

Sony Music Foundation presents  
**THE 13th INTERNATIONAL**  
**OBOE**  
**COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2023**  
in Tokyo  
第13回 国際オーボエコンクール・東京

<< Participation Requirements >>

Revised November 25, 2022



MEMBRE DE LA FÉDÉRATION  
MONDIALE DES CONCOURS  
INTERNATIONAUX DE MUSIQUE  
MEMBER OF THE WORLD  
FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL  
MUSIC COMPETITIONS

Presented by: Sony Music Foundation

Supported by: Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan / Japan Oboe Association

With the cooperation of: Sony Group Corporation / YAMAHA CORPORATION

In collaboration with: The Musashino Foundation for Culture and Lifelong Learning /  
Japan Double-Reed Inc. / Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

# I . COMPETITION OVERVIEW

“THE INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN” began with an idea by the former chairman of the Sony Music Foundation, Norio Ohga (1930–2011), who was intrigued by the innocent and comforting sound of the oboe and advocated its importance as the instrument that could determine the quality of an entire orchestra. The Sony Music Foundation has been presenting the Competition every three years since 1985. It aims to promote the true artistic value of the oboe, as well as to contribute to the development of music culture with an international perspective through discovering and fostering talented musicians and helping them expand their scope of activities in Japan and abroad. It has established a reputation as a unique international Competition solely dedicated to the oboe, with past winners going on to become international music figures who have obtained principal and solo positions in world-renowned orchestras. The first seven Competitions were held in Tokyo. Starting with the 8th Competition in 2006 up to the 11th in 2015, it has been held at Karuizawa Ohga Hall in Nagano Prefecture. The 12th Competition took place in Tokyo in 2018. The 13th Competition has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will be held anew in 2023. The Competition is a member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions.

## 1. Name of Competition

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THE 13th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2023 in Tokyo

## 2. Committees of “The 13th International Oboe Competition of Japan 2023 in Tokyo”

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### Chairman

Michinori MIZUNO (Chairman, Sony Music Foundation)

### [Management Committee]

Shigenobu KARUBE (Secretary General, Secretariat /  
Executive Managing Director, Sony Music Foundation)

Fumihiko KANAGAWA (Deputy Secretary General, Secretariat /  
Managing Director, Sony Music Foundation)

Ken-ichi FURUBE

Isao TSUJI

Masaru YOSHIDA

### [Review Committee]

#### Jury Chairman

Hansjörg SCHELLENBERGER (Oboist / Conductor / Professor, Reina Sofía School of Music in Madrid)

#### Jury members (in alphabetical order)

Ken-ichi FURUBE (Specially Appointed Principal Oboist, New Japan Philharmonic /  
Associate Professor, Tokyo College of Music)

Gordon HUNT (Principal Oboist, London Chamber Orchestra / Former Principal Oboist,  
Philharmonia Orchestra / Conductor)

Ramón Ortega QUERO (Principal Oboist, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra)

Dwight PARRY (Principal Oboist, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra)

Isao TSUJI (Oboist / Professor and Assistant to Dean, Senzoku Gakuen College of Music)

Masaru YOSHIDA (Principal Bassoonist, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo)

### 3. Secretariat

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Secretariat of the “13th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2023 in Tokyo”  
c/o Sony Music Foundation

Address: SME-Rokubancho Bldg. 4-5, Rokubancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8353 JAPAN

Phone: +81-(0)3-3515-5261 (10:00–18:00 Japan time, on weekdays)

e-mail: [smf@sonymusic.co.jp](mailto:smf@sonymusic.co.jp)

URL: [https://oboec.jp/index\\_e/](https://oboec.jp/index_e/)

Please note: Any inquiries from abroad will only be accepted via e-mail.

### 4. Dates

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- Period for application:** February 15 (Wed.) – March 14 (Tue.), 2023  
[Must arrive by this date, **Central European time**]
- Preliminary screening (with videos):** April – May 2023 (Closed to the public)  
◇Results announcement: Around June 19 (Mon.)
- First round (with videos):** **Deadline for video submission: August 8, 2023 (Tue.) (tbc)**  
◇Results announcement: Around September 11 (Mon.)
- (The following will take place in Tokyo, Japan)
- Registration:** September 30, 2023 (Sat.)
- Second round:** October 3 (Tue.), 5 (Thu.), 6 (Fri.), 2023  
◇Results announcement: October 6 (Fri.)
- Final Round and Award Presentation Ceremony:** October 8, 2023 (Sun.)
- Prize Winners & Jury Concert:** October 9, 2023 (Mon.)

