

XVI INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

“SAN VIGILIO IN...CANTO”

14–17 MAY 2026

In-person competition: registration deadline 27 April 2026 (auditions on 14, 15 and 16 May)

Online competition: registration deadline 13 April 2026

Award Ceremony
SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026

The Competition aims to stimulate interest in, practice of, and the dissemination of music among young people, helping to promote — through this annual event — the sharing and exchange of musical experiences developed within school, academic and associative contexts.

Mindful of the historical period we are living in and of the new sensibilities that arise from it, the Organising Association has designed a Call for Entries that allows for broad and stimulating participation, while continuing to guarantee seriousness and professionalism. Young talents will thus have the opportunity to challenge themselves, to grow both musically and personally through constructive exchange, going beyond the simple concept of “competition”.

Our “music festival” includes **in-person auditions for all sections and categories**. The in-person auditions will take place at **Sala Sisto V** (Via del Serafico, 1 – Rome) on **14, 15 and 16 May 2026**.

It is also possible to participate **online**, with a **separate ranking** from the in-person competition, for all sections and categories included in the Competition.

The **Award Ceremony** for all categories will take place on **Sunday 17 May 2026**, starting at **3:30 p.m.**, at the **Auditorium del Seraphicum** (Via del Serafico, 1 – Rome), under the patronage of **Roma Capitale – Municipio VIII**, and will be broadcast **live streaming**.

The Competition is held with the support of:



IN-PERSON AUDITION RULES

(registration deadline: 27 April 2026)

1) SECTIONS

The Competition is open to Primary Schools, 1st and 2nd Grade Secondary Schools, Music High Schools, Music Conservatories, Music Academies, Musical Cultural Associations, as well as students studying privately, divided into sections and categories as follows:

Soloist Section (all instruments, including classical singing)

- cat. A up to 8 years of age
- cat. A1 up to 11 years of age
- cat. A2 up to 14 years of age
- cat. A3 up to 16 years of age
- cat. A4 up to 18 years of age
- cat. A5 from 19 to 28 years of age

*Participants in the Soloists Section will be evaluated **by instrument** (pf, guitar, vl, etc.) and **by school level** (e.g. conservatory, music high school, secondary school, etc.).*

Ensemble Music Section (Music-oriented schools and private music schools)

- cat. B duo of any instrument – primary school
- cat. B1 duo of any instrument – 1st grade secondary school
- cat. B2 duo of any instrument – 2nd grade secondary school
- cat. B3 duo of any instrument – from 19 to 28 years of age
- cat. B4 from 3 to 9 performers – 1st grade secondary school
- cat. B5 from 3 to 9 performers – music high schools, conservatories, musical associations

Orchestra Section

- cat. C1 1st grade secondary school with a music focus
- cat. C2 music high schools
- cat. C3 conservatories and musical associations

Where former students are included, the average age of the group will be taken into account.

Ensemble Music Section (Workshops with various ensembles – schools without a music focus)

- cat. D1 primary school
- cat. D2 1st grade secondary school
- cat. D3 2nd grade secondary school

Where former students are included, the average age of the group will be taken into account.

School Choral Groups Section

- cat. E nursery school
- cat. E1 primary school
- cat. E2 1st grade secondary school
- cat. E3 2nd grade secondary school

Association Choral Groups Section

- cat. E4 children's choirs
cat. E5 youth choirs

Modern Singing Section (soloist, singer-songwriters and groups)

- cat. F up to 11 years of age
cat. F1 up to 14 years of age
cat. F2 up to 18 years of age
cat. F3 over 18 and up to 28 years of age
cat. F4 duo (participants will be evaluated by age group in separate subcategories)
cat. F5 groups (participants will be evaluated by age group in separate subcategories)

In the case of groups, the average age of the participants will be calculated.

"Music in the Family" Section

This section is open to family groups (parents, children, siblings, grandparents) of any age and level, performing pieces from any musical genre. Subcategories will be defined according to musical genre and average age of the group, from duo formations onwards.

- cat. G1 duo
cat. G2 from 3 to 8 performers
cat. G3 9 or more performers

2) PERFORMANCE DURATION

The programme is free for all sections and includes the performance of one or more pieces, with a **maximum overall duration** as follows:

cat. A, A1, A2, B, F, F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, G1, G2	5 minutes
cat. A3, A4, B1, B2, B4	8 minutes
cat. A5, B3, B5, D1, D2, D3	10 minutes
cat. C1, C2, C3, E, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, G3	15 minutes

The Jury reserves the right to interrupt performances that exceed the indicated time limits.

Backing tracks are permitted **only** for the **Modern Singing** categories F, F1, F2, F3, F4, as well as for **drum, electric guitar and bass soloists**. Backing tracks must be sent by email **by 27 April 2026** to sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it, via **WeTransfer**.

3) ACCOMPANYING PIANIST

Competitors may participate in **more than one category**, paying the corresponding entry fee for each category.

