

Jury Statutes German Jazz Prize

Section I: General

1. General Information

The juries of the German Jazz Prize determine the award winners in a transparent and independent process. The following statutes form the basis for the composition, working methods and tasks of the juries. They are binding for the work of the juries. In their work, the juries are only bound by the regulations of the German Jazz Prize and these statutes but are otherwise free in their decision-making. The deliberations of the juries take place in closed session.

2. Criteria for the Selection of Nominees and Award Winners

In accordance with the preamble, the German Jazz Prize is awarded to artists, protagonists and projects that make a significant contribution to the radiance and reputation of jazz in Germany, in all its forms. The weighting of diversity in the overall composition of the nominees and award winners and the creative power of the individual artists is to be set in relation to each other individually by the respective jury.

3. Selection Procedure of the Award Winners

The selection of the award winners takes place in a two-stage process. First, from all applications or proposals, the expert jury groups nominate four artists or achievements worthy of recognition in the respective prize categories, — unless the category specifies a different nomination procedure. In a second step, the main jury for each prize category selects the award winner from the four nominees.

In award category 7 "Artist of the Year", the main jury will choose from all nominees of the national award categories 1-6, 8, 11-13, 17 and 19. For group projects, the bandleader is taken into account. In addition, one artist who has not already been nominated may be proposed for this award category by each expert jury member.

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In award category 9 "Artist of the Year International", the main jury will select one artist from all nominees in award categories 10, 14–15 and 18. For group projects, the bandleader is taken into account. In addition, one artist who has not already been nominated may be proposed for this award category by each expert jury member.

The main jury decides directly on the award category 21. Further details on the work of the expert jury and the main jury are regulated in sections II and III.

Support through the use of an electronic voting tool is possible.

4. Expertise of the Jurors

The juries shall be composed of experts of the jazz scene, including artists, journalists, media professionals, promoters, programmers, label and publishing representatives, agents, and managers. Accordingly, the jury composition promotes a multi-perspective approach to nominations and award winners. The jurors are also to be appointed according to the expertise required in the respective expert jury group. If a conflict of interest is expected in a particular prize category, or if a jury member could potentially be nominated, that individual will be reassigned in advance to a different expert jury group.

5. Gender Parity of Juries

All juries will have gender parity. The representatives appointed to the main jury from the expert jury groups must also be appointed on the basis of gender parity in order to ensure gender parity in the composition of the main jury. Furthermore, when appointing jury members, attention must be paid to other diversity criteria in order to ensure participation in the sense of the *General Equal Treatment Act*. Efforts should be made to ensure that the jury members have diversity competence.

6. Appointment of the Jury

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The juries are appointed by Initiative Musik in coordination with the BKM, based on a proposal from the advisory board. For reasons of transparency, they are published on the website of the German Jazz Prize. Main jurors are appointed with reservation and, if necessary, reappointed if they are nominated—either by name or in a leadership role—in any prize category in the same edition. For former members of the advisory board and the jury as well as for nominees and award winners who were nominated either by name or in a leadership role, a waiting period of at least one year applies before renewed activity on the jury of the German Jazz Prize can be taken up.

7. Duration of the Jury Service

As a rule, jury members of both the expert jury and the main jury are appointed for two years. The aim is to have a rotation system in which half of the jurors are replaced after every year in order to always achieve a balanced mix of experienced and new jurors.

8. Resignation from Jury Service & Absence from Jury Meetings

If an appointed jury member resigns from their jury position, a replacement should be sought if possible. If a jury member is absent for good reason at short notice, e.g. due to illness, and is unable to attend the jury meeting, the other jury members should take the available proposals of the absent jury member into account in their discussions. For more details on the quorum, see sections 19 and 26.

9. Decision-Making/Voting Procedure

Decisions on award winners and nomination proposals shall be made as consensually as possible. In each award category, the juries shall select the artist/achievement to be nominated in a first ballot by an absolute majority of the jury members present and entitled to vote. All further ballots will be decided by a simple majority of the voting jury members present. Voting continues until either four nominees or one winner has been selected. In the case of a larger selection of nomination proposals, reduction ballots are possible, i.e. juries may, if necessary, cast several votes in one ballot to reduce

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the number of proposals. The further voting procedure is determined by Initiative Musik in consultation with the jury chairperson.