### 5. Venue

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Musashino Civic Cultural Hall  
3-9-11 Nakacho, Musashino City, Tokyo 180-0006 Japan

<https://www.musashino.or.jp/bunka/>

◆Second Round: Small Hall

◆Final Round / Award Presentation Ceremony / Prize Winners & Jury Concert: Large Hall

### 6. Prizes & Awards

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- ◆ **First Prize (Ohga Award)** Certificate / cash prize of JPY 1,300,000 / trophy
  - ◆ **Second Prize** Certificate / cash prize of JPY 700,000
  - ◆ **Third Prize** Certificate / cash prize of JPY 300,000
  - ◆ **Honorable Mention** Certificate / cash prize of JPY 100,000  
\* Presented to all finalists other than the winners of the top three prizes.
  - ◆ **Audience Award** Certificate
  - ◆ **Encouragement Award** Certificate  
\* Presented to one contestant with Japanese citizenship, selected by the jury. If no one is deemed qualified, the relevant place will be left vacant. The winner will be given an opportunity to perform in a concert organized by Sony Music Foundation.
  - ◆ **Sony Award** Commemorative gift  
\* Presented by Sony Group Corporation to all finalists.
- ◇ If there are two or more winners for the First, Second, and/or Third Prizes, the Committee will revise the amount of the cash prize at its own discretion.  
If no one is deemed qualified, the relevant place will be left vacant.
- ◇ Other prizes and awards, such as a Special Award, may be offered.
- ◇ The amounts of cash prizes are inclusive of taxes according to the tax laws of Japan.

## II. APPLICATION

### 1. Eligibility

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Anyone born between January 1, 1993, and December 31, 2005, is eligible, except for past first-prize winners of this Competition.

### 2. Period for application

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February 15 (Wed.) – March 14 (Tue.), 2023 [Must arrive by this date, [Central European time](#)]

### 3. Where to apply

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All applications must go through MUVAC, an online application facilitation service.

“MUVAC” (<https://www.muvac.com/>)

\* Need to sign up for an account prior to application.

\* Application through other methods are not accepted.

### 4. How to apply

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Applicants must go to the MUVAC website within the application period and submit all of the following items, namely (a) through (e), by typing in or uploading.

- 1) First of all, register [the information required to apply for this competition \(see the chart below\)](#) from “Join muvac” at the top right side of the MUVAC home page.
- 2) After registering [the required information](#), go on to the “13th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2023 in Tokyo” page ([search by the keyword “Sony Music Foundation”](#)) which will be launched within the “Institutions” section on the MUVAC website, and send your application through “Apply”.
- 3) After you have completed the application, there will be an application confirmation e-mail sent to you from MUVAC automatically. Make sure you have received the confirmation.
- 4) The Japanese manual is available on the official website of the “13th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2023 in Tokyo” (<https://oboec.jp/>) as needed.

\* The data can be modified or added as needed, within the period of application (February 15 through March 14, 2023).

\* Applications with any fraud and/or deficiency will be disqualified immediately upon detection.

	Notes etc.	Where to look on the MUVAC website
(a) Basic information	Basic information of the applicant - Name / gender / date of birth - Nationality / address / phone #, etc.	Personal Data
(b) Profile	Current occupation / musical background / performing history / competition award-winning experience/s, etc.	Résumé
(c) Photo	- Front face / from the waist up - Taken within the last 6 months of the application date - Color photo that is not subject to copyright restriction (A clipping from flyers, magazines, etc. is unacceptable.) - The image should be a JPEG 200KB or larger. - The photo will be used in the official pamphlet, website, and for the Competition’s publication, etc.	<a href="#">Documents</a>

