

PROPIANO

CARIBBEAN



Michael
Haentjes

COMPETITION RULES

PROPIANO CARIBE



RULES OF CONTEST

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The European Union in the Dominican Republic, in collaboration with the Fundación Sinfonía and the support of Mr Michael Haentjes, is organizing the first regional piano competition, with the aim of promoting the talent and creativity of young piano musicians with promising careers. The contest aims to foster cultural exchange in the Caribbean region and allow the musicians to demonstrate their talent before an international jury.

Propiano began in the Dominican Republic in 2022 as a national event, to encourage the study of piano and its practice in young musicians. In 2023, 36 participants from different parts of the country were selected, aged 9-22. The jury was composed of Bulgarian pianist Victoria Vassilenko, the music industry specialist and main sponsor of the prize, Michael Haentjes, and the Dominican classical pianist and head of the National Youth Symphonic Orchestra, Laura Pimentel.

The first edition of ProPiano Caribe will be open to candidates from the following Caribbean countries:

Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Bonaire, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, French Guyana, Haiti, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, Saba, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Bartolomé, Saint Eustatius, Saint Martin, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

The president of the Caribbean jury will select two finalists, who will travel to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, for the final round before a jury of international experts, as well as the closing concert, to take place on 14 March 2024. The third finalist will be the top winner of the Dominican Republic 2024 ProPiano prize and will participate in the final round together with the two other selected finalists

REGISTRATION

Young piano students and pianists aged 18 to 22 born between March 14, 2001 and March 14, 2005 in the Caribbean countries mentioned above may participate.

Interested parties must complete the **participation request form** on the website www.propiano.do/, and attach the following documents:

1. Scanned copy of personal identification document or birth certificate.
2. A video interpreting three of the works in the repertoire chosen for the competition: the barroca work, sonata rapid movement and one free piece.

Recording requirements

1. The recording space should comply with the following:
 - a. Minimum background noise, good light and, if possible, single color background, preferably a light color
2. Semi-formal attirement
3. Technical requirements:
 - a. Place the telephone or camera on a stable surface.
 - b. Record on **horizontal** format.
 - c. Position the camera on the right hand profile of the participant.
 - d. The video must show the following:
 - i. Participant's technique and execution of the instrument.
 - ii. Clear visual of the keyboard, hands and feet for pedal handling.
 - e. Please use an acoustic piano, as far as possible.
 - f. At the beginning of the video, the applicant shall state
 - i. Name
 - ii. Age
 - iii. Place of birth

Works must be recorded without editing, from start to finish.

The request to participate is free of charge. The call for applications is open from Monday December 1st, 2023 at 8: 00 a.m. until Wednesday 31 January 2024 at 11: 59 p.m (time Dominican Republic). Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. No exceptions will be made.

SHORTLIST

On Monday February 5 2024 the selection of the two finalists will be announced by email. All travel costs will be covered by the 2024 Propiano Caribe.

The finalists must reply by accepting the invitation within three days of receiving the notification email. If a finalist is unable to attend, he will not be considered to receive the prize. In this case, the jury will select another finalist for replacement.

CONTEST

The competition will be held on 13 and 14 March 2024 at the Palace of Fine Arts in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Each finalist will interpret its selected repertoire for the jury in accordance with the guidelines of the Caribbean Owner.

REPERTOIRE

A work by J.S. Bach to choose between *Preludios and Fugas, Suites, Toccatas, Partitas (only two of*

the main dances, if you submit a Suite or Partita)

A rapid movement of Sonata from the classical, Roman or Siglo XX period

A virtuosism study (Chopin, Liszt, Rachmaninov, or similar)

A free work *

A work of a composer in the candidate's country

* IMPORTANT NOTE: This free work can be selected from any genus (Classic, folkloric, jazz, popular, own composition, etc.) corresponding to the level.

AWARD OF THE PRIZES

The award ceremony will take place on 14 March 2024, at 6: 00 p.m. in the Maximum Avilés Blonda Room of the Palace of Fine Arts, followed by the winner and the 2024 Caribbean Owner finalists.

AWARDS

A single prize of EUR 1,500 will be awarded to the winner of Propiano 2024.

JURY

The prizes will be awarded by an expert jury composed of:

- **Dmytro Choni**, *President of the jury*

Multi-award-winning Ukrainian pianist. Bronze winner at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in June 2022 and First prize and Gold Medal winner at the Paloma O'Shea International Piano Competition in Santander (2019). He won hearts and accolades with compelling, colorful musicality that is strengthened by a genuine and immediately captivating stage presence.

- **Vassilenko victoria**

Bulgarian pianist. He has offered soonist concerts with orchestras such as the Royal Symphony Orchestra of Liverpool, Brussels Chamber Orchestra, etc.

TIMETABLE

Wednesday, 22 November 2023 – Opening of the call.

Wednesday, 31 January 2024 – Final date to submit the **participation request form** together with video and documents.

Friday, 5 February 2024 – Please send the invitation letters to the finalists selected by the chair of Jury Xxxxxxx Xxxxxxx to take part in Owner Caribbean 2024.

Wednesday, 13 March 2024 – Competition in the Maximum Avilés Blonda Room of the Palace of Fine Arts.

Thursday, 14 March 2024 – Ceremony of awards and Closing concert at the Maximum Avilés Blonda Room of the Palace of Fine Arts.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- By submitting the request to participate form, the candidate accepts the rules and conditions laid down by the organisers of the 2024 Propiano prize.
- They will not be considered as applications if they are not accompanied by the required documentation or those delivered outside the deadline announced.
- The winners of the 2024 Propiano prize will not be able to apply again in subsequent editions of the prize.
- Candidates will have the opportunity to test in the piano of competition, according to the timetable agreed with the general coordination of Propiano 2024.
- The expert jury reserves the right to hear all or part of each participant and its failure shall be unappealable. It shall also have the power to disqualify any candidate who is guilty of improper conduct.
- Any member of the jury who has family, educational or professional relationships with a participant must make them known in advance and abstain from voting for that participant.
- The prize for the competition will be indivisible, so the jury will choose only one winner from Propiano Caribe 2024.
- The organisers of the 2024 Propiano Caribe reserve the right to authorise the recording and retransmission of the tests in the competition, without candidates being able to claim any fee or veto them.
- The organisers of the 2024 Propiano Caribe prize shall resolve any situation not covered by these rules.