

XVII^e Concours Lyrique International “Bell’Arte”

BRAINE L'ALLEUD, BELGIUM – 1-3 Mai 2026

Bell’Arte aisbl

Director: Mrs. Hilde Delle-Vigne

Committee of consultants: Mr. Nelson Delle-Vigne Fabbri - Mr. Sem Cerritelli - Mr. Heejung Seo

The general philosophy of the Fondation Bell’Arte is to support promising singers from around the world, offering them the opportunity to showcase their talents and set them on the path of a future career. The competition, part of the Festival Lyrique du Brabant Wallon, can be combined with LyricA Braine-L’Alleud, master classes taught by professional singers, February 21-25, 2026.

RULES

1) ADMISSION:

The Competition is open to singers in all voice categories and of all nationalities; minimum age is 16 years.

(All ages are determined as of April 1, 2026.

Singers may enter this competition in one of the three categories:

A) Category “Grands Amateurs”: open to singers **with no professional (conservatory or equivalent level) voice studies**, minimum age: 24 years on April 1st, 2026.

B) Category “Young singers”: open to singers who didn’t accomplish 24 years, on April 1st, 2026; accessible from 16 years on.

C) Category “Professionals”: open to singers, with professional education in progress or finished (Conservatory, Musikhochschule, University...) -, from 24 to 40 years old, on April 1st, 2026.

2) APPLICATION:

Candidates must submit the documents by email or postmarked by **APRIL 1 midnight, 2026** at the latest to the Competition Secretariat. Submitted materials will not be returned. *Scores must be sent even if you didn’t apply for a pianist*

Email: foundationbellarte@gmail.com

Priority post mail: **Bell’Arte aisbl, 39bis, chaussée d’Alsemberg-1420 Braine-L’Alleud, Belgium**

The following documents have to be submitted:

- The application form fully completed (CAPITAL Letters if handwritten!)
- On a separated sheet: the **detailed** program PER ROUND, **clearly indicating:**
A) title/aria, B) character, C) opera/oratorio, D) composer, respecting the conditions as detailed here under.
- No modification to this program will **be allowed after application deadline**.
- **Scores** (PDF) at application by email and post mailed together with the application, even if you didn’t request a pianist.
- 2 Pictures (headshot-passport size) **AND**
- Copy of the ID card or passport
- Photo suitable for promotional purposes – free of all rights
- Professional biography in English or French.
- Copy of the proof of payment: **admission fee of 80 €** (not refundable).
- The candidates can also apply for a pianist from the competition. (50 €)
- For “Grands Amateurs”: proof of current profession and professional bio are requested.

Only a complete application will be considered.

3) PROGRAM: Maximum duration: 15 min. per round (10 min for Grands Amateurs)

- a) Category “Grands Amateurs”:- 1 Oratorio and 1 Opera Aria, or 2 Opera Arias
- 1 Art Song*
- b) Category “Young Singers”:- 1 Oratorio and 1 Opera Aria, or 2 Opera Arias
in 2 different languages and by 2 different composers
- 2 Art Songs* in 2 different languages and by 2 different composers
- c) Category “Professionals”:- 4 Opera Arias or 1 Oratorio and 3 Opera Arias
in 2 different languages and by 2 different composers.
- 2 Art Songs* in 2 different languages and by 2 different composers
Minimum 3 different languages in total

All works must be performed by memory and in the original language. Score can be used for the Oratorio - Tone transpositions are not allowed for the Opera Aria.

* Definition of Art Song: Lied, mélodie or classical art song by a serious composer (17th-21st century).

It excludes folklore, popular or variety music.

4) COMPETITION ROUNDS:

-For all the categories, 2 rounds will take place to select the award winners.

* **Eliminatory round:** Live performance on **May 2**

* **Final round:** Live performance on **May 3**

PROGRAM:

- **Eliminatory round May 2:**

* For Grands Amateurs and Young Singers, the candidate selects 1 aria or oratorio; + 1 art song

* Professionals: the candidate selects 1 aria and oratorio, or 2 arias; + 1 art song.

Additional condition for Young Singers and Professionals: 2 different languages and 2 different composers.

- **Final round May 3:**

Pieces from the proposed program **except those performed in the previous rounds**.

* “Grands Amateurs”: 2 works (1 art song repeated from 2nd round)

* “Young Singers”: 2 works

* “Professionals”: 3 works

The eliminatory and final round of the competition will take place at the Académie de Musique de Braine l’Alleud, rue du Château 49, 1420 Braine l’Alleud-Belgium.