(d) Proof of age	ONE official documentation as proof of age (passport, etc.)	Documents
(e) Video for preliminary screening	<p>The URL of the page on <a href="#">YouTube or Vimeo</a> where the applicant has uploaded the video of the Required Repertoire (stated in the latter part of this document)</p> <p>*Those who have participated in the Second Round in any of our past Competitions are exempt from submitting the recording for the preliminary screening. If applicable, <a href="mailto:smf@sonymusic.co.jp">make sure to notify the Secretariat by email (smf@sonymusic.co.jp)</a> prior to the application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recording should be made no earlier than October 2022; non-edited recording only. “Non-edited” means that audio adjustments or editing during the performing of the tune has not been done.</li> <li>- The screening will be done without letting the jurors know the applicants’ names. Therefore, make sure that anything that may identify you, such as your name, your school logo, etc., does not appear in the video.</li> <li>- Camera angle should be horizontal and fixed. Make sure that the oboist’s hand and face show clearly from the front. As for the accompanist, make sure that his/her face shows too.</li> <li>- Audio-only applications are not accepted.</li> <li>- Upload your video <a href="#">as Public or Unlisted on YouTube or Vimeo</a> and type in the URL of the uploaded video. <a href="#">Be careful NOT to set a password.</a></li> <li>- We recommend you to use the highest quality available for the audio/video.</li> <li>- The title of the video should be the video shoot date (dd/mm/yyyy). Do not state anything in the Description section, <a href="#">etc.</a></li> </ul>	Media

## 5. Preliminary screening (closed to the public)

In order to select the contestants for the First Round, Preliminary Screening will be done by way of reviewing the submitted videos stated in II-4.

The Preliminary Screening will be done by the Jury Chairman and the Jury members who reside in Japan, after the Secretariat has confirmed the applications’ eligibility. It will be a “blind screening” process, so no applicant’s information will be disclosed to the Jury members at the time of the screening.

The results of the Preliminary Screening will be provided to all applicants via e-mail from MUVAC ([messages@muvac.com](mailto:messages@muvac.com)), aiming for no later than Monday, June 19, 2023. If you do not receive your result by Monday, June 19, please contact the Secretariat via e-mail ([smf@sonymusic.co.jp](mailto:smf@sonymusic.co.jp)). Any inquiries regarding the Preliminary Screening will not be answered prior to that date.

### **III. COMPETITION PARTICIPATION**

#### **1. Participation fee**

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Those who have passed the Preliminary Screening must remit JPY 20,000 as the participation fee. The fee, once paid, is not refundable under any circumstances.

#### **2. First Round**

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The first round will be done with the submitted videos, reviewed by all Jury members.

- Details of the First Round, such as how to submit the video, etc., will be informed at time of notification only to those who have passed the Preliminary Screening.
- After confirming the submission of the video from the contestant, the Secretariat will provide JPY 70,000 (including taxes based on Japanese tax law) to support the expenses for the shooting of the video in concern. The amount will be wired to the designated bank account.
- The deadline for the submission of the video for the First Round is Tuesday, August 8, and the results are announced around Monday, September 11.
- Orders of performance in the Second and Final Rounds will be designated after the results of the First Round has been confirmed, and will be based on the careful drawing by the Secretariat. The order of performances, once decided, will be applied to the entire Competition.
- The submitted videos will be viewable to public.
- Applications with any fraud and/or deficiency will be disqualified immediately upon detection.

#### **3. Second and Final Rounds**

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The Second and Final Rounds will take place in Musashino City, Japan, reviewed by all Jury members. The contestants for the Second Round must register for participation on Saturday, September 30, 2023, at the registration site in Tokyo designated by the Secretariat. Contestants must attend the reception that follows the registration process on the same day.

Details of the Second Round will be informed at time of notification only to those who have passed the First Round.

Upon qualification from the First Round, the contestant should notify the Secretariat of the required information, such as his/her choice of required repertoire for the Second Round and the performing order, as well as requests for accommodations and accompanists.

Details of the Final Round will be informed at time of notification only to those who have passed the Second Round.

#### **4. Stipend for contestants from abroad**

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Those who reside outside Japan and come/return to Japan solely for the Competition shall receive a stipend as stated below in Japanese yen cash upon registration for participation in the Second Round in Japan, if deemed applicable by the Secretariat.

A stipend will not be provided if a contestant comes/returns to Japan without an intention to go back to the place of residence for a certain period of time and/or with the purpose other than participation in the Competition.

The applicable region should be the place of embarkation/disembarkation for participation in the Competition.