Where required, participants must attend the Competition with their **own accompanying pianist**. If necessary, participants may make use of the **accompanying pianist provided by the Organisation**, upon explicit request, by sending a copy of the **score** no later than **13 April 2026** and paying an **additional fee of €40.00** by bank transfer.

Groups participating in the **Ensemble Music, Choral Groups** and **Orchestra** sections must submit a **single payment**.

4) ENTRY FEES

The entry fee, as a contribution towards organisational costs, is established as follows:

cat. A, A1, A2, A3, A4, F, F1, F2	€ 30,00 per partecipant
cat. A5, F3	€ 40,00 per partecipant
cat. B, B1, B2, B3, F4, G1	€ 20,00 per partecipant
cat. B4, B5, F5, G2	€ 15,00 per partecipant
cat. C1, C2, C3	€ 120,00 for groups of up to 20 participants (€ 7,00 for each additional member from the 21st onwards)
cat. D1, D2, D3, E, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, G3	€ 100,00 for groups of up to 20 participants (€ 7,00 for each additional member from the 21st onwards)

The entry fee must be paid by **bank transfer** to:

Associazione Culturale Sperimentiamo Arte Musica Teatro

BANCA CREDEM Ag. 3, RM

IBAN: IT 63 J030 3203 2030 1000 0004 371

Please specify in the **reason for payment**:

“XVI Music Competition ‘SAN VIGILIO IN...CANTO’”, the section and category, the name and surname of the candidate or school, specifying whether participation is in person or online.

The Association issues a **tax receipt**. If an **electronic invoice** is requested, the entry fee will be increased by the applicable **VAT**.

The entry fee will be refunded **only in the event of cancellation of the Competition**.

5) APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Registration for the Competition is carried out **exclusively** by completing, in all its parts, the **online application form** available on the official website www.sanvigilioincanto.it

Participation implies that the applicant has **fully read** the Competition Regulations and **unconditionally accepts** all articles contained therein.

Registration for **in-person participation** must be submitted **by 27 April 2026**.

Any applications received after the deadline may be accepted **solely at the discretion of the Artistic Director** of the Association.

6) AUDITIONS

The **Audition Schedule** will be published on the official website www.sanvigilioincanto.it **one week prior** to the start of the Competition.

All participants must provide their **own music stand** and any other equipment required for their performance.

The Association will provide: a **grand piano**, a **digital piano**, a **drum kit**, **congas**, **two music stands**, a **sound amplification system**. For any additional percussion instruments (marimba, xylophone, etc.), participants must contact the Organisation **by March 2026**.

During the Competition, it is **mandatory** to submit **three paper copies** of the piece being performed.



7) AWARD CRITERIA

For both participation modes (**in person and online**), the following prizes will be awarded for each section and category: **Absolute First Prize, First Prize, Second Prize, Third Prize, Certificate of Merit, Special Prizes**. The Absolute First Prize will be awarded to the participant achieving the highest score between 98 and 100 points out of 100.

In the event of a tie, the prize will be **shared** among the participants.

Each participant (soloist or group) will be awarded a **score out of 100 points** and the corresponding prize as follows:

98–100 points	Absolute First Prize
95–97 points	First Prize
90–94 points	Second Prize
85–89 points	Third Prize
80–84 points	Certificate of Merit

8) PRIZES – In-person competition

Absolute First Prize – by Category

cat. A, A1, A2, A3, A4	€ 80.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. A5, B, B1, B2, B3, G1	€ 120.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. B4, B5, G2	€ 150.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. C1, C2, C3	€ 300.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. D1, D2, D3	€ 250.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. E, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5	€250.00 voucher, Diploma and trophy
cat. F, F1, F2	Recording of a track in a professional recording studio
cat. F3, F4, F5	Production of an original track or recording of a track in a professional recording studio

For All Sections

First Prize	First Prize Diploma and trophy
Second Prize	Second Prize Diploma
Third Prize	Third Prize Diploma
Certificate of Merit	Certificate of Merit

Special Jury Prize “San Vigilio In...Canto”

At its sole discretion, the Jury may award: a **scholarship of € 250.00** to the most deserving soloist among all categories, a **scholarship of € 500.00** to a vocal or instrumental group for special merit. All amounts are **gross of any applicable tax** in force at the date of issue.

Upon request, after the Award Ceremony, it will be possible to receive **personalised diplomas** for orchestras and choirs, including the name of each individual member, ensemble and result, by writing to sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it





Other Special Prizes

The Jury may award Special Prize diplomas and honourable mentions in all categories for particular merit.

Special Prize “Rotary Club Roma Eur”

Awarded to the best orchestra.

Special Prize “S. Korn”

Awarded to the choir delivering the best performance of a piece selected from the repertoire written by the renowned composer Sebastian Korn.

Special Prize “Giovanbattista Cutolo”

Awarded to the best soloist or group in the wind section.

Special Prize for Musical Creativity

Awarded to the school group or class that, through instrumental and/or choral ensemble music, has distinguished itself for creativity and originality of performance. Evaluation criteria will also be based on an inclusive approach, open to experimentation and innovation.

