

The Musicians' Company

The Eddie Harvey Jazz Big Band Arranger of the Year Award 2026



The Eddie Harvey Big Band Jazz Arranger of the Year Award was established to perpetuate the memory of Eddie Harvey and to honour his expressed wish to try to ensure that arrangers of jazz compositions receive due acknowledgement of the importance of their contributions to jazz. A winning prize of £1,500.00 is offered. To that end, The Musicians' Company, with generous support from the Harvey estate, maintains The Eddie Harvey Big Band Jazz Arranger of the Year Award in accordance with the rules set below.

Please note especially the underlined sections below.

Award Rules

- a) The competition is open to all persons resident in the U.K. of any age. Previous winners of the prize are excluded from the competition.
- b) Submissions should be notated for all the chosen instruments or voices and in Sibelius, Dorico or any other appropriate digital format. Handwritten submissions are not acceptable. (See also Rules g) and i).). A PDF score should also be provided.
- c) All submitted arrangements must include at least one each of the following: trumpet, trombone, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, piano, bass, and drums. There is scope to include up to two additional instruments or voices, provided the overall line-up remains practical from a commercial and presentational perspective. Arrangements may be of existing works or original compositions. Note that the original work must be by a composer other than the arranger themselves. If submitting an arrangement of an original work entrants must also submit the work in its original form (such as a piano score or a vocal line with chord symbols) as well as in the arrangement.

The arranger should also submit a digital audio version of the score, the standard/quality of which will not affect the judgement of the score. This may be in wav, mp3, midi or other standard format.

- d) The duration of the submitted arrangements shall be **no longer than 10 minutes and a minimum of six**, including solo improvised sections.

General guidance: Entrants should bear in mind that this is a competition assessing *arrangement* skills, and not original composition. Furthermore, a head arrangement with blowing changes will not fulfil the brief.

- The arrangement should be largely orchestrated. Improvised sections can be included, but at least 50% of the material should be scored for the ensemble.
- The arrangement should be through composed (e.g. without repetition of entire head sections, unless the repetition is arranged/scored differently).
- The arrangement should be written for the following lineup:
2 Alto Sax, 2 Tenor Sax, Baritone Sax, 4 Trumpet, 3 Tenor Trombone, Bass Trombone, Piano, Bass, Guitar, Drums. Standard doublings are acceptable (e.g. Alto 1: soprano sax, flute).

- e) Only one submission may be made by any individual. Submissions should not have been previously publicly performed. Original works may not be submitted for the Dankworth Awards in the same year.

- f) Submissions based on the arrangement of a work that is protected by existing copyright must be marked with the appropriate copyright notice acknowledging the original ownership of the work. Where necessary, the person submitting the arrangement must obtain the appropriate permission to make an arrangement of the work. The copyright in the arrangement will be retained by the arranger concerned unless the original copyright owner requires the arrangement to be assigned.

g) The Award's administrator will ensure that all references or "clues" to the identity of the entrant will have been removed before passing the submissions to the judges. Entrants should exclude their names from the first page of the score and the title page in the PDF version of their score.

h) The judges' decision will be final and not subject to appeal. The judges also reserve the right not to make an award if in their view no submission is of sufficiently high standard. **No correspondence or communication will be entered into by the organisers or judges on any aspect of the competition.**

i) For the 2026 competition, submissions must be made by noon on **Friday 8th January 2027** with the score submitted as a 'read-only' attachment by email to assistant@wcom.org.uk. The submission must be accompanied by the completed Award Entry Form, which is obtainable from the Company's website, www.wcom.org.uk and attached. The entry form may be a PDF or Word document copy of the official entry form but must contain a facsimile of the competitor's signature.

j) There will be a public presentation of a certificate to the winner of the Award and a performance of the winning submission, as detailed below.

Performance

Although there will only be one winner, if practicable, in addition to the chosen arrangement, one or more of the other submissions may be publicly performed either at the presentation concert or another appropriate occasion. The point of this would be to give the organisers and the judges opportunity to feature demonstrably different types of arrangement, thereby evidencing their inclusive approach to the Award scheme.

Arrangements for the presentation and the performance of the winning work at a concert in 2027 will be announced at the time of the adjudication of the awards.

If practicable, the organisers will also look to arrange for and contribute financially to subsequent performances of the winning arrangement.

The Administrator, The Eddie Harvey Big Band Jazz Arranger of the Year Award, c/o The Musicians' Company, 1 Speed Highwalk, Barbican, London EC2Y 8DX.