10. Conflicts of Interest

Any actual or subjectively perceived conflict of interest should be avoided in the interest of the integrity and objectivity of the selection process. Anyone who can gain a direct advantage or disadvantage from a jury decision is biased. Conflicts of interest include:

- the juror was/is directly involved in the project or is/was personally nominated.
- applications submitted by an employer, a customer/client, an institution or a company in which the jury member is a committee member or advisor or similar,
- direct financial interest in the success or failure of an application or project, or
- the juror is a relative, in-law, married to or close friend of the applicant or key project participant.

In the case of jury decisions in which a jury member is biased or there are conflicts of interest, the corresponding jury member may not participate in the respective discussion and vote until the bias possibly ceases to exist. Corresponding declarations of conflicts of interest must either be submitted in advance (per form for jury members) or announced and recorded at the latest at the jury meeting before the respective award category is dealt with. In the event of direct bias, the jurors have the option of voluntarily leaving the room.

11. Data Protection & Confidentiality

All jury members are obliged to handle the documents made available to them in connection with their jury activities with care during and after the selection process. In order to enable independent discussions in the jury meetings, permanent confidentiality must be maintained about the discussions and voting behavior in connection with the selection of the award winners. For this

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purpose, each jury member must sign a confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement at the beginning of their activity.

Confidentiality must be maintained about the award winners in the individual award categories until they are announced at the award ceremony.

12. Compensation for Expenses and Reimbursement of Expenses

An expense allowance shall be paid for jury service. Travel expenses incurred in connection with jury activities shall be reimbursed. The provisions of the Federal Travel Expenses Act must be observed.

13. Legal Recourse

The decisions of the juries are final. Legal recourse is excluded. There will be no substantive justification for non-inclusion.

Section II: Expert Jury

14. Tasks of the Expert Jury

The expert jury operates in five groups. The expert jury groups shall select four award-worthy artists or performances nominated in their respective award categories and give reasons for their decision in writing. The selection of the expert jury groups is made without specifying a ranking, but the expert jury groups may make a recommendation to the main jury for the awarding of the prize.

15. Curated Categories

In the curated award categories (1–7, 9 as well as 17–18 and 21), the individual jurors submit nomination proposals at least four weeks prior to the expert jury meetings. Each jury member should submit at least 15 proposals in the curated categories. At least three of these proposals should be in the live categories (17–18). Each jury member must distribute their respective proposals among at least five different categories. Each jury member may submit as many

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additional proposals as they see fit. Each jury member's proposal should include the potential nominee's name, short biography, justification of their award-worthiness, as well as possible sources of evidence. Expert jurors are not permitted to nominate themselves or any group project in a curated prize category in which they are involved by name or in a leadership role. As soon as the proposals of the various jury members for the expert jury groups have been received, a formal check is carried out to determine whether a nomination is admissible. This mainly concerns the general eligibility requirements set out in the program description. At the latest two weeks prior to the jury meeting, all members of the respective expert jury group will be sent the collected proposals, to be assessed and weighted with a non-binding online vote. The descriptions of the four final nominees should be put into a usable format for publication by the respective expert jury group.

The main jury and the expert jury groups meet in person. If this is not possible, a telephone/video conference may be used.

16. Submission Categories

In the submission categories (8, 10–16, 19, 20 and 22), all productions, projects, compositions and arrangements submitted for the respective award category by the deadline will be judged. Expert jurors can only make proposals in the curated prize categories.

17. Number & Composition of the Expert Jury Groups

There will be 5 expert jury groups for the following award categories:

Expert jury group 1 deals with award categories 2, 3, 15 and 19

Expert jury group 2 deals with award category 1, 11*, 16, 20 and 22

Expert jury group 3 deals with award category 4, 5, 14* and 17

Expert jury group 4 deals with award category 6, 13, 11* and 12

Expert jury group 5 deals with award category 8, 10, 14* and 18

The expert jury groups are each composed of 5 jury members.

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* The submissions in categories 11 (Album of the Year) and 14 (Album of the Year International) will be divided equally between two expert jury groups. These will each determine two of the total of four nominees. When selecting the nominees, it is to be ensured that the respective expert jury group receive a shortlist generated from a digital pre-assessment prior to the jury meeting, which contains the best-rated submissions of both expert jury groups entrusted with a category.

The advisory board of the German Jazz Prize has the option to make exceptions to this procedure in justified cases, such as by appointing a special jury to determine the nominees and/or winners of one or more categories.

18. Delegation of Speakers of the Expert Jury Groups to the Main Jury

The members of the expert jury groups shall each elect two spokespersons from among their number to be delegated to the main jury, whereby gender parity must be ensured (see also section 4 of the jury statutes). In addition, one of the speakers should be a musician. These spokespersons are part of the main jury and present the nominees to the respective expert jury group.