The contestant shall receive the amount after tax withholding according to the tax laws of Japan. (Tax rate is 20.42% in principle.)

	Amount (gross)	Amount to be received after tax reduction (net)
Contestants from the Americas / Europe / Africa	JPY 100,000	JPY 79,580
Contestants from Asia / Oceania	JPY 50,000	JPY 39,790

## 5. Accommodation for Contestants

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The Secretariat will provide the accommodation at a hotel designated by the Secretariat (one single room for one person with breakfast) from the date of registration to the following dates.

All other accommodation expenses must be taken care of by the contestant.

◆ **Contestants in the Second Round:**

September 30 until the morning following the Second Round (October 7)

◆ **Contestants in the Final Round:**

September 30 until the morning following the Final Round (October 9)

◆ **Contestants appearing in the “Prize Winners & Jury Concert”** (described later in this document):

September 30 until the morning following the “Prize Winners & Jury Concert” (October 10)

## 6. Accompaniment

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- The contestant may bring his/her own piano and/or harpsichord accompanist, in which case, the contestant is responsible for all the costs to do so.
- If the contestant is not bringing his/her own accompanist, the Secretariat will arrange for the official piano and/or harpsichord accompanist of the Second Round.
- The Secretariat will provide an orchestra, a conductor, and chamber musicians (a string trio) for all contestants in the Final Round.
- The Secretariat will determine the details, such as the time and place of the official rehearsal/s with the piano and harpsichord accompanists, the orchestra, the conductor, and the chamber musicians.
- Official accompanists will be assigned for the Second Round, Final Round, and the “Prize Winners & Jury Concert” respectively by the Secretariat. It is not guaranteed that the same accompanist/s will be assigned.

## 7. “Prize Winners & Jury Concert”

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- The winners (of the top three prizes, in principle) must perform at the “Prize Winners & Jury Concert” on October 9, which is the day following the Final Round, at the Musashino Civic Cultural Hall (Large Hall).
- No fee will be paid to the Prize Winners for the performance in this concert. However, accommodation expenses for the concert (extension of check out timing to the Oct. 10th) will be covered by the Secretariat accordingly.
- The Committee will decide on the pieces that will be performed from among the Required Repertoire (described later in this document) that the winners performed at the Competition. It may suggest the section of the repertoire to perform.

## 8. Others

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### [A] Contestant/ Participant

An applicant who has passed the Preliminary Screening and paid the participation fee is referred to as a "contestant." He/she will be referred to as a "participant" if he/she fails to proceed to the next round.

### [B] Visa

The contestant and/or the accompanist is/are responsible for obtaining the visa/s to enter Japan, as necessary. For documents required for a visa application to enter Japan, please contact the Secretariat.

### [C] Insurance

The contestant and/or the accompanist is/are responsible for obtaining insurance against illness, as well as accidents, fire, theft, damage to belongings (including his/her instrument), and/or other liabilities for the entire period of the Competition.

### [D] Copyrights

Any rights including neighboring rights related to photographing, recording, filming, broadcasting, and streaming of all performances during the Competition including the "Prize Winners & Jury Concert," which take place on the day following the Final Round, will belong to the Secretariat.

### [E] Presentation of the Performances

All the rounds of this Competition are open to the public, except for Preliminary Screening.

The First, Second, and Final Rounds, as well as the Award Presentation Ceremony, may be broadcast live and/or recorded for TV, radio, and/or live/archive streaming on the Internet (on YouTube and other streaming services), and on the Competition's official website and social media accounts, and the contestants and accompanists shall agree to such broadcasting. Please note that no fee will be paid to the Contestants for these broadcasting, streaming, and sharing.

### [F] Personal Information

The following information of the contestants in the First Round will be disclosed:

[nationality / region / full name / date of birth / titles of the repertoire to be performed / educational background / musical background]

The Secretariat will take necessary measures to keep the personal information provided by applicants in an appropriate manner and protect it against leakage, loss, and illegal access.

### [G] Compliance with the Japanese Law

Any dispute in connection with these Participation Requirements shall be settled based on the original version (Japanese language) of this document and in accordance with the Japanese law.

### [H] Review Method

The Review Committee will evaluate the contestants' performances based on the reviewing criteria specified separately. The decision of the Review Committee is final and absolute.



