

STRINGS

Adjudicator: Kay Tucker AGSM,ARCM,LTCL,PGCA,PGCE



Kay was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire and began studies on the cello at the age of 12, continuing studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Her portfolio career has combined teaching and adjudicating with performing as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. Since 1998, Kay has been in popular demand as an Adjudicator throughout the UK, having worked at well over 200 festivals including the National Festival of Music for Youth. 'Encouragement' is a key word in all aspects of Kay's work and she has great joy in working alongside musicians of all ages, particularly the very young. Kay's passion for teaching led her to develop an early years strings & general musicianship system known as 'Stringbabies'. Since its inception in 2004, 'Stringbabies' has become well established and accepted as a leading approach in strings teaching (surprisingly to all ages!) and is being delivered throughout the UK and abroad in individual teaching practices, schools and music services. In 2016, Musicbabies for Recorder was published, being the first adaptation of Stringbabies for a non-stringed instrument. Kay works in partnership with Victoria College Examinations in delivering a bespoke Stringbabies Award for beginner string players and also with Charanga, who are publishing the violin and cello Stringbabies books on their e-learning platform. In 2013 and 2014, Stringbabies was shortlisted for the Inaugural Rhinegold Music Teachers Awards for Excellence in music education. In 2014 Kay was also a finalist in the BBC Community Heroes Awards in Education in respect of her work in developing 'Stringbabies'. Over recent years, Kay worked as a consultant to Trinity Guildhall, selecting and co-selecting repertoire for graded exams and diplomas. Kay was a Trustee and member of the Executive council of the European String Teacher's Association (ESTA). In 2018 she was presented with the ESTA award for exceptional services, in recognition of her work in initiating the Post Graduate Certificate in string teaching accredited by Chichester University. In 2009, Kay co-founded Horsham Performers Platform and for 10 years served as Chair, continuing as Co-Chair from 2019. Kay became an Adjudicator Member of the British and International Federation of Festivals in 1997 and undertook the Post-graduate Certificate in Adjudication in 1999/2000.

Head of Section: Catherine Ward

The Gordon Cawthorne Memorial Trophy was awarded to Carina Vacarescu for the performer aged 14 years and under who makes the greatest impression on the adjudicator.

The Portsmouth Chorus Challenge Cup was awarded to Priscilla Ho for the best performance by a performer aged between 15 and 21 years in any class.

The Wendy Towell Cup was awarded to Carina Vacarescu for the most promising intermediate level cellist.

Sunday 22nd February

Menuhin Room, Central Library, Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

Finlay Robinson	Own choice of one piece or movement for bowed strings Pre-grade - Grade 1	Hon	Vincent Cup
Carina Vacarescu	Own choice of one piece or movement for bowed strings Grades 2-3	Hon	John Durrant Junior Cup
Isobel Robinson	Own choice of one piece or movement for bowed strings Grades 4-6	Hon	G W Wall Cup
Priscilla Ho	Own choice of one piece or movement for harps grade 6-8+	Hon	Marcus Cup
Priscilla Ho	Unaccompanied Solo Grade 6+	Ots	Evans Cup
Will Sharps	Concerto / Concertino post-Grade 8	Hon	Gary Cup
Ezella Whybrew	Recital Class Pre-grade - Grade 1	Hon	Frederick Alexander Cup
Edelyn Spina	Recital Class Grades 8-8+	Com	Warfield Beauchamp Cup
Katie Ho & Priscilla Ho	DUETS - Own choice of one or two pieces	Hon	Viva Chatterton-Allison Cup
Jenna Robinson	Solo Class - Open	Hon	K R Velde Cup
Linda Finch	Recital Class - Open	Hon	Warfield No.2 Cup

End of Strings Section

The Marking Category System

Dev	Developing	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry.
Prog	Progressing	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.
Mer	Merit	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability.
Com	Commended	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills.
Hon	Honours	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality.
Ots	Outstanding	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.
Exc	Exceptional	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.