



9th INTERNATIONAL SAN COLOMBANO COMPETITION

Piacenza, 22 – 25 October 2026

COMPETITION RULES

Canto barocco – solo voices

Article 1

TARGETS

The competition is open to singers of all vocal registers and all nationalities who have reached the age of 18.

Article 2

PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded to the CANTO BAROCCO SECTION:

First Prize: Euro 1.000,00

Special prize for the best interpretation of Antonio Vivaldi aria: Euro 500.00

Two singers will be selected to perform in a paid concert as part of the BIBIENA ART FESTIVAL.

The concert will take place on 16 May 2027 in the Salone d'onore at Palazzo Anguissola in Piacenza. Prize offered by 'Gruppo Strumentale Ciampi'.

Failure to attend the prize concert on the date set by the organiser will result in the winner forfeiting the prize. In this case, the prize concert will be awarded to another singer, to be chosen by the competition's artistic director.

Some singers may be chosen for a paid concert as part of the San Colombano 2027 music festival.

The prizes will be paid by bank transfer within 60 days from the final of the competition and any transaction costs required by the bank of support of the competitor will be borne by the competitor.

Any taxes required by the Italian state will be borne by the competitor.

In the event of a tie, the first prize can be awarded ex aequo (first prize ex aequo € 500.00).

Article 3

JURY

The Jury of the competition, appointed by the cultural association DeA Donne e Arte, will evaluate the singers during each stage of the competition, select those who will be admitted to the final and decide the winners and the prize-winners of the 9th International Competition San Colombano 2026. It will be made up of a President and Jurors of repute, chosen among personalities from the world of music and will be published on the competition website www.concorsosancolombano.it

The jury will take its decisions in secret session, by a majority of the votes cast, and will make them known to the candidates at the end of the eliminatory round. Should a candidate turn out to be a student of a member of the jury, that member shall abstain from voting.

The jury's decision is final.

The organisation is relieved of all responsibility for any changes in the members of the jury due to extraordinary circumstances.

Article 4 REGISTRATION

The application form, available on the website www.concorsosancolombano.it, filled and signed, must be sent by email no later than midnight **of 12 October 2026** to the following address:
info@concorsosancolombano.it

The application form must contain the following documents:

- Application form completed in all its parts and signed
- artistic curriculum (preferably in Italian language)
- identity document or passport
- a recent photograph
- a list of two arias from the Baroque repertoire
- **copy of the piano/song scores in pdf**
- A copy of the payment of the registration fee of Euro 70.00 to be paid by bank transfer to the account of:

DeA DONNE E ARTE PIACENZA - APS
BANK OF PIACENZA, via Mazzini 20, Piacenza
IBAN: IT43H0515612600CC0000039522 - SWIFT/BIC: BCPCIT2P

Indicate in the reason for payment **"Iscrizione canto barocco"** followed by the first and last name of the **candidate**. If you wish to pay by Paypal, the payment must be of 73,00 € and can be made at the section SUBSCRIBE of the website www.concorsosancolombano.it

For the candidate who intends to participate in both sections, baroque and sacred, the registration fee will be 120,00 € in total by bank transfer or 125,00 € by Paypal indicating the reason for payment **"Iscrizione barocca e sacra"** followed by the first and last name of the candidate.

Failure to pay within the 12 October 2026 will result in the exclusion of the candidate from the Competition.

The registration fee is not refundable under any circumstances, except as provided for in point 7.

Article 5 REHEARSALS

Candidates must present a programme of two solo pieces of their own choosing, taken from an opera or a secular oratorio from the Baroque repertoire.

At each stage of the competition it is possible to sing by reading the score. Please note that it will not be possible to change the programme once it has been sent.

During the various stages of the rehearsals, the candidates will be accompanied on the piano by collaborators provided by the organisation of the competition. However, each candidate may be accompanied by a own pianist at his own expense.

All stages of the competition will be accompanied by a STEINWAY & SONS half-tail piano tuned to 440 Hz.

An accompanying pianist will be available to the singers for a musical rehearsal on the morning of Saturday 24 October. The rehearsal times will be communicated directly by the organisers.

Eliminatory Round: 24 October 2026 at the auditorium of the Piacenza and Vigevano Foundation, via Sant'Eufemia 12, Piacenza (behind closed doors).

The convocation time for the Eliminatory Round will be decided by the competition secretariat and communicated to candidates by e-mail on 16 October 2026.

The candidate will perform an aria of his choice from the programme submitted, lasting no more than seven minutes.

The jury reserves the right to interrupt and/or ask the candidate to repeat the performance.

At the jury's discretion, the candidate may also be asked to perform a second aria.

Candidates must bring with them all the printed vocal and piano scores for the pieces listed in the programme they have submitted.

At the end of the preliminary round, the candidates selected by the jury for the finalists' concert will be announced.

Final Round - Finalists' Concert: 24 October 2026 at 21:00 at the auditorium of the Piacenza and Vigevano Foundation, via Sant'Eufemia 12, Piacenza.

The concert will feature the finalists from both the sacred music and Baroque singing sections.

The finalists will perform **in concert dress**. At the end of the final rehearsal, the jury will decide the winners and the prizes and certificates will be presented.

The competition's final concert will be open to the public and will be streamed on the competition's social media channels.

For further information, please contact the competition secretariat:

333 6023199 - info@concorsosancolombano.it

Article 6

AUDIO AND VIDEO FILMING

The DeA Association reserves the right to film and record, without time limit, all the stages of the Competition without any obligation to the participants who, by signing the application form, expressly accept to transfer any right of economic use of said recordings to the DeA Piacenza Association free of charge.

Article 7

CANCELLATION OF THE COMPETITION

If for reasons of force majeure, or if the minimum number of entrants is not reached, the competition will be cancelled and the entry fees will be refunded by bank transfer. Bank charges will be borne by the recipient.

Article 8

VALIDITY OF THE TEXT

The regulations of the International San Colombano Competition are published in two languages (Italian and English).

Only the Italian text has official and legal validity.

The parties will submit all disputes arising from this competition or connected with it - including those relating to its interpretation, validity, effectiveness, execution and resolution - to mediation in accordance with the provisions of the Civil and Commercial Mediation Rules of the "Resolutia" organisation based in Piacenza.

The parties undertake to resort to mediation before starting any arbitration or judicial proceedings for which the Court of Piacenza is agreed.

In the event of disputes and for any controversy the Court of Piacenza shall have jurisdiction.