The draw of the order will take place on May 1, before the rehearsals. All candidates must be present or represented. Rehearsal with the pianist in the concert hall on Friday, May 1, in the afternoon. Candidates can ask for a pianist from the competition (cost: 50 €). The jury is composed by professional singers, agents and representatives of festivals.

The winner of each category will be announced after the final round.

5) AWARDS:

A Participation Certificate will be presented to all candidates.

Category “Grands Amateurs”:

The Winner: 100 €+ free participation in LyricA Braine l’Alleud 2027

Participation in a concert for the Winner in Braine l’Alleud

- The 2nd and 3rd Prize: package of CD’s

Category “Young Singers”:- The Winner will be awarded

- 200 €

- Part of a concert in Braine l’Alleud, by Bell’Arte aisbl

- Free participation in LyricA Braine l’Alleud 2027

- The 2nd and 3rd Prize: package of CD’s

Category “Professional”:- The Winner will be awarded

- 500 €

- Part of a concert in Braine l’Alleud, by Bell’Arte aisbl

- Free participation in LyricA Braine l’Alleud 2027

- The 2nd prize: 250 €

- The 3rd Prize: 150 €

- ALL CATEGORIES: *Prix du Public*: during the final round of the competition, the audience will be invited to vote for its candidate. The selected candidate will receive the *Prix du Public*: 150 €.

None of the awards, except the financial ones, can be converted in money.

EXTRAS

Besides the above mentioned, a *special scholarship “Jodie Devos”* will be given to one of the participants, in order to honor the memory of the Belgian soprano. 2 more participants will receive a *scholarship from the Fondation Bell’Arte*. The 3 scholarships offer a free participation for LyricA Braine l’Alleud 2027.

6) ACCOMPANIST:

During the semi-final and final, the candidate may either perform with the pianist provided by the organization (50 €) or perform with his/her own pianist (at the candidate's expenses). In the latter case, the pianist has to complete his personal data's and sign the application form as well.

7) AWARD CEREMONY:

The **Award Ceremony** will take place on **May 3, after the jury's deliberation**. The Winners' presence is mandatory to receive the Prize of the competition.

8) PAYMENT MODALITIES:

The payment must be made by bank transfer to Fondation Bell'Arte aisbl

Bank: FORTIS – Braine-L'Alleud-Belgium - IBAN: BE81 0019 2719 8424 SWIFT: GEBABEBB.

Communication: Voice Competition+name of the candidate.

For payments from abroad, make sure that the amount is transferred free of all charges for the receiver; only the reception of the complete amount confirms the participation of the candidate.

9) MISCELLANEOUS:

- For the eliminatory and final round, **HOUSING**, in a shared room (3 or 4 persons), can be provided to a limited number of candidates living abroad. The price will be **90 € from Friday May 1st in the afternoon till Monday 4, 10 AM**. It doesn't include any meal. Payment is due on forehand. Ask for availability before applying.

- The voice competition committee is allowed at any time to modify organization elements and/or to decide about an eventual cancellation of the competition, if the circumstances or sanitary situation require it.

- Prizes are awarded (and may be withheld) at the jury's discretion. The chair's decision on all matters is final.

- All rounds of the competition may be recorded and videotaped by the organizers for subsequent broadcast, video and audio recording use.

- The candidate hereby grants the organizers the right to make use of their names, photography, voice and biographical materials as well as audio, video and DVD recordings on TV, radio and Internet for promotional and commercial release. All materials submitted including photos become the property of the Bell'Arte aisbl.

- The candidate is responsible for his/her travel, accommodation and daily expenses.

ONLY A COMPLETE APPLICATION WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION

Application form available on <http://www.bellarteinternationalmusicacademy.org/events>



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XVII^o CONCOURS LYRIQUE INTERNATIONAL "BELL'ARTE"

Discovering New Talents

BRaine-L'ALLEUD, BELGIUM

1-3 mai 2026

**Date limite d'inscription
1 avril 2026**

GRANDE SALLE de l'Académie de Musique

49, rue du Château 1420 Braine-L'Alleud

ENTREE LIBRE

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email: foundationbellarte@gmail.com

FESTIVAL LYRIQUE DU BRABANT WALLON

organisé par Bell'Arte aisbl

En collaboration avec la commune de Braine-l'Alleud et La province du Brabant Wallon

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