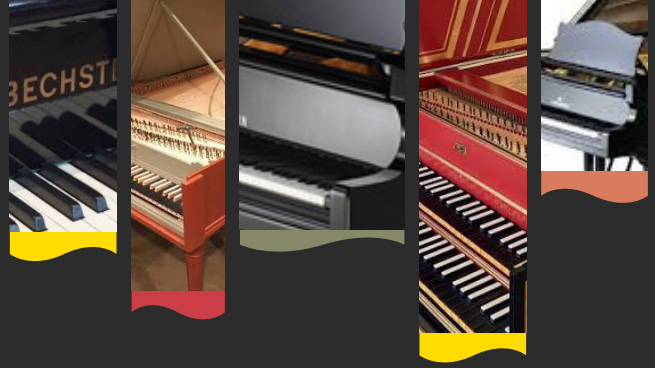

5th year of an international Bach competition for children and youth

The Bach Journey

22nd–25th October 2027

The year 2018 – 333 years since the birth of J. S. Bach – inspired us to establish the 'Dobřany Bach Academy' Endowment Fund. 'The Bach Journey' – International Bach Competition for Children and Young People is intended to be an impetus for young people to realize that Bach's music provides broad creative space to all those with the courage to immerse themselves in studying this musical beauty.

Grand Prize for the Overall Winner in the Piano Category – a New W. Hoffmann Upright Piano.

C. BECHSTEIN

ZÁKLADNÍ UMĚLECKÁ ŠKOLA Jeden svět hudby

C. BECHSTEIN

Member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation

A ONE-ROUND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION MEANT FOR PIANISTS AND HARPSICHORDISTS UP TO 21 YEARS OF AGE

The competition will be carried out in the promises of the J.S.Bach Music School in Dobřany (Stromořadí 439, 334 41 Dobřany)

COMPETITION CATEGORIES (as per age on 31 December 2027)

PIANO (NEW CATEGORY B2 – UP TO 21 YEARS OLD)

A1	up to 9 years old (inclusive)	time limit: 3–6 min.
A2	10–11 years old	time limit: 5–8 min.
A3	12–13 years old	time limit: 8–11 min.
A4	14–15 years old	time limit: 12–15 min.
A5	16–18 years old	time limit: 17–20 min.
B1	up to 18 years old (inclusive)	time limit: 22–25 min.
B2	19–21 years old	time limit: 25–30 min.

HARPSICHORD (FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE COMPETITION)

C1	up to 18 years old (inclusive)	time limit: 22–25 min.
C2	19–21 years old	time limit: 25–30 min.

Categories A1–A5 are intended for pupils receiving private tuition and pupils of elementary schools of arts. **Categories B1–B2** are intended for students of music grammar schools (15–18 years old), conservatoires and music academies. **Categories C1–C2** are intended for harpsichordists.

APPLICATIONS

It is possible to submit your applications until **30 September 2027** (inclusive).

COMPETITION FEE

Payment deadline: **30 September 2027**
Categories A1–A5: **CZK 1,000**
Categories B1–B2, C1–C2: **CZK 1,200**

Bank Transfer Details: Raiffeisen BANK
Account Number: **673077002/5500**,
IBAN: CZ8155000000000673077002, SWIFT: RZBCCZPP

Reference for the Recipient: First Name and Surname of the Contestant. **International Payment:** Euro/SEPA payment – cashless payment from abroad, the fees are shared. **A different form of payment** – cashless payment from abroad, the fees are payable by the Sender.
International competitors can pay the competition fee in cash on the spot.

PRIZES

Categories A1–A5:
a prize for every contestant

Categories B1–B2, C1–C2:
1st prize **CZK 4000** / 2nd prize **CZK 2500** / 3rd prize **CZK 1250**

ORGANIZER OF THE COMPETITION

The Dobřany Bach Academy Endowment Fund
in cooperation with the J. S. Bach Music School, Dobřany

