

# INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR VIOLINISTS

## GIUSEPPE FIORINI VIOLIN PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

Final concert within “Corti, Chiese e Cortili” Festival (Italy)

### 1st Edition – 2026

The Fondazione Rocca dei Bentivoglio (Italy) invites young violinists worldwide to apply for the first edition of the Giuseppe Fiorini Violin Performance Competition.

The competition takes place within the 40th edition of the music festival “Corti, Chiese e Cortili”, a long-standing summer festival presenting classical, sacred, jazz and folk concerts in historic venues across the Bologna area.

Selected semifinalists will perform live at Rocca dei Bentivoglio in Valsamoggia (Bologna), and the three finalists will perform in a public concert within the Corti, Chiese e Cortili Festival on 21 June 2026.

**The jury will be chaired by the internationally renowned violinist Laura Marzadori**, concertmaster of the orchestra of Teatro alla Scala in Milan.

The competition is dedicated to Giuseppe Fiorini (1861–1934), the renowned luthier born in Bazzano (today part of Valsamoggia), whose work played a fundamental role in the revival of Italian violin making and in preserving the Stradivari heritage.

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## AT A GLANCE

**Location: Rocca dei Bentivoglio – Valsamoggia (Bologna), Italy**

**Semifinal: 20 June 2026 - Final concert: 21 June 2026**

**Application deadline: 13 May 2026 – 23:59 CET**

**Application fee: none**

**Travel and accommodation: at participants' expense**

**Age limit: 18–35 years**

**Jury president: Laura Marzadori**

**Preliminary selection: video submission**

## Repertoire requirements:

### Preliminary round

- one Caprice from the 24 Caprices for Solo Violin Op. 1 by Niccolò Paganini

### Semifinal

- solo violin program (max. 20 minutes, free repertoire)

### Final

- solo violin program (max. 20 minutes, free repertoire)

Maximum number of semifinalists: 8

Finalists: 3

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## ELIGIBILITY

The call is open to **Italian and international violinists who were born on or after 1 January 1991 and who will be at least 18 years old on 20 June 2026.**

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## SELECTION PROCESS

### Preliminary Round (Video)

Applicants must submit a **public YouTube link** including a performance of:

- one Caprice from the 24 Caprices for Solo Violin Op. 1 by Niccolò Paganini

The performance must be recorded in a single uninterrupted take.

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### Semifinal

Up to 8 candidates will be invited to perform live.

Date: 20 June 2026

Location: Rocca dei Bentivoglio – Sala dei Giganti, Valsamoggia (Bologna), Italy

Each candidate will perform:

- a solo violin program (maximum duration 20 minutes, free repertoire)

Candidates must provide one printed copy of the scores for the jury.

At the end of the semifinal round the three finalists will be announced.

The jury's decision is final.

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## **Final Concert**

Date: 21 June 2026 – 21:00

Location: Courtyard of Rocca dei Bentivoglio, Valsamoggia (Bologna), Italy

The final round will take place as a public concert within the Corti, Chiese e Cortili Festival.

Each finalist will perform:

- a solo violin program (maximum duration 20 minutes, free repertoire)

Programs may include works already performed in previous rounds.

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## **JURY**

### **Laura Marzadori – violinist (President)**

Enrico Bernardi – Artistic Director, Corti Chiese e Cortili

Teresio Testa – Founder, Corti Chiese e Cortili

Tommaso Ussardi – Artistic and Music Director, Orchestra Senzaspine

Luca Baccolini – journalist (*La Repubblica*, *Classic Voice*)

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## **PRIZES**

1st Prize: €1,000 (gross)

2nd Prize: €500 (gross)

3rd Prize: €250 (gross)

The 1st Prize winner will be invited to perform:

- in the 2027 edition of Corti, Chiese e Cortili Festival
- in the 2027 concert season of Orchestra Senzaspine (Bologna)

All semifinalists will receive a certificate of participation.

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## RIGHTS

Audio and video recordings of the performances may be made and used by the organizers for documentation and promotional purposes.

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## HOW TO APPLY

Applications must include:

- copy of passport or ID
- short biography or CV
- public YouTube link with the Paganini Caprice

Applications must be submitted via the online [form](#)

For further information:

[cortichiesecortili@roccadeibentivoglio.it](mailto:cortichiesecortili@roccadeibentivoglio.it)

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