

The 13th Blue-T Piano Concerto Competition

International Concerto Competition with Orchestra

Dates

Session A

February 2, 2027 (Tue) – Performance (from approx. 16:00)

Orchestra Rehearsal: February 1, 2027 (Mon)

Session B

February 9 (Tue) & 10 (Wed), 2027 – Performances

Orchestra Rehearsals: February 1 (Mon), 2 (Tue), and 9 (Tue)

Purpose

This competition aims to evaluate pianists' solo performance skills and ensemble abilities required for piano concertos, while providing opportunities to deepen musical understanding through collaboration with orchestra.

It also offers valuable experience that may serve as a stepping stone toward international stages and competitions.

Jury

Session A

Natsumi Kuboyama

Matthew Law

Takashi Niigaki (also serving as conductor)

Session B

Takeo Tomouchi

Tomoaki Yoshida

Matthew Law

Conductor

Takashi Niigaki

(also serves as jury member for Session A)

Orchestra

Blue-T Piano Concerto Orchestra

Eligibility

Open to pianists of all ages, nationalities, and levels (professional, amateur, or student).

Application Period

April 1 – December 31, 2026

Application Method

Application by email.

Number of Participants

Approx. 30 participants

Evaluation

Participants will be evaluated by three jury members.

Total score: 300 points (100 points per judge).

Scores and comments will be provided individually.

Results will be announced at the final award ceremony.

Only prize winners will be published on the official website.

Awards**Session A**

1st Prize only

Session B

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Prizes

Prize winners will receive certificates and commemorative gifts.

In addition, an overall Grand Prize (combined Sessions A & B) and Orchestra Prize will be awarded at the ceremony on February 10.

Repertoire Rules

No set repertoire requirements.

However, due to orchestral and venue limitations, some works may not be accepted.

Repertoire approval will be determined after application.

(Example: Ravel concerto first movement is not accepted)

Performance duration will be calculated based on the PTNA Piano Encyclopedia.

Memorization is not required.

If a concerto includes a cadenza, it must be performed.

Choice of cadenza is free.

Participation Fee

See separate fee table.

Includes rehearsal and performance with orchestra.

Cancellation

Cancellation after application will incur 100% of the participation fee.

Rehearsal

A short rehearsal (approx. 5 minutes) will be provided on the day of the performance.

Participants attending orchestra rehearsal are exempt from this.

Piano

Steinway Model D

Venue

Yokohama Minato Mirai Hall (Small Hall)

(Minato Mirai Line – Minato Mirai Station)

Contact / Application**Blue-T Records Co., Ltd.**

6-17 Samon-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo SEN Yotsuya Building B1F, Japan

TEL: +81-3-5925-8338 Email: blue.t@outlook.jp

Website: <https://bluetrecords.com/>

Performance Fee

Fees (tax excluded)

5 min: ¥78,000	26 min: ¥148,000
8 min: ¥88,000	29 min: ¥158,000
11 min: ¥98,000	33 min: ¥168,000
14 min: ¥108,000	36 min: ¥178,000
17 min: ¥118,000	40 min: ¥188,000
20 min: ¥128,000	45 min: ¥198,000
23 min: ¥138,000	

Orchestra Rehearsal Fee

5 min: ¥43,000	26 min: ¥64,000
8 min: ¥46,000	29 min: ¥67,000
11 min: ¥49,000	33 min: ¥70,000
14 min: ¥52,000	36 min: ¥73,000
17 min: ¥55,000	40 min: ¥76,000
20 min: ¥58,000	45 min: ¥79,000
23 min: ¥61,000	

Optional Services (additional fees apply)

Page turner: ¥7,000

Recording & Video: ¥20,000

Photography: ¥12,000

Reception party: TBD

Overseas Administration Fee: ¥30,000

(¥10,000 for previous participants)

Additional Information

Schedule

Session A is primarily intended for international participants who may find multiple trips to Japan difficult.

Rehearsal: February 1

Performance: February 2 (from approx. 16:00)

Jury System

Different jury panels are assigned for Sessions A and B.

Awards are given separately for each session.

The overall Grand Prize winner will be selected by Matthew Law.

Orchestra Prize

Selected by orchestra members:

“Most Comfortable to Perform With” Prize

“Personal Favorite” Prize

“Outstanding Performance Presence” Prize

Recording / Video / Photos

Photos: Taken by a professional photographer and shared via Google Photos.

Audio: Recorded by Blue-T Records using multiple microphones.

Video: Multi-camera recording, edited and uploaded to YouTube.

MP4 / WAV / MP3 files available upon request.

Advance Payment

A deposit of approx. ¥50,000 will be requested.

International participants are required to pay the full amount upon application.

Orchestra Instrumentation (approx. 31 players)

Violin I × 4	Flute × 2
Violin II × 4	Oboe × 2
Viola × 3	Bassoon × 2
Cello × 3	Horn × 2
Double Bass × 2	Trumpet × 2
Percussion × 2	Trombone × 1
Cello × 3	
Double Bass × 2	

Pre-Rehearsal (participation is strongly recommended.)

For international participants: Pre-rehearsals will be held at Blue-T Studio (Yotsuya, Tokyo):

January 31 & February 8 Includes piano accompaniment and coaching. Fee: ¥10,000

Agreement

By applying via email, participants agree to:

1. Photography and sharing via Google Photos
2. Audio recording and editing by Blue-T Records
3. Video recording and YouTube (unlisted) publication
4. Display of participant name in video
5. Paid distribution of recordings to participants
6. Personal-use only (no commercial use or SNS posting)

Personal Information Policy

1. Personal data will be used for competition management, communication, and future announcements
2. Data may be shared with jury, conductor, orchestra, and staff as necessary
3. Disclosure may occur if required by law