Intercultural Award

Special mention awarded to the ensemble that, within its programme, most effectively promotes the integration of different cultures.

A **plaque** will also be awarded to the **school** participating with the highest number of students, and a **Certificate of Merit** to the **teacher** whose students have received the highest number of awards.

All candidates will receive a **Certificate of Participation**.

During the **Award Ceremony on 17 May 2026 in Rome**, diplomas will be presented and, at the Jury’s discretion, some of the **First Prize** and **Absolute First Prize** winners from the various sections may be invited to perform.

The **Associazione Culturale Sperimentiamo Arte Musica Teatro** will also offer the **Absolute First Prize winners** of the various categories the opportunity to participate in major events such as “**Giugno di San Vigilio**” (annual event) and the “**Talenti in Musica**” concert series.

9) PROMOTION AND DISSEMINATION

The Association’s Press Office will ensure visibility for the winners of the Competition through the publication of **press releases** on major communication platforms, including **web portals, blogs and social networks**.

The Award Ceremony will take place **in person** and will be **broadcast live via streaming**.

Performances by prize winners (**First Prize and Absolute First Prize**) will also be published on the Association’s **official communication channels**.



10) JURY AND RESULTS

The Jury will be composed of **qualified musicians, concert performers and experts in music education, composition and choral conducting** at national and international level.

Should any Jury member have had **teaching or educational contact** with a participant, they must **abstain from voting**.

The Jury reserves the right **not to award prizes** should the required score not be achieved. The Jury's decision is **final and not subject to appeal**.

Competition results, including **scores**, will be published on the official Competition website **www.sanvigilioincanto.it** after the Award Ceremony.

The **ranking list**, without scores but indicating the prize awarded, will be published on the **morning of 17 May**.

Participants selected to perform during the Award Ceremony will be notified **by phone or email** by the evening of **16 May**.

Results for the **online competition** will be published by **Sunday 17 May 2026**.

ONLINE COMPETITION REGULATIONS

(registration deadline: 13 april 2026)

Participants entering the Competition in **online mode** may refer to **Articles 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 and 10** of these Regulations regarding **categories, entry fees and award criteria**.

Participants in the in-person and online competitions will be included in separate ranking lists.

11) APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Registration for the online competition is carried out exclusively by completing, in all its parts, the **online application form** available on the official website **www.sanvigilioincanto.it**

A **single video file** of the performance must be sent to **sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it** via WeTransfer.

The video must **continuously frame the performer and the instrument** throughout the entire performance. The recording must be made **after the publication of this Call for Entries**.

Online applications must be submitted **by 13 April 2026**.

Any applications received after the deadline may be accepted **solely at the discretion of the Artistic Director** of the Association.

12) PRIZES – Online competition

For All Sections

Absolute First Prize	Absolute First Prize Diploma
First Prize	First Prize Diploma
Second Prize	Second Prize Diploma
Third Prize	Third Prize Diploma
Certificate of Merit	Certificate of Merit

Special Jury Prize “San Vigilio In...Canto”

At its sole discretion, the Jury may award: a **scholarship of € 100.00** to the most deserving soloist among all categories, a **scholarship of € 250.00** to a vocal or instrumental group for special merit. All amounts are **gross of any applicable tax** in force at the date of issue.

Upon request, after the Award Ceremony, it will be possible to receive **personalised diplomas** for orchestras and choirs, including the name of each individual member, ensemble and result, by writing to sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it

Other Special Prizes

The Jury may award Special Prize diplomas and honourable mentions in all categories for particular merit.

Special Prize for Musical Creativity

Awarded to the school group or class that, through instrumental and/or choral ensemble music, has distinguished itself for creativity and originality of performance. Evaluation criteria will also be based on an inclusive approach, open to experimentation and innovation.

Intercultural Award

Special mention awarded to the ensemble that, within its programme, most effectively promotes the integration of different cultures.

The **Associazione Culturale Sperimentiamo Arte Musica Teatro** will also offer the **Absolute First Prize winners** of the various categories the opportunity to participate in major events such as “**Giugno di San Vigilio**” (annual event) and the “**Talenti in Musica**” concert series.

13) INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the Organisational Secretariat of the Associazione Culturale Sperimentiamo Arte Musica Teatro by phone at **+39 333 408 0635**, Monday to Friday from **11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**, or by email at sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it.

14) FINAL CONDITIONS

The Organisation reserves the right to **amend these Regulations**, to **limit the acceptance of applications** should their number prevent the proper management of the Competition, and to **cancel the Competition** if the minimum number of participants is not reached. In such cases, all fees paid will be **refunded**.

Participation in the Competition implies **unconditional acceptance** of these Regulations, consent to the **publication of photographs and video recordings** of participants, and consent to the **processing of personal data** in compliance with current legislation. No filming, recording or photography during the Competition is permitted without **explicit authorisation** from the Association.

For any dispute, the **Court of Rome** shall have jurisdiction.

www.sanvigilioincanto.it – sanvigilioincanto@sperimentiamo.it

