



NINTH INTERNATIONAL CARILLON COMPETITION QUEEN FABIOLA 2024

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

Since its foundation in 1922, the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn" has been dedicated to the promotion and flourishing of the carillon art. Pursuant to this goal, it organized the International Carillon Competition Queen Fabiola for the first time in 1987. In 2024, the ninth edition will take place. This event is being held in close collaboration between the Royal Carillon School 'Jef Denyn' vzw and the City of Mechelen.

This competition is undoubtedly the most important in its field. It is also a strong stimulant for the recognition of the art of the carillon as an artistic performance of the highest standard. During the qualifying round, five finalists will be chosen to perform during two final days.

The winners and laureates of previous editions have achieved international recognition. First prizes were awarded to Geert D'hollander (1987), Boudewijn Zwart (1990), Gideon Bodden (1993), Tom Van Peer (1998), Twan Bearda (2003), Kenneth Theunissen (2008), Joey Brink (2014), and Alex Johnson (2019).

1. Program

The ninth International Queen Fabiola Carillon Competition will take place in Mechelen, Belgium, from **July 10 - 14, 2024**. Candidates commit to keeping this entire period free and being available for the competition at all times. The exact schedule will be communicated to the candidates at the latest one day before the competition. The following hours are subject to change and do not confer any rights.

July 10, 2024	- 9:00 AM: drawing of the order for the qualifying round - 10:00 AM: Qualifying round on the concert carillon of the Saint Rumbold's Tower in order of the drawing + improvisation competition (session 1)
July 11, 2024	- 10:00 AM: Qualifying round on the concert carillon of the Saint Rumbold's Tower in order of the drawing + improvisation competition (session 2) - 5:00 PM: Announcement of selected finalists + drawing of the order for the appearance of the laureates
12 juli 2024	- Rehearsal for finalists on the concert carillon of the Saint Rumbold's Tower - Rehearsal on the chamber carillon with piano and percussion at the Cultural Center of Mechelen
13 juli 2024	- First day of the finals on the concert carillon of the Saint Rumbold's Tower

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14 juli 2024	- 09:00 AM: Rehearsal on the chamber carillon with piano and percussion at the Cultural Center of Mechelen - 2:00 PM: Start of the second day of the finals at the Cultural Center of Mechelen on the chamber carillon of the Royal Carillon School with piano and percussion - 05:15 PM: Proclamation, award ceremony, and reception
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2. The jury and judging

The decisions of the juries are binding for the competition's results. The jury reserves the right not to award a finalist position or prize if the candidates do not meet the required level.

No communication (direct or indirect) between the candidates and the jury members is allowed during the competition.

Throughout the entire competition period, jury members are not permitted to make any statements regarding the candidates, the jury proceedings, or the organization of the competition.

The judging for the preselection is done anonymously. When scoring each performed piece, the lowest and highest scores are discarded. The sum of the remaining scores for each piece and candidate is divided by the number of remaining jury members, and this number constitutes the assigned score for each piece and candidate. Scores after the decimal point will not be rounded and will be counted to two decimal places. In both the qualifying round and the finals, if there is a tie in scores, the score for the compulsory piece will be decisive.

The chairman presides over the jury sessions, and the secretary ensures the proper conduct of the judging. The secretary does not award points. The jury always consists of an odd number of jury members. If a jury member is unable to judge due to unforeseen circumstances, the chairman will also refrain from awarding points to maintain an odd number of jury members.

The composition of the jury will be announced on the website www.koninginfabiolawedstrijd.be.

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3. Registration and conditions of participation

Registrations are made via the online registration form on the website of the Queen Fabiola Competition (www.koninginfabiolawedstrijd.be). The registration form and attachments must be submitted by April 30, 2024, at 23:59 (CEST) at the latest to be eligible for the competition.

