

Program Description German Jazz Prize

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I. Funding Goals

The German Jazz Prize aims to

- promote the diversity of jazz in and from Germany,
- honor and support exceptional artistic achievement and innovation in jazz both nationally and internationally,
- increase global recognition for jazz from Germany
- lead to a stronger anchoring of jazz in society
- live and strengthen cultural diversity and
- visibly support jazz creators and their networks. For this purpose, in addition to increased public attention through the awarding of various awards of the German Jazz Prize should be appropriately funded.

II. Prize Categories

The German Jazz Prize is awarded in the following categories:

Main Category 1: Artists

1. Vocal
2. Woodwind Instruments
3. Brass Instruments
4. Piano/Keyboard Instruments
5. String Instruments
6. Drums/Percussion
7. Artist of the Year
8. Ensemble of the Year
9. Artist of the Year International
10. Ensemble of the Year International

Main Category 2: Recording / Production

- 11. Album of the Year
- 12. Debut Album of the Year
- 13. Broadcast Production of the Year
- 14. Album of the Year International
- 15. Debut Album of the Year International

Main Category 3: Live

- 16. Festival of the Year
- 17. Live Act of the Year
- 18. Live Act of the Year International

Main Category 4: Composition / Arrangement

- 19. Composition/Arrangement of the Year

Main Category 5: Special Prizes

- 20. Journalistic Achievement
- 21. Lifetime Achievement
- 22. Special Prize of the Jury

III. Formal provisions regarding the recipients of the award

To be eligible for the German Jazz Prize in categories 1–8, 17, and 19–21, individuals must have fulfilled at least one of the following criteria 24 hours prior to the submission deadline:

- 1. possess German citizenship, or
- 2. possess citizenship of an EU/EEA member state, Switzerland or other non-EU countries, and

- 2.1. have had their main residence in Germany for at least three years prior to nomination, or can provide evidence of continuous work and activity in Germany during this period, or
- 2.2. have completed their studies at a German university or other accredited educational institution in Germany.

International artists (prize categories 9, 10 and 18) are defined as artists who:

1. do not have the German citizenship, and
2. do not live in Germany or have not lived in Germany for at least three years up to one day prior to the submission deadline.

In the case of group projects, the majority of the participating artists or individuals (i.e., at least half) must meet these criteria.

In the case of recordings/productions (prize categories 11–15), the same criteria apply to the participating artists. The decisive factor is not the location of the organization responsible for the production/recording, but the residence of the participating artists themselves. The exception to this is category 13: in this case the broadcasting company producing the recording must be located in Germany.

An artist or project is not eligible to be nominated in both national and international categories simultaneously.

Only festivals that take place predominantly in Germany are eligible to apply for prize category 16 (Festival of the Year).

For prize category 22 (Special Jury Prize), conditions regarding citizenship, residency or geographical focus do not apply.

IV. Endowment & Awarding of the Prize Money

The German Jazz Prize can be understood as a cultural and political recognition of achievements in jazz. All categories are endowed with prize money of at least EUR 10,000. The prize is issued in the form of prize money.

Prize category 13 is an exception: This prize is awarded to the broadcaster together with the artists of the broadcast production. However, in the case of public broadcasters, for which the principle of non-intervention by the state applies, only the respective artists will receive prize money. In contrast, private broadcasters will receive half of the prize money of at least EUR 10,000.

Nominees who do not win an award will still receive consolation prize money of at least EUR 1,000. For category 13, the same provisions apply regarding the allocation of the prize money.

V. Submission and Selection Criteria

V.1 Main Category 1: Artists (curated)

In main category 1, the award recognizes outstanding artistic and creative achievements which contribute to and strengthen the appeal and diversity of the German jazz scene. The winner will be selected exclusively on the basis of overall artistic output within the past 12 months. For categories 9–10, international appeal is of particular relevance. Awards are given for achievements from the previous calendar year.

1. Vocal

The prize in the category **Vocal** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument is voice.

2. Woodwind Instruments

The prize in the category **Woodwind Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of woodwind instruments (e.g., saxophone, clarinet, flute).

