

6th International Nehama Lifshitz Vocal Competition

RULES

1. About the competition

1.1. Nehama Lifshitz (1927–2017) was a world-renowned Yiddish singer, often called “Jewish Nightingale”, whose professional career as a singer started in Lithuania – in Kaunas and Vilnius. She became popular and famous all over the world.

1.2. The competition will be held on November 15, 2026 at the Chamber Hall of the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre II, Vilniaus g. 6-2, 01101 Vilnius).

1.3. The competition is held in categories A and B for children and youth, and in category C for adults and professionals.

1.4. The competition in category C consists of 2 rounds:

- the I (qualifying) round of the competition will be held on July 31. The evaluation committee selects 12 participants for the II (final) round from the submitted applications;
- the II (final) round of the competition will be held in Vilnius on November 15 at the II (Congress) Hall of the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. The evaluation committee announces the winners of 1-3 places and the graduates of 4-6 places from the 12 finalists;

1.5. The concert of the competition winners will be held in Vilnius on November 18 at the Vilnius Town Hall. The soloists will be accompanied by the chamber ensemble "Musica humana".

2. The aim of the competition

2.1. To popularize Jewish vocal music, discover the most talented young Jewish vocal music authors and performers, and expand creative cooperation with colleagues from various regions and countries.

2.2. To popularize the Yiddish language and songs in Yiddish. Contestants are invited to participate in the II International Nehama Lifshitz Yiddish Song Competition, which will be held in Vilnius on November 16. in the J. Heifetz Hall (see the regulations of the II International Nehama Lifshitz Yiddish Song Competition).

2.3. To develop the creativity and artistic abilities of the younger generation, to create conditions for talented artists from various regions and countries to present their work to a wider audience.

3. Participants

3.1. Singers-soloists from the age of 10 to 35 can participate in the competition.

3.2. The competition is held in the category of classical music.

3.3. Participants are divided into 3 age groups:

Category A – soloists children from 10 to 15 years old;

Category B – soloists youth from 16 to 20 years old;

Category C – soloists professionals from 21 to 35 years old.

4. Repertoire

4.1. Participants perform 2 songs (works):

- The first song is a Jewish song or song by a Jewish composer, or Jewish theme.
- The second is a work of free choice.

4.2. The total duration of both works is no longer than 7 minutes for category A, no longer than 10 minutes for category B, and no longer than 12 minutes for category C.

4.3. Participants can find Jewish songs in web site of competition www.competition.lt or are welcome to choose songs from other sources too.

4.4. Participants can perform works in any language.

5. Application and registration

5.1. The Registration form can be filled in online or downloaded from here.

5.2. Participants who arrive at the competition must sign the Registration form for participation in the competition and present an identity document.

5.3. The registration fee is EUR 30 for group A and EUR 50 for group B and C. There is no refund for those who do not enter the competition.

5.4. Applications are accepted until 2026 July 15. The list of participants selected for the competition will be published by July 31.

5.5. Selection for the II round of the competition in category C is carried out based on the submitted audio and/or video recordings (2 freely chosen works).

12 participants in category C are selected for the II round (final) of the competition.

The list of participants selected for the final of the competition will be published by July 31, 2026.

All participants in category C must submit the scores of the II round works in pdf format when filling out the questionnaire. Participants in categories A and B

submit scores only if they wish to receive a concertmaster for the competition. The scores must be of high quality.

6. Evaluation of participants

6.1. In evaluating the performance of the participants, the Jury is guided by the following criteria:

- Uniqueness, originality, and complexity of the selected program
- Intonation accuracy, ensemble, and artistic level of performance
- Stage culture and artistry of the participant

6.2. The performances of the participants are evaluated according to a 20-point system, with each piece being awarded from 1 to 10 points.

6.3. The chairman of the evaluation committee has the right to award one additional point to one performer.

7. Awards

7.1. Category C laureates (1st-3rd place winners) are awarded with laureate diplomas and cash prizes:

- 1 st prize 1500 Eur
- 2 nd prize 1000 Eur
- 3 rd prize 800 Eur

7.2. 4th-6th place winners are awarded with diplomas.

7.3. Nominations:

- Eugenijus Paulauskas nomination – the best concertmaster of the competition

7.4. Laureates and diploma holders of categories A and B are awarded with diplomas and gifts from sponsors.

7.5. The evaluation committee has the right:

- to award third place to several participants. In this case, the cash prize for the third place in category C is divided equally
- not to award a nomination or prize

7.6. The decisions of the evaluation committee are final and cannot be appealed.

7.7. Diplomas and prizes are awarded during the closing ceremony of the competition or sent to the participants by e-mail.

8. Accommodation and travel expenses

8.1. Participants cover their own and accompanying person's travel and accommodation expenses.

8.2. The organizers, if possible, may partially compensate the accommodation costs of the participants of the final round.

9. Visas

The organizing committee mediates for participants who need everything to come to Republic of Lithuania but does not assume any financial obligations.

10. Consent of the participants

10.1. By completing the registration form participants agree that their personal information, such as name, photo, creative biography, and program may be published online, in the competition catalog, and in other sources. By completing the registration form participants agree that their performance is broadcasted online or/and TV.

10.2. The organizers of the competition ensure that the personal data of the participants are used only for the purposes of the competition.

10.3. Information about the Privacy Policy can be found here.

11. Organizers

Public institution „Pro partners“ www.propartners.lt

Support Fund of Nehama Lifshitz International Vocal Competition.

12. Rights of organizers

The organizers have the exclusive right:

- To broadcast the competition on television channels and the Internet or give the right to do so to others.
- To produce and distribute audio and video or other promotional material of all kinds.
- To use or allow others to use the promotional material provided by the participant.
- To dispose of records made during the competition free of charge.

13. Contacts

For general questions – Eljus Romanovas, competition director, +370 69820711, romanovas@propartners.lt

Regarding questions about the competition program and repertoire – Rolandas Aidukas, program coordinator + 370 67315956, rolandas.aidukas@gmail.com

Information on the Internet – www.competition.lt

14. Payment details

Name: *Tarptautinio Nechamos Lifscaites vokalistu konkurso paramos fondas*

Address: Vytauto St. 25, LT-08119 Vilnius

Bank: AB SEB Bank

Swift: CBVILT2X

IBAN: LT897044090100884848.

Purpose of payment: participant's Name, Surname registration fee.