Registration is only valid when the secretariat has received a digital version of:

- A personal data list via the digital form on www.koninginfabiolawedstrijd.be
- A concise curriculum vitae (maximum 1500 characters) and a portrait photo (minimum 1 MB)
- A list of repertoire with the duration of each work
- The chosen works for the qualifying round and the finals, indicating the work to be played on the second final day on the mobile carillon.
- A copy of the scores without annotations that could reveal the identity or nationality of the candidate
- Mention of participation in the improvisation competition

Candidates should send a verification email to jasper.depraetere@mechelen.be after submitting the online registration form as a check for the organizer to confirm the registration. Only then will the registration be valid.

Upon acceptance and validation of the registration, candidates will receive confirmation and a copy of their registration.

By registering, the participant agrees to the competition regulations.

In case of dispute, only the text of the regulations in Dutch are legally valid.

The organizer is not liable for any technical problems at the end-user's side that may result in not receiving a registration. If a candidate encounters technical difficulties or issues during the online registration process, the candidate must immediately contact the secretariat of the Queen Fabiola Competition by email at jasper.depraetere@mechelen.be. In exceptional cases, registration can also take place by mail. It is highly recommended to start uploading the required documents and filling out the form at least 48 hours before the registration deadline to avoid potential technical issues. Candidates who do not follow this recommendation have no guarantee of their candidacy being accepted in case of any technical problem.

The organizers may reject entries that do not meet the required level. No appeal is possible against this decision. In case of refusal, the music committee undertakes to provide written clarification to the candidate. In the event of refusal, a new repertoire list may be submitted provided the deadline for entry is respected (30 April 2024, 23:59 (CEST)).

Registrations cannot be rejected on the grounds of sexual orientation, ideological, linguistic, political, religious, or racial considerations.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old at the start of the competition.

The scores of the compulsory works will be simultaneously sent digitally to all candidates at the e-mail address they provide no later than 7 May 2024. The candidate undertakes not to distribute

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the scores or any other written or audio material of the imposed works before the end of the competition, neither digitally nor on paper.

By registering, the participant grants the organizer the right to use any image and sound recordings, captured by order of the organizer or made available by the candidate within the framework of the competition, to be used for promotional purposes without compensation.

If at any time a candidate is found to be in breach of the competition rules, the jury chairman may immediately exclude the candidate.

The candidate undertakes not to commit any harmful act that would discredit the reputation of the Queen Fabiola International Carillon Competition and/or its sponsors, donors, and partners. If a candidate is involved in an action that puts the contest in a negative light, the organization has the right to take appropriate measures from the pre-selection onwards. This may result in the disqualification of the candidate and withdrawal of any benefits previously awarded. In case of any damage, the candidate releases the Queen Fabiola International Carillon Competition from all liability.

4. Repertoire

Candidates must present a repertoire consisting of ten (10) pieces of high difficulty:

- Four (4) baroque or classical works, including a carillon prelude by Matthias Vanden Gheyn
- Three (3) works in the Mechelen Romantic style, originally written for carillon
- Three (3) works in a contemporary style, originally written for carillon

Candidates may include incomplete cyclical works in their choice of repertoire, indicating clearly which parts of these cyclical works they intend to perform. This selection must be indicated upon registration. In case the participant does not specify a specific selection for incomplete cyclical works, the jury retains the right to determine the parts to be played on the basis of technical and artistic suitability for the competition, as well as the duration of the performance. The jury may also, if the candidate proposes complete cyclical works, make selections from these works to stay within the established time frame.

When composing the repertoire, the candidate designates a piece that, in the event of reaching the final, will be played on the chamber carillon on the last day (see point 8, outline of the competition). All other works are intended for performance on the concert carillon of Saint Rumbold's.

The scores submitted with the registration must not contain any indications revealing the identity or nationality of the candidate. The submitted repertoire will be presented to the competition's music committee for approval. This committee is composed of teachers from the Royal Carillon School.

5. Compulsory works

The competition regulations stipulate two compulsory works for this edition. The first, for solo carillon, by Joey Brink, composer and carillonist at the University of Denver (Colorado, USA), will be performed during the qualifying round and on the first day of the finals.

The second work for mobile carillon, piano and percussion by Belgian composer Jeroen Malaise will be performed on the second day of the finals.

