



2027

International Competition for Young Musicians

OFFICIAL REGULATIONS • OFFICIAL ENGLISH EDITION

VIOLIN • CELLO • GUITAR • PIANO • HARP

Visé – Belgium

APPLICATION DEADLINE	PRESELECTION	SEMIFINAL	FINAL
15 DEC 2026	JAN 2027 Results by 15 Jan	22-25 FEB 2027	5-7 MAY 2027 Les Tréteaux Hall, Visé

THE NEXT GENERATION OF EXCELLENCE

Young talent. Timeless music. Eternal emotions.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

YSAÏE Rising Stars 2027 is a new international initiative of the YSAÏE International Music Competition (YIMC), created especially for outstanding young musicians aged 13 and under.

Open to violin, cello, guitar, piano and harp, the Competition aims to discover, encourage and celebrate the next generation of talented musicians from around the world.

More than a competition, Rising Stars offers young artists an opportunity to take their first steps onto the international stage, share their music, build confidence and gain international experience in an inspiring, positive and respectful environment.

The Competition is organized by La Vraie Note ASBL, organizer of the YIMC, founded in Belgium in 2018 by Elena Lavrenova and Ashot Khachatourian.

2. ELIGIBILITY & INSTRUMENTS

The Competition is open to candidates of all nationalities in the following instruments:

- Violin
- Cello
- Guitar
- Piano
- Harp

Candidates must be 13 years old or younger throughout 2027 and must therefore be born on or after 1 January 2014. Proof of age and nationality must be provided through a valid passport or national identity card.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet the eligibility requirements.

3. COMPETITION CALENDAR

Application Deadline: 15 December 2026

Preselection Round: January 2027 • video evaluation behind closed doors • candidates do not attend in person

Announcement of Semifinalists: No later than 15 January 2027

Semifinal Round: 22–25 February 2027 • video round • official public livestream • candidates do not attend in person

Final Round: 6–7 May 2027 • live and in person • Les Tréteaux Hall, Visé, Belgium
Official Rehearsal Day: 5 May 2027

Finalists must be available in Visé **from 5 to 7 May 2027** for the official rehearsal day, Final Round, Winners Announcement and any related activities.

The Organizing Committee may make reasonable schedule changes where necessary and will communicate important changes as soon as possible.

4. APPLICATION & REGISTRATION FEE

Applications must be submitted through the official Ysaïe Rising Stars online application form available through the Competition website. Each application must include:

- a completed application form;
- a recent high-quality artistic photograph and a short artistic biography;
- a copy of a valid passport or national identity card;
- the Preselection video link(s) and complete competition repertoire;
- proof of payment of the registration fee;
- any additional information requested in the application form.

Applications must be complete and accurate. Incomplete or late applications may be rejected. Submitted links must remain accessible. After the application deadline, repertoire or application information may only be changed with the express authorization of the Organizing Committee.

Registration fee: €190

The application is complete only after receipt of the fee. Except where otherwise required by applicable law, registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable, including in the event of withdrawal, illness, travel difficulties, visa refusal, disqualification or force majeure.

Payment by bank transfer:

- La Vraie Note ASBL
- Belfius Bank SA/NV
- IBAN BE12 0682 2771 4092
- BIC/SWIFT GKCCBEBB
- Payment reference: **RISING STARS 2027 – LAST NAME – First Name – Instrument. All bank charges are the responsibility of the applicant.**

5. COMPETITION FORMAT & REPERTOIRE

The Competition consists of three successive rounds. Only candidates selected by the Jury may proceed to the following round.

5.1 PRESELECTION

- Video round evaluated behind closed doors by the Jury.
- Two contrasting pieces; maximum total duration: 10 minutes.
- Concert recordings are accepted.
- Piano accompaniment is optional unless otherwise specified in the Program Requirements.

The Jury evaluates musical level, technical ability, artistic personality and overall potential. Semifinalists will be announced no later than 15 January 2027.

5.2 SEMIFINAL

- 22–25 February 2027.
- The same repertoire as in the Preselection Round.
- A recording specifically prepared for Ysaÿe Rising Stars 2027 is required. However, candidates may reuse their Preselection recording if it already meets the Semifinal recording requirements and is of suitable professional quality.
- If the Preselection video was a concert recording or does not meet these requirements, a new recording must be submitted for the Semifinal.
- Concert recordings are not accepted.
- Performances will be professionally presented through an official public livestream.

Following the Jury's deliberation, the finalists will be announced through the Competition's official communication channels.

5.3 FINAL

- 5 May 2027: Official Rehearsal Day. 6–7 May 2027: Final Round and Winners Announcement.
- 6–7 May 2027 : Final round
- Les Tréteaux Hall, Visé, Belgium.
- Live public performance before the Jury and an audience.
- A different repertoire from the previous rounds.
- Maximum total duration: 15 minutes.
- Solo repertoire and piano accompaniment are permitted; other accompaniment may be allowed where specified in the Program Requirements.

The exact performance order and rehearsal timetable will be communicated to finalists by the Organizing Committee.

