

The First Hong Kong Harmonica Festival 2003

Regulations of Competition

Date: 4 and 5 October 2003

Venues: Hong Kong Cultural Centre Studio Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall Backstage Rehearsal Rooms 1 and 2

Deadline of application: 31 July 2003

Categories

Name of Category	Section	Category Number	Section	Category Number
Chromatic Harmonica Solo	Open	1	Junior	1j
Tremolo Harmonica Solo	Open	2	Junior	2j
10-hole Diatonic Harmonica Solo	Open	3		
Harmonica Duo	Open	4		
Harmonica Trio	Open	5		
Harmonica Ensemble (4-8 persons)	Open	6		
Harmonica Orchestra (over 8 persons)	Open	7		

Eligibility

1. Competitor must be a holder of the Hong Kong Identity Card, Hong Kong Birth Certificate, or HKSAR Passport.
2. Competitor entering the junior section must be born on or after 1 October 1988. There is no age limit on open section.
3. One competitor can enter into more than one category, but may not appear in more than one entry in a single category.
4. One competitor may not enter into both open and junior sections of the same category.

Restrictions on musical instruments and equipments

Category	Points to note
Chromatic Harmonica Solo	One accompanist not playing harmonica is allowed. Competitor may also supply CD or MD as accompaniment. The organizer will provide piano. All other musical instruments for accompaniment must be provided by the competitor.
Tremolo Harmonica Solo	
10-hole Diatonic Harmonica Solo	
Harmonica Duo	Must be consisted of 2 persons playing chromatic, tremolo or 10-hole diatonic harmonicas.
Harmonica Trio	Must be consisted of 1 person playing chromatic, tremolo or 10-hole diatonic harmonicas, 1 bass harmonica player and 1 chord harmonica player.
Harmonica Ensemble (4-8 persons)	No conductor is allowed. Musical instruments other than harmonica are not allowed.
Harmonica Orchestra (over 8 persons)	Conductor is allowed, and is not counted towards the number of competing persons. Musical instruments other than harmonica are allowed, but must not exceed one-third of the number of competing persons.

- Amplification will be provided by the organizer. Two microphones will be provided in solo and duo categories. In other categories, 8 microphones will be provided.
- Competitor may use standalone amplification system. No technical support will be provided by the organizer.

Scheme of competition

1. If the number of entries exceeds 20, a preliminary round shall be conducted. If the number of entries exceeds 40, an additional qualifying round may be conducted. The tentative date of the qualifying round is 27 September 2003. The dates of the preliminary round are 3 and 4 October 2003.
2. The qualifying round and preliminary round shall be judged by at least 3 judges. The final round shall be judged by at least 5 judges.
3. Subject to a satisfactory standard, up to 30 entries from the qualifying round will proceed to the preliminary round. The top 10 ranked entries (15 for the open section of chromatic harmonica solo category) in the

- preliminary round shall enter the final round.
4. The top 3 ranked entries in the final round shall be awarded with gold, silver and bronze prizes respectively, subject to the discretion of the panel of judges.
 5. Entries earning more than 80 marks shall be awarded certificates of merit.
 6. The set piece of the open section of chromatic harmonica solo category will account for 40% of the final score, while the own choice piece will account for remaining 60%.
 7. The judging criteria and their weighting are as follows:
 - a. Musicianship 40%
 - b. Technique 40%
 - c. Difficulty 10%
 - d. Stage manner 10%
 8. The method of calculating the score of an entry from the individual scores given by the judges is as follows:
 - a. The range of the score given by each judge shall be standardized:
 - i. Select the highest and lowest score of each judge.
 - ii. The median of the highest scores of the judges is the high end of the standardized range.
 - iii. The median of the lowest scores of the judges is the low end of the standardized range.
 - b. The score of an entry is the average of the scores given by the judges after standardizing the range.

Example:

	Judge 1 Judge 2 Judge 3			Score after standardizing the range			Final score
	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	
Entry 1	100	10	90	90	60	90	80
Entry 2	80	70	80	75	82.5	75	77.5
Entry 3	60	90	70	60	90	60	70

Highest score	100	90	90	Median	90
Lowest score	60	10	70	Median	60

Music for competition

1. Competitor shall choose the music to compete. The playing time of open section must be within 8 minutes. The playing time of junior section must be within 4 minutes.
2. There shall also be a set piece of music for the open section of chromatic harmonica solo category. It would be played in the qualifying round and preliminary round. If the qualifying round and preliminary round are not necessary, it will be played together with the own choice music in the final round. The score of the set piece will be dispatched after the application closes. The set piece is:
 KONZERT-ETUDEN FUR CHROMONICA nach Paganini Themen
 ETUDE II: Moderato & ETUDE VI: Scherzino
 by FRITZ PILSL
3. The playing time limit in the qualifying round and preliminary round is 2 minutes and 3 minutes respectively. If the own choice music exceeds the time limit, competitor needs to select extracts of the music to play.
4. Competitor must stop when the playing time limit is reached, otherwise the judges may disqualify the competitor.
5. To facilitate the adjudication, competitors are encouraged to submit 5 copies of the score of their own choice music before the commencement of competition. The score shall be returned after the competition. The competitor shall bear all responsibilities on copyright of the music score.

Others

1. Change of particulars (including music) must be notified before 15 August 2003. There will be a handling charge of HK\$100.
2. Competitor withdrawing from the competition is not entitled to a refund of the competition entry fee.
3. The order of competitors shall be determined by drawing lots at designated date and time.
4. Competitors must show up at the venue 30 minutes before the competition starts.
5. Competitors shall follow the order. Failing to show up to compete will result in disqualification, unless prior permission is obtained from the organizer.
6. Practice in the venue is strictly forbidden during competition. Practice outside the venue is allowed on condition that the competitors and judges are unaffected.
7. Practice rooms will be available to competitors for booking. The details will be announced in due course.
8. Objections must be raised by the competitor in writing within one hour of the announcement of results and may only be related to a breach of regulations.
9. All unforeseen matters will be handled at the discretion of the organizer.