

# STRINGS

**Adjudicators:** Helen Browne (28<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March)  
Spike Wilson (15<sup>th</sup> March)  
**Venue:** South Downs College, College Road, Purbrook  
Admiral Lord Nelson School, Portsmouth  
**Dates:** 28<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2009  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2009 (Orchestras and ensembles)

**Closing date for entries:** 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**Please send entries/titles to:** Mrs Gwenda  
Dearsley, 38 Medicott Way, Swanmore, SO32 2NE.

**Helen Browne** was at the Royal College of Music from 1964-68 where she studied with Leonard Hirsch and Antonio Brosa and while still a student she was awarded the prestigious Gulbenkian Foundation Scholarship for study in Lisbon. On graduating from the RCM she was immediately engaged by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Subsequently she was appointed principal second violin of the Royal Ballet Orchestra and shortly afterwards became a member of the Royal Opera House Orchestra, Covent Garden. For twelve years she was Director of Strings at Roedean School where she conducted and trained the three orchestras and chamber ensembles which won national competitions. Helen has very busy schedules, teaching and freelance playing with London Orchestras and is in demand as an adjudicator of competitions and festivals.

**Spike Wilson**, cellist and music educator, started conducting with the student orchestra *Gli Amici della Musica* and continued with a number of orchestras and choirs whilst at Oxford University. He then gradually specialised in training young string players and coaching orchestras, cello sections and chamber ensembles.

As a cellist Spike is a member of *The Holywell Ensemble* (whose recordings of British chamber music have received wide critical acclaim) and OXUS (a string quartet specialising in unusual contemporary music as well as the classics), and is much in demand as a teacher, chamber musician, continuo player and orchestral player. He is also involved with community and education projects in schools and hospitals for the *Oxford Philomusica*.

As well as conducting the Hampshire County Youth String Orchestra since 1994, Spike has been a Director of The Oxford Cello School (which runs international courses renowned for high standards of teaching) and now runs the adult course and conducts its orchestra. He teaches cello, coaches chamber groups and conducts the string orchestras at Magdalen College School, Oxford, and is Performance Co-ordinator at Oxford Brookes University. He also conducts orchestras at Cheney School and St Andrew's School in Oxford, runs cello orchestra playing days for *Oxjam*, coaches on chamber music courses, and adjudicates at music festivals.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- a) The Rules and Regulations of this Festival must be carefully observed (see pages 10 & 11).
- b) Each own choice piece may be entered for one class only.
- c) Instrument and exact time of piece(s) should be stated on the entry form.
- d) There is no official accompanist for this section. Please see page 9 if you need an accompanist.
- e) Please remember to bring a copy of your own choice music for the adjudicator.
- f) Standards are indicated either by age or grade. Where a class is denoted by grade indicators, the entrant should not yet have passed a grade higher. **N.B.** The entrant may play a piece on a current examination syllabus one grade higher than the highest grade specified for the class, but they must not have taken the exam at that level. This does not apply to examination classes, which refer to the grade about to be taken.

## In addition for all orchestral classes:

- g) You are asked to state on your entry form the number of players in your orchestra, the name of your Musical Director, and whether the instruments played are strings only or mixed.
- h) Orchestras entering the youth section must only include players aged 19 years and under on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.
- i) Own choice of pieces. MDs are respectfully advised to build a programme which shows off their players to their best advantage and which offers a variety of styles to the audience.
- j) Please remember to bring an extra copy of your scores for the adjudicator's use.
- k) If enough orchestras enter in the same category, the class will be divided.

**The Gordon Cawthorne Memorial Trophy** will be presented to the performer age 14 years and under who makes the greatest impression on the Adjudicator.

**The Portsmouth Chorus Challenge Cup** will be presented for the best performance by a performer aged between 15 and 21 years in any class.

**The Wendy Towell Cup** will be presented to the most promising intermediate level cellist.

**YOUNG STRING CLASSES – 18 YEARS AND UNDER****OWN CHOICE OF ONE PIECE or MOVEMENT**

St1	<b>Pre-grade standard</b>	Time limit 2 mins	<b>St5</b>	<b>Grade 4 standard</b>	Time limit 5 mins
St2	<b>Grade 1 standard</b>	Time limit 3 mins	<b>St6</b>	<b>Grade 5 standard</b>	Time limit 5 mins
St3	<b>Grade 2 standard</b>	Time limit 4 mins	<b>St7</b>	<b>Grade 6-7 standard</b>	Time limit 8 mins
St4	<b>Grade 3 standard</b>	Time limit 4mins	<b>St8</b>	<b>Grade 8-8+ standard</b>	Time limit 10 mins

**TWENTIETH CENTURY SOLO**

Own choice of piece written in the twentieth century.