Ben Costello
Chairman – Musicians' Company Jazz Committee
September 2026



The Musicians' Company Eddie Harvey Jazz Small Ensemble Arranger of the Year Award 2026

The Eddie Harvey Small Ensemble Jazz Arranger of the Year Award was established to perpetuate the memory of Eddie Harvey and to honour his expressed wish to try to ensure that arrangers of jazz compositions receive due acknowledgement of the importance of their contributions to jazz. A winning prize of £1,000.00 is offered. To that end, The Musicians' Company, with generous support from the Harvey estate, maintains The Eddie Harvey Small Ensemble Jazz Arranger of the Year Award in accordance with the rules set below.

Please note especially the underlined sections below.

Award Rules

- a) The competition is open to all persons resident in the U.K. of any age. Previous winners of the prize are excluded from the competition.
- b) Submissions should be notated for all the chosen instruments or voices and in Sibelius, Dorico or any other appropriate digital format. Handwritten submissions are not acceptable. (See also Rules g) and i).). A PDF score should also be provided.
- c) All submitted arrangements must include at least one each of the following: trumpet, trombone, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, piano, bass, and drums. There is scope to include up to two additional instruments or voices, provided the overall line-up remains practical from a commercial and presentational perspective. Arrangements may be of existing works or original compositions.

Note that the original work must be by a composer other than the arranger themselves. When submitting the arrangement of the original work entrants must also submit the work in its original form (such as a piano score or a vocal line with chord symbols) as well as in the arrangement.

The arranger should also submit a digital audio version of the score, the quality of which will not affect the judgement of the score. This may be in wav, mp3, midi or other standard format.

- d) The duration of the submitted arrangement shall be no longer than 8 minutes and a minimum of 5 minutes, including solo improvised sections.

General guidance: Entrants should bear in mind that this is a competition assessing arrangement skills, and not original composition. Furthermore, a head arrangement with blowing changes will not fulfil the brief.

- The arrangement should be largely orchestrated. Improvised sections can be included, but at least 50% of the material should be scored for the ensemble.

- The arrangement should be through composed (e.g. without repetition of entire head sections, unless the repetition is arranged/scored differently).

- e) Only one submission may be made by any individual. Submissions should not have been previously publicly performed. Original works may not be submitted for the Dankworth Awards in the same year.

f) Submissions based on the arrangement of a work that is protected by existing copyright must be marked with the appropriate copyright notice acknowledging the original ownership of the work. Where necessary, the person submitting the arrangement must obtain the appropriate permission to make an arrangement of the work. The copyright in the arrangement will be retained by the arranger concerned unless the original copyright owner requires the arrangement to be assigned.

- g) The Awards administrator will ensure that all references or “clues” to the identity of the entrant will have been removed before passing the submissions to the judges. Entrants should exclude their names from the first page of the score and the title page in the PDF version of their score.

h) The judges' decision will be final and not subject to appeal. The judges also reserve the right not to make an award if in their view no submission is of sufficiently high standard. No correspondence or communication will be entered into by the organisers or judges on any aspect of the competition.

i) For the 2026 competition, submissions must be made by 1200 noon on **Friday 8th January 2026** with the score submitted as a 'read-only' attachment by email to the Deputy Clerk, Amanda Ratcliffe, at assistant@wcom.org.uk. The submission must be accompanied by the completed Award Entry Form, which is obtainable from the Company's website, www.wcom.org.uk and is attached. The entry form may be a PDF or Word document copy of the official entry form but must contain a facsimile of the competitor's signature.

j) There will be a public presentation of a certificate to the winner of the Award and a performance of the winning submission, as detailed below.

Performance

Although there will only be one winner, if practicable, in addition to the chosen arrangement, one or more of the other submissions may be publicly performed either at the presentation concert or another appropriate occasion. The point of this would be to give the organisers and the judges opportunity to feature demonstrably different types and qualities of arrangement, thereby evidencing their inclusive approach to the Award scheme.

Arrangements for the presentation and the performance of the winning work at a concert in 2027 will be announced at the time of the adjudication of the awards.

Where possible, the organisers will also seek to arrange and help fund future performances of the winning arrangement.

The Administrator, The Eddie Harvey Small Ensemble Jazz Arranger of the Year Award, c/o The Musicians' Company, 1 Speed Highwalk, Barbican, London EC2Y 8DX.

Ben Costello

Chairman – Musicians' Company Jazz Committee

September 2026