

“We Write • We Sing” Music Competition 2026

Notes to Schools

1. Entry Requirements

- The Competition is divided into the following divisions and categories:

Division	Category
Primary	Lyric Writing
Secondary	Lyric Writing
	Original Composition

- Participants should be full-time students of primary and/or secondary schools in Hong Kong.
- All participants are eligible to take part in the Lyric Writing Categories.
- The Original Composition Category only accepts entries from secondary school students.
- Each entry should be submitted on an individual or group basis, with up to 5 students per group (including the roles of lyricist(s) and/or composers(s)).
- Each participant, with a clearly specified role, can submit **a maximum of TWO entries** (under the same or different categories).
- All entries should be submitted through the schools of the participants.

2. Rules and Regulations

	Lyric Writing Categories	Original Composition Category
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each participant/group should write lyrics in Chinese or English, and perform a song in Cantonese, Putonghua, or English using one of the melodies newly composed by the Hong Kong song writer, Mr NG Cheuk-yin. ➤ Two melodies are provided for use in each category. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The required duration of the entry is between 2 and 5 minutes. ➤ The composition should contain lyrics. ➤ Accompaniment music can either be recorded in person or using Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) productions.

	Lyric Writing Categories	Original Composition Category
	<p>➤ To obtain the Music Minus Ones (MMOs) and lead sheets of the melodies, please complete the Enrolment Form (Item 9 of this Appendix) by 24 October 2025 (Friday).</p>	<p>➤ The entries must be in popular music genre, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pop Music - Electronic Dance Music - Rock - Country - Jazz - Rhythm and Blues <p>➤ Entries must be original works that have neither been published nor submitted to any competitions.</p>
Lyrics requirement	<p>The <u>song lyrics</u> should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ convey a positive message (e.g. Be Grateful and Treasure What We Have, Stay Positive and Optimistic) and promote proper values and attitudes (e.g. national identity, perseverance, respect for others, responsibility, commitment, integrity, benevolence, law-abidingness, empathy, diligence, unity, and filial piety); ➤ display creativity in the use of language (e.g. use literary devices where appropriate); and ➤ show an awareness of song structure (e.g. verse and chorus). 	
Accompaniment music	All entries must be performed with the accompaniment music in MMO only, without any other musical instruments.	The performance of original composition must be performed with MMO created by participants/groups.
Performance of the song	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Choreography and movement will not be assessed though they might enhance the overall performance. ➤ All entries should be video-recorded for submission. 	
Others	<p>➤ The EDB reserves the right to modify the rules and regulations, adjudication and awards of the Competition.</p>	

3. Adjudication




	Lyric Writing Categories	Original Composition Category
Judging panel	A judging panel comprising language and music professionals, HKBU professors, and officers from the AE and ELE Sections of the EDB will select the winning entries.	
Adjudication criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Creativity and originality of the lyrics b) Structure of lyrics c) Content and message of the lyrics d) Language use in the lyrics e) Musicality of the performance including expression, interpretation and ensembleship (applicable to group entries only); and f) Performance techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Creativity and originality of the melody b) Musical composition and arrangement c) Creativity and originality of the lyrics d) Structure of and the language use in the lyrics e) Relevance to and depth of exploration of the theme f) Musicality of the performance including expression, interpretation, and ensembleship (applicable to group entries only) g) Performance techniques; and h) Overall impact and emotional connection

4. Awards and Prizes

Awards	Lyric Writing Categories	Original Composition Category
Outstanding Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each awardee will receive a certificate and a music product. ➤ Awardees will be invited to perform their winning songs in the Student Performances and Awards Ceremony (the Ceremony) to be held on 23 May 2026 (Saturday). ➤ Awardees of both Categories in the Secondary Division may be invited to participate in training programmes and/or performances organised by the EDB after the Ceremony. 	✓	✓
Best Lyrics Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each awardee will receive a certificate and a music product. ➤ Awardees of the Secondary Division may be invited to participate in training programmes and/or performances organised by the EDB after the Ceremony. 	✓	
Best Melody Composing Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each awardee will receive a certificate and a music product. ➤ Awardees may be invited to participate in training programmes and/or performances organised by the EDB after the Ceremony. 		✓
Commendable Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each awardee will receive a certificate and a music product. 	✓	✓
Certificate of Appreciation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Participants who submit entries that meet the requirements will be awarded a certificate. 	✓	✓
The Most Active Participation Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The school which submits the most entries will be awarded a certificate. 	✓	✓