3. Brass Instruments

The prize in the category **Brass Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of brass instruments (e.g., trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba).

4. Piano/Keyboard Instruments

The prize in the category **Piano/Keyboard Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of keyboard instruments (e.g., piano, accordion).

5. String Instruments

The prize in the category **String Instruments** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument is a string instrument (e.g. guitar, bass, harp, violin).

6. Drums/Percussion

The prize in the category **Drums/Percussion** is awarded to a musician whose main instrument belongs to the family of percussion instruments, also mallets.

7. Artist of the Year

In this award category, one artist will be selected from the nominees in the national award categories 1–6, 11–13, 17 and 19. In addition, each expert jury can propose an artist for this award category who has not already been nominated.

8. Ensemble of the Year

The prize in the category **Ensemble of the Year** is awarded to a group project. To be eligible, a fixed collaboration as a permanent ensemble is required.

9. Artist of the Year International

In the category **Artist of the Year International**, one international artist will be selected from the nominees in the international award categories 14–15 and

18. In addition, each expert jury can propose an artist for this award category who has not already been nominated.

17. Ensemble of the Year International

The prize in the category **Ensemble of the Year International** is awarded to an international group project. To be eligible, a fixed collaboration as a permanent ensemble is required.

V.2 Main Category 2: Recording/Production

In main category 2, the award is geared toward productions (i.e., recordings) of outstanding sound quality, which demonstrate the extraordinary artistic and innovative creativity of the artists involved. International appeal is of particular relevance for categories 14–15.

11. Album of the Year

The prize in the category **Album of the Year** is awarded to a jazz production.

12. Debut Album of the Year

The prize in the category **Debut Album of the Year** is awarded to the debut jazz production of a musician or group.

13. Broadcast Production of the Year

The prize in the category **Broadcast Production of the Year** is awarded to an audio or audio-visual production in the field of jazz which was realized and released by a broadcasting organization. The prize is awarded to the broadcaster together with the artists of the broadcast production.

14. Album of the Year International

The prize in the category **Album of the Year International** is awarded to an international jazz production.

15. Debut Album of the Year International

The prize in the category **Debut Album of the Year International** is awarded to the debut jazz production of an international artist or group.

V.3 Main Category 3: Live

16. Festival of the Year

The prize in the category **Festival of the Year** is awarded to jazz festivals with high-quality, artistically demanding and innovative programming. In addition, special event formats and unique areas of focus are taken into account.

17. Live Act of the Year

This prize category honors an artist or group in the field of jazz who has distinguished him-/her-/themselves through outstanding artistic achievements and an exceptionally strong stage presence in live performances and who has shown particular activity during the corresponding evaluation period. Artists nominated for the German Jazz Prize in this award category must have performed at least six concerts in at least three different cities during the corresponding evaluation period.

18. Live Act of the Year International

This prize category honors an international artist or group in the field of jazz who has distinguished him-/her-/themselves through outstanding artistic achievements and an exceptionally strong stage presence in live performances and who has shown particular activity during the corresponding evaluation period. Artists nominated for the German Jazz Prize in this award category must have performed at least six concerts in at least three different countries during the corresponding evaluation period.

V.4 Main Category 4: Composition / Arrangement

This prize category honors composers and arrangers whose compositions/arrangements are characterized by originality, innovation, technical ability and musical quality. Eligible to submit entries are composers and arrangers themselves as well as music publishers.

19. Composition/Arrangement of the Year

This prize category honors an original composition or arrangement from the field of jazz, whereby “arrangement” is to be understood as a new version of

an already existing composition – including (but not limited to) for a new or altered instrumentation.

Eligible are compositions and arrangements that have been released for the first time in the respective year. Previous live performances of the composition or arrangement and/or recordings, e.g. at club performances, are not criteria for exclusion. Also eligible are compositions/arrangements that have been premiered live in the respective year and of which there is a professional audio recording (or video with corresponding sound quality). In the case of release in the context of a performance, proof of place, date and venue of the performance must be submitted.