St9	<b>Pre-grade standard</b>	Time limit 2 mins	<b>St13</b>	<b>Grade 4 standard</b>	Time limit 5 mins
St10	<b>Grade 1 standard</b>	Time limit 3 mins	<b>St14</b>	<b>Grade 5 standard</b>	Time limit 5 mins
St11	<b>Grade 2 standard</b>	Time limit 4 mins	<b>St15</b>	<b>Grade 6-7 standard</b>	Time limit 8 mins
St12	<b>Grade 3 standard</b>	Time limit 4 mins	<b>St16</b>	<b>Grade 8-8+ standard</b>	Time Limit 10 mins

St17 **JAZZ, SWING & RAGTIME** Time limit 4 mins

Grade 2-5 standard. Own choice of piece.

St18 **ROMANTIC PIECE (1830-1900)** Time limit 10 mins

For Grade 5 and above. Own choice piece chosen must have been written by a composer living between the dates shown above and be romantic in style.

St19 **UNACCOMPANIED BACH SOLO** Time limit 8 mins

Own choice of one or two movements from any work by J. S. Bach for an unaccompanied string instrument.

St20 **EASY CONCERTO / CONCERTINO** Time limit 8 mins

Approximate Grade 4 - 5. Own choice of one or two contrasting movements.

St21 **SONATA** Time limit 15 mins

Own choice of one or two contrasting movements.

St22 **CONCERTO** Time limit 15 mins

One movement of a piece originally intended/written for performance with orchestra.

St23 **RECITAL CLASS** Time limit 15-20 mins

Own choice of a group of two or three contrasting pieces. Performers will be adjudicated on their programme choice, dress and presentation as well as their performance, and are encouraged to play at least one piece from memory. Please also note Rule 15 (ii).

**N.B.** Some of the following ensemble classes may take place with the orchestral classes, depending on the number of entries received.

**UNACCOMPANIED DUETS**

Own choice of one piece or movement. Any combination of string instruments.

St24	<b>Grades 1-3 standard</b>	Time limit 4 mins	<b>St26</b>	<b>Grades 6-7 standard</b>	Time limit 8 mins
St25	<b>Grades 4-5 standard</b>	Time limit 5 mins	<b>St27</b>	<b>Grade 8-8+ standard</b>	Time limit 10 mins

St28 **ACCOMPANIED DUETS** Time limit 10 mins

Own choice of one piece or movement. Any combination of string instruments.

St29 **DUO CLASS** Time limit 10 mins

For string instrument and piano. Own choice of one piece or movement. Both players to be named on the entry form as both will be adjudicated. (Entry fee as a duet).

**Please become a FRIEND of this Festival by giving financial support or committed time.**

**Both are very much appreciated and desperately needed.**

**To find out more, please contact the Friends' Secretary on 023 9247 3256**

**ADULT CLASSES**

- St30** **DUO CLASS** Time limit 10 mins  
For string instrument and piano. Own choice of one piece or movement. Both players to be named on the entry form as both will be adjudicated. (Entry fee as a duet).
- St31** **SONATA CLASS** Time limit 25 mins  
Own choice of one or two contrasting movements.
- St32** **SOLO CLASS** Time limit 12 mins  
Own choice of pieces or movements.
- St33** **RECITAL** Time limit 25 mins  
Own choice of a group of two or three contrasting pieces. Performers will be adjudicated on their programme choice, dress and presentation as well as their performance, and are encouraged to play one piece from memory.

***ORCHESTRAL & ENSEMBLE CLASSES***

**N.B.** Some ensemble classes may take place with the string classes, depending on numbers of entries and convenience of time-tabling.

- St34** **JUNIOR ENSEMBLE** Time limit 5 mins  
Own choice of one piece or movement. Any number of players and any combination of instruments including a string instrument. Approximate Grade 1-5. Please state number of players on your entry form.
- St35** **JUNIOR CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** Time limit 5 mins  
Own choice of one piece or movement. Any combination of instruments including a string instrument. At least three players, each playing a separate part. Approximate Grade 1-5. Please state the number of players (and names if known) on your entry form.
- St36** **CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** Time limit 15 mins  
Own choice of one piece or movement. Any combination of instruments including a string instrument. At least three players, each playing a separate part. Approximate Grade 5+. Please state the number of players (and names if known) on your entry form.
- St37** **FAMILY OR FRIENDS ENSEMBLE** Time limit 15 mins  
Own choice of one piece or movement. Any combination of instruments including a string instrument. At least three players. No age limit but should include at least one player who is 18 years or under. Please state the number of players (and names if known) on your entry form.
- St38** **CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** Time limit 20 mins  
Own choice of one piece or several movements. Any combination of instruments including a string instrument. At least three players, each playing a separate part. Please state number of players (and names, if known) on the entry form.
- St39** **YOUTH ORCHESTRAS** Time limit 15 mins  
All players to be aged 19 years and under on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.
- St40** **MIXED AGES** Time limit 15 mins  
Players of all ages.
- St41** **ADULT** Time limit 15 mins  
All players to be aged 19 years and over.