## **IV. REQUIRED REPERTOIRE**

The Secretariat will designate the Required Repertoire for the Preliminary Screening and the First, Second, and Final Rounds, respectively.

Throughout the Competition period, all instruments used for accompaniment (piano, harpsichord, orchestra, chamber music) will be tuned to A=442Hz.

### **1. Preliminary Screening (with video)**

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The Participant must record in audio and video the performance of the required repertoire below:

- 1) A. Ponchielli: Capriccio  
[Publisher: Not designated]

### **2. First Round (with video)**

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The Contestant must record in audio and video the performance of the two pieces below (performing order of the pieces is optional)

- 1) G. Ph. Telemann: 12 Fantasien für Querflöte ohne baß - XI. Fantasie G-dur TWV40:12  
[With all repeats]  
[Publisher: Bärenreiter/ Henle]
- 2) P. Hindemith: Sonate für Oboe und Klavier  
[Publisher: Schott]

### **3. Second Round (Public review in Japan)**

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The Contestant must choose one piece each from groups <A>, <B>, and <C>, which makes a total of three pieces, to constitute a recital of about 45-55 minutes in length. (From entering the stage to leaving the stage must be 60 minutes at the most.) Up to one piece can be selected for the performance without accompaniment. (performing order of the pieces is optional)

<A>

- 1) J. S. Bach: Sonate g-moll BWV1030b  
[No repeats for the 3rd Movement]  
[Publisher: Peters]
- 2) J. S. Bach: Partita a-moll für Flöte solo BWV1013 version in g-moll  
[1st repeats only in all movements]  
[Publisher: Karthause-Schmülling (Revised by Birgit Welpmann) / Alexander Gagarinov\*  
(IMSLP=International Music Score Library Project) ]  
\* Make sure to correct Bach's mistakes when you perform.
- 3) F. Couperin: "Les goûts reunis" ou "Nouveaux Concerts" with Harpsichord concert No.7 or No.9 or No.11  
[Accompanied by the harpsichord, repeats optional]  
[Publisher: Fuzeau]

<B>

- 1) A. Doráti: Duo concertante  
[Publisher: Boosey & Hawkes]

- 2) D. Milhaud: Sonatine pour Hautbois et Piano op.337  
[Publisher: Durand]
- 3) N. Skalkottas: Concertino für oboe solo und Klavierbegleitung  
[Publisher: Margun]
- 4) A. Pasculli: Fantasia sull'opera "Poliuto" di Donizetti  
[Publisher: Musica Rara (Breitkopf & Härtel) ]
- 5) A. Pasculli: Gran Concerto su temi dall'opera "I vespri siciliani" di Verdi  
[Publisher: Musica Rara (Breitkopf & Härtel) ]
- 6) G. Silvestrini: 6 Etudes pour hautbois No.1,2,5,6  
[Publisher: Delatour]
- 7) T. Hosokawa: Spell Song for oboe  
Commissioned by Sony Music Foundation for "THE 11th INTERNATIONAL OBOE COMPETITION OF JAPAN 2015 in Karuizawa"  
[Publisher: Schott]



- 1) W. A. Mozart: Oboe Concerto in C major, K.314 (285d)  
[Should be performed by memory. Accompanied by the piano.]  
[Publisher: Breitkopf & Härtel (Revised by Henrik Wiese) / Henle (Revised by Ingo Goritzki) / the latest edition of Bärenreiter (Revised by Frank de Bruine)\* ]  
\* You must perform the "Ossia Version" if you are using this edition.
- 2) B. Martinů: Concerto pour hautbois avec petit orchestre, H.353  
[Publisher: Max Eschig(Revised by M. Bourgue & G. Porat)]
- 3) R. Vaughan-Williams: Oboe Concerto for oboe and strings in a minor  
[Publisher: Not designated]

#### 4. Final Round (Public reviewing in Japan)

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The Contestant must perform the following two pieces:

- 1) W. A. Mozart: Quartet in F major for Oboe, Violin, Viola, and Violoncello K.370 (368b)  
[Accompanied by strings, with the first repeat]  
[Publisher: Bärenreiter / Henle / Fuzeau]
- 2) R. Strauss: Concerto in D major for Oboe and small Orchestra AV144  
[Should be performed by memory. Accompanied by the orchestra.]  
[Publisher: Henle]