OFFICIAL PIANIST (for finalists)

Finalists requiring piano accompaniment may choose to perform with the Competition's official pianist. This service is optional.

Finalists wishing to use the official pianist must pay an accompaniment fee of €100 by bank transfer to the Competition's official bank account **within the deadline specified in the finalist notification** and must send clearly legible PDF copies of all accompaniment scores to ysayerisingstars@gmail.com within the same deadline.

The payment reference must indicate: **RISING STARS 2027 – OFFICIAL PIANIST – LAST NAME – First Name – Instrument**. Any bank charges are the responsibility of the candidate.

The official pianist service will be confirmed only after receipt of both the €100 fee and the complete accompaniment scores. The accompaniment fee is non-refundable once the service has been confirmed, except where otherwise required by applicable law.

Finalists may alternatively perform with their own accompanist, at their own expense and subject to the Competition's schedule and organizational requirements.

6. VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

All recordings must faithfully represent the candidate's real performance. The candidate's face, hands, upper body and instrument must be clearly visible throughout the performance.

- Landscape format and clear image and sound quality are required.
- Each work or movement must be recorded in one continuous take.
- Audio and video must be synchronized.
- Editing within a movement, replacement of audio, pitch or rhythm correction, artificial enhancement, synchronization of separate recordings or other manipulation affecting the performance is prohibited.
- The use of Artificial Intelligence to modify or enhance the musical performance is strictly prohibited.

Professional recording equipment may be used provided that the result remains a faithful representation of the candidate's actual performance.

7. JURY & EVALUATION

Candidates will be evaluated by distinguished professional musicians, performers and pedagogues. The Jury may differ according to the instrument and/or round.

Evaluation is based on musicality, technical level, artistic personality, interpretation, stage presence and overall potential, with particular consideration given to the candidate's age and stage of musical development.

To ensure fairness, a Jury member with a significant teaching, family or professional relationship with a candidate will not participate in the evaluation or voting concerning that candidate. Jury deliberations are confidential; individual scores, comments and voting results will not be published.

All decisions of the Jury are final and cannot be appealed.

8. PRIZES

The Jury may award the following prizes:

Special Ysaÿe Rising Stars Prize	€1,000
First Prize	€750
Second Prize	€500
Third Prize	€250

Concert opportunities, scholarships, artistic support prizes and additional partner prizes may also be announced. The Jury reserves the right not to award one or more prizes if the required artistic standard is not reached, or to divide a prize where appropriate.

9. FINAL ROUND: TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION & SUPERVISION

Participation in the Final requires finalists to travel to Visé, Belgium, on 5–7 May 2027. Travel, accommodation, meals, insurance and other personal expenses are the responsibility of the candidate and their family unless otherwise expressly announced.

As all candidates are minors, each finalist must travel with and remain under the responsibility of a parent or legal guardian, or another responsible adult duly authorized by the parent/legal guardian. The Competition does not provide supervision of minors outside official Competition activities.

Participants are strongly advised to obtain appropriate travel, medical and instrument insurance. Candidates requiring a visa are responsible for obtaining the necessary documents; upon request, the Organizing Committee may provide an invitation letter but cannot guarantee that a visa will be granted.

10. PARENTS, MEDIA RIGHTS & CONDUCT

The application must be submitted or expressly approved by a parent or legal guardian. By submitting the application, the parent or legal guardian confirms the accuracy of the information provided, authorizes the young musician to participate, accepts these Regulations on the candidate's behalf and accepts responsibility for the candidate's travel, accommodation and supervision.

Candidates and their parents/legal guardians authorize the Competition to photograph, film, record, livestream, broadcast, publish and reproduce Competition performances and activities, and to use the candidate's name, photograph, biography, nationality, instrument and results for artistic, educational, promotional and communication purposes, worldwide and without limitation in time, without additional remuneration.

Candidates, parents, teachers and accompanying persons are expected to behave respectfully toward fellow participants, Jury members, accompanists, volunteers and Competition staff. Serious inappropriate, abusive, discriminatory, threatening or disruptive behaviour may result in exclusion.

11. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT, FORCE MAJEURE & PRIVACY

The Organizing Committee reserves the right, when necessary, to modify schedules, performance orders, Jury composition, logistical arrangements or other organizational aspects of the Competition.

In circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including major transport disruption, public health emergencies, natural disasters, government restrictions, technical failures or other events of force majeure, the Organizing Committee may postpone, modify, relocate or cancel any part of the Competition.

Personal data will be processed for the purposes of organizing and promoting YsaÏe Rising Stars in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) and applicable Belgian law.

12. FINAL PROVISIONS

Submission of an application constitutes full acceptance of these Official Regulations by the candidate and their parent or legal guardian.

The Organizing Committee may amend these Regulations when necessary. Any important amendment will be communicated or published through the Competition's official channels. Any matter not expressly covered by these Regulations shall be decided by the Organizing Committee.

All decisions of the Jury and Organizing Committee are final. The English version of these Regulations is the official and prevailing version.

13. CONTACT

YSAÏE RISING STARS 2027 – YsaÏe International Music Competition

Organized by La Vraie Note ASBL

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