



First International Composition Competition

Sacred Music



Diocesi di Prato

in collaboration with

Puccini International Opera Composition Academy Lucca
Associazione O.M.E.G.A. di Firenze

and on the occasion of the

2025 JUBILEE Events

announce the

First International Composition Competition Sacred Music



COMPETITION RULES

Art. 1

The competition is open to composers of any nationality and without age restrictions. Each competitor may submit only one composition. Entries must be unpublished works and never performed, under penalty of exclusion from the competition.

Art. 2

Compositions may belong to any musical trend, genre, or form, provided they comply with the guidelines set out in these rules. The compositions must be inspired by the theme of Hope, chosen by Pope Francis for the 2025 Jubilee.

Art. 3

The scores must be composed for the following maximum instrumentation: lyric soprano and string orchestra (4.3.2.2.1). The minimum duration of the piece must be 5 minutes, the maximum approximately 10 minutes. The piece may be divided into several movements. The pieces must be transcribed using music notation software (Finale, Sibelius, Dorico, MuseScore). In addition to the title, the score must include the name of the composer and the duration.

Art. 4

To participate in the competition, please send the following to info@puccini-locat.it:

Score in PDF format

Biography

Receipt of payment of the registration fee

A dated and signed statement that the piece is unpublished and has never been performed in public

MP3 or MIDI audio file (not mandatory)

All documents must be received no later than September 15, 2025.

Art. 5

The registration fee for the competition is €30, to be paid by bank transfer to Puccini International Opera Composition Academy Lucca - IBAN: IT21N0503413709000000004130

Art. 6

Prize

- Public performance of the winning piece in Lucca and Prato
- Prize of €500

Art. 7

The Jury is composed of:

- Girolamo Deraco (Jury President, Composer, Teacher, Stage Director)
- Alan Magnatta (Conductor)
- Alessandro J. Bianchi (Stage Director, Actor)

The Jury reserves the right to recommend compositions but not award the prize if it does not consider any of the compositions submitted to be worthy.

Art. 8

The winner will be announced on September 20, 2025, and will be published on the website and on social media pages. The organization will be responsible for informing participants of the result. The winner must send the separate parts within 3 days of the announcement.

Art. 9

An audio/video recording will be made of the winner's concert. The winning composer agrees to authorize this recording at the time of registration.

It is understood that this recording may be publicly broadcast on radio, television, and the internet, both nationally and internationally, and may be released on record.

Art. 10

Any changes to these rules may be necessary due to “force majeure” and will be communicated promptly by email, on the competition website, and on social media pages. In the event of disputes, the Rules, written in Italian and published on the competition website, shall prevail. The Court of Lucca shall have jurisdiction.

Art. 11

Registration for the Competition implies acceptance of all the rules of these Regulations and consent to the use of personal data in accordance with the law.

Please, don't let anyone steal your hope! Don't let anyone steal your hope!” Pope Francis (28th World Youth Day, March 24, 2013)