6. The improvisation competition

Every candidate in the competition is eligible to register for the improvisation competition. The improvisation will be based on a given theme and will be performed during the qualifying round after the candidate's repertoire pieces. The duration of the improvisation should not exceed three (3) minutes in order to qualify for evaluation. The candidate will receive the theme at the door of the tower upon ascent to the playing cabin. The winner will be announced together with the five laureates at the end of the qualifying round. Judging for this prize follows the same conditions as previously mentioned for the qualifying round under '2. The jury and judging.'

7. The instruments

The qualifying round and the first day of the final round takes place on the concert carillon of the Saint-Rumbold's tower of Mechelen, cast by Royal Eijsbouts of Asten in 1981. This carillon consists of 49 bells starting with Bb, c, d, Eb, chromatically to c5 (c sounds as g0). The pedal range is 1 1/2 octaves: Bb, c, d, Eb chromatically to g2. Total weight of the bells is 40,000 kg. The bass bell weighs 8,160 kg. The keyboard is a European standard.

During the last final day of the competition, the Chamber Carillon of the Royal Carillon School will be played in the Cultural Centre of Mechelen. This carillon was cast in 2015-2016 by Royal Eijsbouts and consists of 50 bells, starting with c, d, Eb, chromatically to d5 (c sounds as c2). The pedal range is one and a half octaves: c, d, Eb, chromatically to g2. Total weight of the bells is 1,951 kg. The bass bell weighs 260 kg. The keyboard is a European standard with a keyfall of 40 mm.

The candidates will be given the opportunity to practice on both carillons and on the practice-keyboards at the Royal Carillon School. Registration for the practice sessions can be made at the Royal Carillon School beiaardschool@mechelen.be.

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8. Outline of the competition

During the qualifying round, the candidate will perform three (3) works, together for a maximum duration of 20 minutes.

- The compulsory work for carillon solo (Joey Brink)
- A carillon prelude by Matthias Vanden Gheyn
- A work of the candidate's own choice from the submitted repertoire
- In addition, a candidate may participate in the improvisation competition if desired. The improvisation lasts a maximum of 3 minutes, which may be added to the maximum time of the qualifying round.

During the first final day, the candidate will perform four (4) works, together for a maximum duration of 30 minutes:

- The compulsory work for carillon solo (Joey Brink)
- A work of the candidate's own choice from the submitted repertoire, different from that of the chosen work from the preselection
- A first work chosen by the jury
- A second work chosen by the jury

On the second day of the finals, the candidate will perform two (2) works:

- The compulsory work for mobile carillon, piano and percussion (Jeroen Malaise)
- A work of the candidate's choice to be performed on the mobile carillon, as indicated in their repertoire list, in a style of their choice, different from the work performed on the first final day, with a maximum duration of 10 minutes.

The order of appearance during the qualifying round and the finals is determined by drawing on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, and Saturday, July 13, 2024. The candidate must be present for these drawings. Candidates who do not show up will be excluded from further participation. If a candidate cannot be present at the drawing due to unforeseen circumstances, they must provide a written excuse at least 48 hours before the drawing. At the written request of the candidate, the competition secretary or a representative appointed by the candidate will attend the drawing on behalf of the candidate. After the drawing, the candidate must immediately contact the competition secretariat to find out when the candidate should be available for their performance.

Participants who are not selected for the final round receive reimbursement of expenses of €125.

Each laureate has the same amount of rehearsal time with the ensemble on July 12, 2024, and July 14, 2024. The exact hours for this will be communicated after the drawing for the finals.

Each candidate is expected to know and respect the schedules and arrangements. Late arrivals may be excluded from further participation.

9. Prizes

First prize: € 3000

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Second prize: € 2000

Third prize: € 1500

Fourth prize: € 1300

Fifth prize: € 1000

Improvisation prize: € 1000

Additional prize donated by SABAM for the best performance of the Belgian (compulsory) contemporary work on the last final day (Jeroen Malaise): € 1000

Audience prize: bell + €250, organized by the Flemish Carillon Guild (Vlaamse Beiaardvereniging)