COMPETITION PARTNERS

J. S. Bach Music School, Dobřany,
Contributory organisation C. Bechstein Europe, s.r.o. Hradec Králové

CONTACT

E-mail: **mail@bachacademy.eu**; Web: **www.bachacademy.eu**

JURY

Bernhard Klapprott *(Germany)* Harpsichordist, organist, conductor, University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar – Institute of Early Music; University of the Arts Bremen – Institute of Early Music;
Borbála Dobozy *(Hungary)* Concert harpsichordist, Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music Budapest;
Tomasz Ritter *(Poland)* Concert pianist, historical keyboard instrument performer, Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz – Historical Piano Class;
Ema Jedlička Gogova *(Macedonia, Czechia)* Concert pianist, J. S. Bach Music School, Dobřany, Brno Conservatory;
Anna Kašparová *(Czechia, Italy)* Concert pianist, organist, Giuseppe Tartini Conservatory of Music in Trieste;
Lukáš Klánský *(Czechia)* Concert pianist, Grammar School and Music School of the City of Prague, Prague Conservatory, Academy of Performing Arts in Prague;
Marek Čermák *(Czechia)* Conductor, harpsichordist, organist, Masaryk University in Brno – Academy of Early Music.

Grand Prize for the Overall Winner in the Piano Category – a New W. Hoffmann Upright Piano.

C. BECHSTEIN

HONORARY BOARD OF ARTISTS

Musicians who perform worldwide and are dedicated to J. S. Bach's music have decided to support our competition: **Ottavio Dantone**, **Borbála Dobozy**, **Christine Schornsheim**, **Andrea Marcon**, **Pierre Hantaï**, **Mahan Esfahani** (harpsichord); **Garrick Ohlsson**, **Piotr Anderszewski**, **Roman Rabinowich**, **Christopher Czaja Sager** (piano); **Mischa Maisky**, **Jiří Bárta** (cello); **Erich Bosgraaf** (flute); **Václav Luks** (harpsichord, conductor), **Catherine Mackintosh**, **Gil Shaham**, **Pavel Šporcl** (violin); **Petr Šefl** (harpsichordist, historical instruments restorer).

COMPETITION REPERTOIRE **The following applies to all competition categories:**

I. Compulsory Part of the Programme

1. Compulsory repertoire for the relevant category, as specified below.
2. One or more pieces by J. S. Bach or another Baroque composer (of the competitor's choice).

II. Optional Part of the Programme

3. One or more pieces from a different stylistic period of the international repertoire (of the competitor's choice).

PIANO

Category A1: up to 9 years old (inclusive) | 3–6 minutes

1. One or more pieces from the Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach (of the competitor's choice).

Category A2: 10–11 years old | 5–8 minutes

1. One or more pieces from the Little Preludes and Fughettas (of the competitor's choice).

Category A3: 12–13 years old | 8–11 minutes

1. One or more pieces from the Klavierbüchlein für Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (of the competitor's choice).

Category A4: 14–15 years old | 12–15 minutes

1. One or more pieces from the Two-Part Inventions, BWV 772–786, or the Three-Part Sinfonias, BWV 787–801 (of the competitor's choice).

Category A5: 16–18 years old | 17–20 minutes

1. At least two dances from the French Suites, BWV 812–817 (of the competitor's choice).

Category B1: up to 18 years old (inclusive) | 22–25 minutes

1. A prelude and fugue from Book I or II of The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846–893 (of the competitor's choice).

Category B2: 19–21 years old | 25–30 minutes

1. A toccata by J. S. Bach, BWV 910–916 (of the competitor's choice).

HARPSICHORD

Category C1: up to 18 years old (inclusive) | 22–25 minutes

1. A prelude and fugue from Book I or II of The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846–893 (of the competitor's choice).

Category C2: 19–21 years old | 25–30 minutes

1. A toccata by J. S. Bach, BWV 910–916 (of the competitor's choice).

In its assessment, the jury also takes into account the the composition of the competition programme, particularly the selection, stylistic authenticity and interpretation of works by J. S. Bach and other Baroque composers, the competitor's level of interpretative maturity, and the overall artistic impression of the programme.

COMPETITION RULES

- The entrant's age on **31 December 2027 determines their competition category**.
- **Playing from memory is not obligatory.**
- **The competitors may perform** one of the pieces by J. S. Bach **on the other instrument – pianists on the harpsichord and harpsichordists on the piano**. **Full terms and conditions of the competition are available at: www.bachacademy.eu.**

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