V.5 Main Category 5: Special Prizes

20. Journalistic Achievement

This prize category recognizes a special contribution to jazz journalism. The winner will have displayed a deep knowledge, sharp analysis and special sensitivity to presentation of musical events in the field of jazz. This can be for television, radio, print or online in the form of podcasts, website or blogs (among other formats). Special attention will be paid to formats and journalistic efforts which introduce jazz to a wider audience. Journalistic contributions in the field of photography are also eligible for consideration.

21. Lifetime Achievement

The prize in the category **Lifetime Achievement** honors individuals for their outstanding achievements and long-term service to the development of jazz in Germany.

22. Special Prize of the Jury

The **Special Prize of the Jury** is awarded to artists, performers, events or achievements from the field of jazz, which the jury considers to be particularly worthy of recognition and which have not previously been considered in another prize category. Ideally, the award is given for an achievement from the previous year.

VI. Procedure & Submission Requirements

VI.1 Curated Categories

For prize categories 1–10, 17 and 18, proposals for award winners can only be submitted by the appointed expert juries. For categories 21 and 22, proposals for award winners are submitted both by the appointed expert juries as well as the main jury of the German Jazz Prize.

VI.2 Submission Categories

For all submission categories (11–16 and 19–20), musicians and professionals who fit the specifications and selection criteria can apply independently. The submission deadlines and information on the application process will be published on the website of the German Jazz Prize. All applications received for the respective category by a deadline published on the website of the German Jazz Prize will be assessed. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Entry Requirements for the Prize Categories 11–15

Applicants can submit productions that have appeared or will appear after the submission phase of the previous award period and at the latest by the end of the current submission period.

Eligible to submit applications are musicians and producers involved in the production, as well as labels, publishers, broadcasters, management, promoters. A brief written statement as to why the production should be considered must be included in the application. The submission must be justified by the submitter in each case.

Recordings eligible for submission must be at least 25 minutes in length, have been made available to the public in the context of a commercial release (verifiable via public weblink), and have been reviewed at least twice in independent media.

Production submissions must be made available online to the jury.

For category 13, in deviation from the previous provisions, an audio or audio-visual recording must be submitted, and the broadcast date of the production must be specified.

Submission Requirements for Prize Categories 16

Eligible to apply are organizers of festivals in Germany which present a total of at least six concerts on at least two consecutive days.

The application must include a brief general description of the festival, as well as a description of the concept and the program.

Submission Requirements for Prize Categories 19

Eligible to apply to categories 19 are composers, arrangers and publishers of the compositions/arrangements, which were released within the past 12 months. This includes performances, recordings or appearances of the composition /arrangement in various media. In the case of release in the context of a performance, proof of place, date and venue of the performance must be submitted. The notation of the composition/arrangement and a professional recording must be submitted. If the work was published within the context of a performance, proof of the location, date and venue of the performance must be submitted. The submission of the notation must be in detailed form. This includes scores, detailed playing instructions, flow charts and lead sheets. Sketches and purely graphic notations are not sufficient. Only one work per composer and arranger may be submitted. Arrangements of own works are permitted.

Submission Requirements for Prize Categories 20

Eligible to apply for prize category 20 are authors of the work, its publisher, or listeners, viewers and readers. Individuals who are not primarily employed as journalists are also eligible to apply. Submissions must include the work itself,

details about the format and date of publication as well as a short biography of the author. For group works, short biographies of all authors are required. Additionally, a brief written statement as to why the work should be considered must be submitted.

VI.3 General Provision for All Submissions

While artistic freedom is respected, applications that include or promote unconstitutional, illegal, racist, sexist, homophobic, inhumane or discriminatory content of any kind are excluded from participation in the German Jazz Prize.

VII. Data protection

Initiative Musik gGmbH hereby ensures that it operates both technically and organizationally in compliance with all applicable data protection regulations. This also includes any third parties commissioned to process personal data as part of the application process or as part of the implementation of the German Jazz Prize. The processing of personal data takes place in accordance with the European General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR) and the Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG).

For the submission categories, a declaration regarding data protection is part of the application process. Here, all applicants must consent to the processing of their personal data insofar as it is required by law.

The provisions established in the jury statutes apply to the curated categories.

Berlin, September 5, 2023