Care should be taken to ensure that an appropriate number of musicians are represented within the main jury. Ideally, one musician from each of the five expert jury groups will be sent to the main jury.

19. Quorum of the Expert Jury

A quorum of the expert jury groups exists if at least 60% of the jurors are present. Prejudice has no effect on the quorum. In the event that a quorum is not present, the advisory board shall appoint substitute expert jury members from among all expert jury members.

20. Procedure for the Selected Nominees

After the meetings of the expert jury groups, the nominees for the various award categories dealt with by expert jury groups are published. All nominees

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will be invited to the award ceremony, the award winners themselves will only be announced at the award ceremony.

21. Recording the Results of the Expert Jury

The following contents are to be protocolled in writing during the expert jury meetings and confirmed by the signatures of all members of the respective expert jury group present:

- elected spokespersons
- the nominated persons/productions/projects with reasons for their selection
- if applicable, recommendation for the main jury for the selection of the award winner, also justified
- biases with name and award category
- other important decisions, e.g. a statement of reasons if fewer than four artists or performances are nominated.

Section III: Main Jury

22. Composition of the Main Jury

The main jury is composed of a total of ten delegates from the five expert jury groups, as well as seven outstanding and recognized personalities from cultural life who have an affinity for jazz or are prominent actors within the jazz scene.

23. Tasks of the Main Jury

The main jury determines the winners of the German Jazz Prize. For this purpose, the main jury selects the respective award winners in each award category from the four nominated artists and performances. In award categories 7 "Artist of the Year" and 9 "Artist of the Year International", the main jury selects one artist from the nominees in award categories 1–6, 8, 11–

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13, 17 and 19 or 10, 14–15 and 18, as well as from the additional proposals submitted by the expert jury members.

Proposals for award category 21 “Lifetime Achievement” may be submitted up to two weeks before the main jury meeting by both the members of the expert jury and the members of the main jury. Later proposals are possible but require the approval of the main jury with a quorum of 2/3 of the voting jury members present in order to be admitted to the vote. Each proposal from a jury member should include the name, short biography, and justification of the award-worthiness as well as possible sources of evidence. There are no nominees in this award category.

24. Speaker of the Main Jury

The advisory board shall elect a chairperson and a deputy chairperson as spokespersons of the main jury from among the members of the main jury for a period of one year. Gender parity is to be ensured. The chairperson ensures compliance with the evaluation criteria according to the detailed plan of the German Jazz Prize.

25. Moderation and formal handling of the main jury session

An external person, who is not a member of the current jury, can be appointed to lead and moderate the main jury session. The formal handling, recording, and setting of the agenda are managed by Initiative Musik. Jury members may submit motions to the agenda at any time.

26. Quorum of the Main Jury

The quorum of the main jury is given if at least 60% of the nominated jurors are present.

27. Procedure of the Main Jury Session

In award categories in which an expert jury group has determined nominated titles, the two expert jury members represented on the main jury present the artists/performances they have nominated to the main jury and give reasons

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for both the nomination decision and a possible award recommendation by the expert jury group. This is followed by a debate on the artists/achievements nominated. After the conclusion of the debate, the main jury will determine the award winner in the respective award category according to the procedure set out in point 2. For the comprehensibility of the decision, the jury shall determine a statement of reasons for its selection. This can be the nomination justification of the expert jury. The main jury may exceptionally postpone the vote on the winner of a prize category to a later point in the agenda.

28. Recording the Results of the Main Jury

The meeting of the main jury will be minuted. The following information must be included in the minutes:

General information:

- List of participants of the jury members incl. absences of each jury member,
- other persons present, incl. times of absence,
- the following times:
 - beginning and end of the jury session,
 - beginning and end of interruptions to the session,
 - beginning and end of each individual prize category.

Voting details:

- the specific voting question,
- the time of the vote,
- majority required and special voting modalities if applicable,
- number of unbiased jury members present (=number of those entitled to vote),
- Biases (with naming of the biased jury member and the subject of the bias),
- the distribution of votes including abstentions,
- the result of the vote and a statement of the reasons for the decision (for the purpose of publication)

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- any special incidents, if applicable.

The details of the votes are determined and announced by the spokesperson or the moderator of the main jury and recorded by the Initiative Musik. The minutes must be released by the BKM and signed by the spokesperson of the main jury and by the person who kept the minutes, before an award ceremony.

Section IV: Final Provisions

29. Procedure in Non-Regulated Situations

In case of doubt regarding the interpretation and application of the jury statutes, the BKM shall decide.

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