

JGA Guitar Music Festival

Japan School Guitar Ensemble Competition 2026 Guidelines for Applicants

Gist of Session

Guitar ensemble is the best and the brightest system of developing sense of music and socializing skills at the same time. Especially in the educational process in schools, students are able to obtain lifelong friends and a lifelong instrument.

This contest aims upbringing of youth with a rich spirit and to make music a part of their lives.

Therefore, this contest does not have any restrictions on the size of ensemble or the types of instruments as long as the ensemble is formed of only students.

The venue is going to be the classical music hall that has one of the foremost effects of good acoustic in Japan therefore we encourage the participants to make the most of the resonance of guitar.

JGA Guitar Festival "Kyo-en in Tokyo" will also be held at the same time where all the first-prize winners of solo performances from different competitions will gather and perform. It will surely be a future goal for the participants witnessing their gorgeous performances of their age.

■Date August 14th (Fri.), 2026 Final Round from 10:50

■Venue Yokohama Minato-Mirai Hall (Yokohama)

■Admission Advance 2,500 yen

■Organiser JGA (Japan Guitar Association)

◆Sponsors 公益社団法人・日本ギター連盟 Japan Federation of Guitarists

全日本学生ギター連盟 Japan Federation of Youth Guitarists

JAEM・日本音楽教育協会 JAEM (Japan Association for Educational Music)

日本教育ギター連盟 NKG (Japan Federation of Educational Guitar)

日本スペインギター協会 Japan Spanish Guitar Association

日本ジュニアギター協会 Japan Association for Junior Guitarists

日本ギタリスト会議 Japan Guitarists Conference

九州ギター音楽協会 Kyushu Guitar Music Association

GLC (Guitar Leaders Club)

中部日本ギター協会 Chubu Nippon Guitar Association

日本ギター協会 Nippon Guitar Association

日本ギタリスト協会 Japan Guitarists Association

(株)現代ギター社 Gendai Guitar Co., Ltd.

Boards of Education (Under application)

*No particular order

◆Final Round Juries The top 6 guitar specialists such as guitarists/composers/conductors/commentators will be assumed. Jury

◆Award Best Performer, Gold Award, Silver Award, Bronze Award, Consolation Prize and Participation Prize from JGA

How To Apply and Important Notes

I. Rules

Eligibility for Participation: Guitar ensemble clubs at school (Primary, Secondary, High school and University) or alumni and alumnae groups

Program: Category A one compulsory and one free-choice pieces. Category B one free-choice pieces.

Total length: Category A not to be exceeded 12 mins. Category B not to be exceeded 8 mins.

*From the start of compulsory piece through the end of free-choice piece including the interval of the pieces and preparations.

*Contrabass, percussion etc are allowed under the responsibility of each club.

Participation Fee: 2,500 yen per student 3,500 yen per alumnus/alumna

*Including for the preliminary and for the final round.

*Same applies to the conductor.

*A ticket for the final round was also included.

Start Accepting Date: June 1st, 2026, Monday.

All applications must be received by June 14th, 2026, Wednesday.

II. Applications

Applicants will be asked to submit the following 4 materials by e-mail.

- Application Form
- Questionnaire about the Club
- A group photo for the program sheet
- Participation fee (Photo copy of registered mail or postal transfer)

Please fill out all the sections of the prescribed Application Form and Questionnaire.

All the performers in a group photo must be clear.

Please download the Application Form and Questionnaire from the website below or request by email

III. Preliminary Round (By recordings)

Deadline: July, 10th, 2026, Friday.

Please submit the following 2 materials.

- Recording file of performance of their playing of free-choice piece
- PDF of score of free-choice and compulsory piece

*The name of the club and the program must be clearly stated on the above 2 materials.

*The free-choice piece must be the same as being played at the final round (incl. the same formation and the same arrangement) and must be recorded from the very top of the only one round.

*A photocopy is allowed for the scores. In that case please make 2 copies and bind them up.

*The results from the preliminary round will be announced on the website after July 24th.

IV. Compulsory Pieces (Please inquire by email through our website how to receive the scores.)

- Jun Takeuchi "Prelude for animals 5.Sonatina of the Proud Wolves" *Score written specially for this competition. (Each guitar part)
- Toshiro Saruya "8月14日のあかみとり" *Score written specially for this contest. (Each guitar part)
- G.F. Handel "Gavotte - The 5th Movement of the Concerto Grosso op.6 No.10" (Each guitar part)
- Yoshihiro Koseki "Summer scenery" (4 prime guitar parts or can add Cb.G Guitarron)

【 Application / Inquiry 】

Japan School Guitar Ensemble Competition 2026

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