an expert jury appointed by the organizer of the Competition.

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A member of the jury does not evaluate the candidate who is his student, nor the candidate with whom he is related.

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Jury members evaluate the competitors with a score scale of 50 to 100.

Success of every competitor is determined by adding points from the evaluation form of each member of the jury and by dividing the sum with the total number of members of the jury that evaluated the competitor.

Before adding, lowest and highest grades are brought to 3 points from the next highest, or lowest grade. The middle (final) grade consists of the whole number with the possible first two decimal numbers behind the comma, without rounding.

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Competitors' rating is based on the evaluation of the following elements:

- technical skills
- rhythmical punctuality
- accuracy of performance
- sound quality
- harmonic and rhythmic compliance
- phrasing, respect of the style period, musicality
- artistic impression – a personal approach to the performance

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Competitors of Junior and Senior categories, win awards depending on the number of earned points:

1st Award: 95 to 100 points

2nd Award: 89 to 94 points

3rd Award: 80 to 88 points

According to the decision of the jury and the number of points won, it is possible to give more first, second and third awards.

First three contestants – among the recipients of the 1st award (95–100 points), those with the highest scores are awarded first, second, and third place prizes.

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Competitors in the 1st round of the Professional category are evaluated with a score scale of 50 to 100. All competitors who score more than 90 points advance to the second round. In the second round competitors are again awarded points ranging from 50 to 100, and the top five competitors with the highest total score advance to the Final. The minimum sum of points required to advance to the Final round is 95 and it is possible that there will be fewer than 5 contestants in the Final round.

Three prizes are awarded in the Final round.

Members of the jury evaluate each competitor with a number 1 to maximum 5 (depending on the number of contestants. Number 1 is given to the contestant they consider the best.

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In case two contestants have the same final score, contestants will split the prize.

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If the jury decides a prize cannot be awarded, the organizer reserves the right not to award the prize.

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After the end of each category, results will be published on the notice board and website:

www.guitarprestisamobor.com.

Points will not be published, but the jury is obligated to show the points to the competitors.

The decisions of the jury are final, irrevocable and there is no right to appeal against them.

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Every competitor wins a diploma, stating their award.

Competitors in each category who win the first three places within the first award in their category (95-100 points), also win prizes:



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a) JUNIOR

1st place – a guitar from our sponsors (€900), a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a gift voucher for a masterclass at Youngmasters (€200), and a sponsor package.

2nd place – a gift voucher for a masterclass at Youngmasters (€150) and a sponsor package.

3rd place – a gift voucher for a masterclass at Youngmasters (€100) and a sponsor package.

b) SENIOR

1st place – a guitar from our sponsors (€1200), a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a recital at the Sonus Križevci Festival 2027., participation fee for the VelEspanña- International Classical Guitar Competition (Slovenia), a sponsor package

2nd place – a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a gift voucher for a masterclass at Youngmasters (€250), and a sponsor package

3rd place – a gift voucher for a masterclass at Youngmasters (€200) and a sponsor package

c) PROFESSIONAL

1st place – €2000, **recital** in France, a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a sponsor package

2nd place – €1000, **recital** at Youngmasters Festival (Samobor, 2026.), a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a sponsor package

3rd place – €500, a gift voucher for a guitar from one of our luthiers (20% of the total value), a sponsor package

SPECIAL PRIZES:

Competitors from all categories are eligible for these prizes

❖ Audience award - recital at Youngmasters Festival (Samobor, 2027.), participation fee for the International Guitar Competition in Velenje (Slovenia)

❖ Award for the best performance of a piece by IDA PRESTI - Sheet music edition of the most recently published composition by Ida Presti, and a performance at the closing ceremony

❖ Award for the best performance of a piece by CROATIAN COMPOSER - Performance at the closing ceremony, a commission of a new work dedicated to the award winner, and the world premiere of the work at IGCIP 2028

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Prize winning competitors from each category are required to attend the Award Ceremony. In case of absence, the competitors lose the right to the prize.

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APPLICATIONS

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Candidates apply for the Competition via ONLINE application on the website www.guitarprestisamobor.com. The **deadline** for the registration is the February 15, 2026.

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On the day of the Competition, each candidate must sign up at the Info desk of the Competition, no later than 30 minutes before the start of the category in which one is performing.

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By signing up at the Info desk, and before joining the competition, the following documentation must be submitted:

- proofs of application and payment of fee
- ID card (with date of birth)
- written consent regarding protection of personal information

FEE

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The fee should be paid after concluding the online application, on the same day or on the following day:

JUNIOR: €60

SENIOR: €70

PROFESSIONAL: €90 (€30 upon application, and €60 after advancing to the second round)

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The fee must be paid on the account of Mali muzički atelje:

payments from Croatia:

IBAN: HR4323600001102633904, with the indication: *For competition Ida Presti*

payments from abroad:

IBAN: HR4323600001102633904 SWIFT: ZBAHR2X, with the indication: *For competition Ida Presti*

In Samobor, January 1st, 2026

