



International Competition

Paganini Guitar Festival 2025

Solo competition

RULES

Art. 1 Schedule

The competition is open to musicians of all nationalities. It consists of two stages:

ELIMINATORY ROUND (live and open to public)

FINAL ROUND (live and open to public).

Registration by April 19th, 2025.

SOLO COMPETITION – Guitar

Eliminatory round: May 29th-30th, 2025 (Casa della musica, Piazzale San Francesco 1, Parma)

Final round: June 1st , 2025 (Auditorium del Carmine, Via Eleonora Duse, Parma)

Art. 2 Sections

Solo competition – Guitar – no age limit

First prize winners in the Soloists section from previous editions may no longer compete in the same section of the competition.

Art. 3 Registration fees

Solo competition – Guitar – no age limit: € 80

Refund of fees will only be granted if the event is cancelled.

Art. 4 Jury

The Jury consist of preeminent musicians and professors. Judgment will be final, unquestionable and not open to appeal.

Art. 5 Programs ¹

A – Eliminary round

Solo competition – Guitar – no age limit:

Free-choice program, including one Sonata from “37 Sonatas” M.S. 84 by Niccolò Paganini – maximum duration of the round: 15 minutes ².

B – Final round ³

Solo competition – Guitar – no age limit:

Free-choice program with a maximum duration of 20 minutes, without repetition of pieces already presented in the Eliminary Round, including at least one composition by a Latin American composer.²

¹ *The performance length will be counted from the beginning of first piece to the end of the last one, including intermissions and tuning.*

² *Transcriptions will be admitted only as free program.*

³ *No more than eight (8) performances (soloists) will be admitted to the Final round.*

Art. 6 Certificates, diplomas and prizes

SOLO COMPETITION – Guitar

First Prize

- Certificate of first prize
- 'Gian Carlo Martini' scholarship worth €2.000 offered by Martini Gian Carlo & Co. - Orologiai in Parma
- An Altamira Concert Guitar “Torres 1888” worth €4.000, offered by Altamira Guitars
- One carbon guitar case worth €1.000 offered by Leona Case
- Online video concert to be recorded at Siccas Guitars (Karlsruhe – Germany). The video will be broadcasted on Siccas Guitars’ channels ⁴

- Online distributed album (.mp3 format) on the most important international music stores (iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, eMusc, Fnac, etc) offered by DotGuitar for the DotGuitar/CD/Winners label ⁵
- Unlimited account Tonebase (online library)
- Tour concert in 2025/2026 season ⁴:
 - a concert in the Festival “Forum Gitarre Wien” (Vienna)
 - a concert for the “Istituto Italiano di Cultura” in Dublin (Ireland)
 - a concert in “Paganini Guitar Festival” next edition (Parma, Italy)
 - a concert for the Associazione “Amici di Paganini” (Genova, Italy)
 - a concerto in the Festival “Aspettando Corde d’autunno” (Milan, Italy)
 - a concert in the 2025/2026 season at Barco Teatro (Padova, Italy)
- Music book selection by Ut Orpheus worth €100 to download online on the publisher’s website
- Music accessories by D’Addario Foundation and Aquila Corde Armoniche Srl
- Accessories by Alba Guitar Beads

Second prize

- Certificate of second prize
- Prize “Vincenzo Raffaele Segreto” grant worth €500 for a concert at Casa della Musica on June 2nd, 2025
- Music book selection by Ut Orpheus worth €100 to download online on the publisher’s website
- Music accessories by D’Addario Foundation and Aquila Corde Armoniche Srl
- Accessories by Alba Guitar Beads

Third prize

- Certificate of third prize
- Music accessories by D’Addario Foundation and Aquila Corde Armoniche Srl
- Accessories by Alba Guitar Beads

SPECIAL PRIZES

“D'Addario” Special Prize (Solo competition)

The Jury will indicate among the finalists the soloist who will become D'Addario-Artist for one year.

“Niccolò Paganini” special prize (Solo competition)

For the best execution of a Niccolò Paganini music piece: Music book selection offered by “Ut Orpheus” worth €200

“Astor Piazzolla” special prize (Solo competition)

For the best performance of Piazzolla’s music or other Latin American composer: Music book selection offered by “Curci edizioni musicali” worth €100.

⁴ Only explicitly stated gross appearance fees will be guaranteed. Otherwise, performers will be granted a reimbursement of expenses, according to the organizers’ agreements. Prize concerts could change due to new availability and due to extenuating circumstances.

⁵ DotGuitar will support the complete expenses for publishing 1 (one) album on-line (transcoding, uploading tracks, covers composition, revenue management, etc.) for the winner of the Competition. For 5 years DotGuitar will hold the rights for that recording (this period could be renewed by mutual agreement) and any profit and revenue from the sale of the digital tracks on the stores will be divided at the 50% for the winner guitarist and 50 % for DotGuitar. The laureate (by him/herself, where he/she wants and at his/her own expenses) will record a master tape with a program of his/her choice, and send to DotGuitar the audio tracks in a digital format (it could be a regular audio CD or .wav format tracks sent via Dropbox, Wetransfer or similar cloud services). The organizers of the Paganini Guitar Competition and DotGuitar must receive the recordings within one year from the date of the competition. The organizers of the Paganini Guitar Competition and DotGuitar will reserve the right to judge if the quality of the recording is suitable for publication.

A certificate of attendance will be provided to all participants.

Other prizes, grants and concerts could be added and would be published online as soon as they are confirmed.

Prizes may not be awarded at the Jury’s discretion.

First Prizes cannot be shared.

The award giving ceremony for the Solo competition (Guitar) and the Chamber music competition will take place on Sunday June 1st, 2025 at “Casa della Musica” in Parma (PR). Prize winners must be present at the ceremony: failing to do so will result in the loss of the prize.

Art. 7 Auditions

Prior to the Eliminary and Final round's auditions all participants will have to submit to the Jury a copy of the scores of their program and an ID card or passport.

The Artistic Direction may reserve the right to modify the timetables of the auditions, due to force majeure. Participants will receive timely communication around the updates.

The Eliminary round auditions' schedule, the time and the location of the roll call will be on-line starting from **April 28th, 2025**.

The Jury is allowed to stop the performance in case it will exceed the time limit. Those members of the Jury who have family relationship or ongoing teaching relationships with participants must declare it and will be abstained from judging them.

Online rules on April 19th, 2025 will be taken as authentic for any dispute.

Art. 8 Enrollment

Application form is available online on this page.

Applicants must fill it in all the parts and submit strictly no later than midnight on **April 19th, 2025**.

Along with the applications each applicant must upload or send by email to concorso@paganinifestival.com the payment receipt of individual registration fees to be paid by bank transfer to "Società dei Concerti di Parma APS"

Bank name: BPER Banca

IBAN: IT 81 V 05387 12702 0000 0330 2963

BIC (Swift code): BPMOIT22XXX

Description: Paganini International Award enrollment fees – Soloist section - full name of the contest participant

Information:

"N. Paganini" Competition

Mail concorso@paganinifestival.com