



Richard-Wagner-Verband Leipzig



Call for International Competition 2026

Bayreuth Scholarship and Richard-Wagner-Young-Talent-Award

The Richard Wagner Association Leipzig and the Leipzig Opera are offering six scholarships for the 2026 Bayreuth Festival in the categories of singing, instrumental music (except solo piano and organ) and accompaniment to Richard Wagner's works. In addition to the Bayreuth scholarship, the first three winners will receive the Richard Wagner Young Talent Award:

1st Price 3.000 € | 2nd Price 2.000 € | 3rd Price 1.000 €

The selection of participants will take place on

Monday, 12 January 2026,

from 10 am in the concert foyer of the Leipzig Opera, Augustusplatz 12, 04109 Leipzig.

Applicants between the ages of 18 and 35 who are currently enrolled in university or working as freelance or permanently employed artists and have not yet received a Bayreuth scholarship are eligible to apply. The competition is open to applicants from across Europe.

Application Contents

- CV (including postal address, email, mobile phone number, and bank details)
 - Proof of enrollment (current studies) or certificate
 - Motivation letter
 - Reference letter from a university professor or instructor
 - Competition entry (a work of free choice and a work by Richard Wagner)
 - One or more MP3 recordings (for accompaniment: scenes with sung parts)
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Competition Process

- Musical performance of approximately 10 to 15 minutes.
- Possible discussion with jury members, up to 10 minutes.
- Personal "feedback" from the jury at the end of the second day (optional).

The Jury

- Prof. Christiane Libor, Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe (Vorsitz)
- Dr. Cornelia Preissinger, Operndirektorin der Oper Leipzig
- Prof. Ansi Verwey, Hochschule für Musik und Theater Leipzig
- Carolin Masur, Vorstandsmitglied des Richard-Wagner-Verbandes Leipzig
- Prof. Rolf-Dieter Arens, Präsident der Kulturstiftung Leipzig
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In the first round, the jury will decide on invitations to the competition. The jury is entitled to interrupt competition entries and, if necessary, have them repeated. Overnight accommodation will be provided for external participants in the competition upon request. Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from the venue.

By submitting their application, candidates expressly agree that photos, film and audio recordings made during the competition may be used by the Richard Wagner Association Leipzig and its sponsors to promote the event.

The Richard Wagner Association, as the data controller, along with the sponsors of the competition, will process the personal data provided by the applicants solely for the purpose of selecting participants and conducting the competition. Only complete applications will be considered. During the competition, photos, video, and audio recordings of the participants will be made, which the organizers and sponsors may use for promoting the competition. The names of the prize winners will be published permanently. The legal basis for data processing is the initiation and execution of the contract regarding participation in the competition. Applicants' rights concerning their personal data, including the right to access, rectify, delete, or complain, are governed by the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Federal Data Protection Act.

The scholarship recipients are obliged to perform at the gala concert in honor of Richard Wagner on **Tuesday, 13 January 2026**, in the concert foyer of the Leipzig Opera and to attend the scholarship days in Bayreuth from **22 to 27 August 2026**. They are requested to write a report about their experiences in Bayreuth for the journal of the Richard Wagner Association Leipzig.

Please upload your application by **15 November 2025**, to

<https://wagner-verband-leipzig.de/stipendiaten/>

Applicants will be informed about their acceptance to the competition by
1 December 2025.

For further information
wettbewerb@wagner-verband-leipzig.de

Richard ist Leipziger ...