5. Submission of Entries

- To enter the Competition, schools should complete the following items:

Lyric Writing Categories	Original Composition Category
<p>a) Completed Entry Submission Form</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/kla/arts-edu/students-activities/wewritewesing/WWWS2026_Application.pdf</p> 	
<p>b) Completed Declaration and Consent Form</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/kla/arts-edu/students-activities/wewritewesing/WWWS2026_Declaration.pdf</p> 	
<p>c) Song lyrics in both WORD and PDF formats (for Chinese lyrics, please specify whether the song is performed in Cantonese or Putonghua)</p>	
<p>d) A lead sheet (lyrics must be written or typed below the corresponding notes to display the word-to-note alignment) in PDF format</p> <p>e) A video recording of the singing performance in MP4 format</p>	<p>d) MMO in WAV or AIFF format</p> <p>e) A video recording of the singing performance in MP4 format</p> <p>f) A synopsis of about 300 words in Chinese or English in WORD format</p>  <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/kla/arts-edu/students-activities/wewritewesing/WWWS2026_Synopsis.pdf</p>

- Schools should upload the above items onto a cloud drive (e.g. Microsoft OneDrive) and send the shareable link to Ms Ada LAM of the ELE Section of the CDI, EDB by email (cdoe2@edb.gov.hk) by 23 January 2026 (Friday).
- Late submission or entries with incomplete information will NOT be accepted.

6. Important Dates

24 October 2025 (Friday)	Deadline for enrolment on the Online Briefing Session and Training Workshops
31 October 2025 (Friday)	Online Briefing Session (Primary and Secondary)
20 November 2025 (Thursday)	Training Workshop (I) – Lyric Writing Workshop (Primary)
24 November 2025 (Monday)	Training Workshop (II) – Lyric Writing Workshop (Secondary)
2 December 2025 (Tuesday)	Training Workshop (III) – Popular Song Composing Workshop (Secondary)
12 December 2025 (Friday)	Training Workshop (IV) – Pop-singing Vocal Workshop (Primary and Secondary)
23 January 2026 (Friday)	Deadline for entry submission
Late March 2026	Announcement of results via: ➤ the Competition website ➤ emails to the teachers-in-charge
23 May 2026 (Saturday)	“We Write • We Sing” Music Competition Student Performances and Awards Ceremony

7. Online Briefing Session

- Primary and secondary teachers are welcome to join the online briefing session in which further details of the Competition will be provided. Details are as follows:
 Date: 31 October 2025 (Friday)
 Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Mode: Online meeting
 Language: Cantonese (supplemented with English)
- Schools interested in joining the online briefing session should complete the **Enrolment Form** (Item 9 of this Appendix) by **24 October 2025 (Friday)**. Login details will be provided via email upon receipt of the form.

8. Training Workshops

Primary and secondary teachers and secondary students who are interested in entering the Competition are welcome to attend the following workshops to develop lyric writing, song composing and pop singing skills. Schools should complete the **Enrolment Form** (Item 9 of this Appendix) by **24 October 2025 (Friday)** for enrolment.

(I) Lyric Writing Workshop (Primary)

Date:	20 November 2025 (Thursday)
Time:	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Target participants:	Language and Music teachers in primary schools
Venue:	Room W424, 4/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong
Objective:	To enhance participants' skills in writing Chinese and English lyrics under the guidance of a professional lyricist
Medium of instruction:	Cantonese
Maximum no. of participants:	50

(II) Lyric Writing Workshop (Secondary)

Date:	24 November 2025 (Monday)
Time:	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Target participants:	Language and Music teachers and students in secondary schools
Venue:	Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Objective:	To enhance participants' skills in writing Chinese and English lyrics under the guidance of a professional lyricist
Language:	Cantonese
Maximum no. of participants:	180

(III) Popular Song Composing Workshop (Secondary)

Date:	2 December 2025 (Tuesday)
Time:	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Target participants:	Music teachers and students in secondary schools
Venue:	Lecture Theatre, 4/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong
Objective:	To enhance participants' skills in pop song composition under the guidance of a professional pop song composer
Language:	Cantonese
Maximum no. of participants:	200

(IV) Pop-singing Vocal Workshop (Primary and Secondary)

Date:	12 December 2025 (Friday)
Time:	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Target participants:	Music teachers in both primary and secondary schools, and students in secondary schools
Venue:	Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Objective:	To enhance participants' skills in pop singing under the guidance of a professional vocal coach
Language:	Cantonese
Maximum no. of participants:	180

Remarks:

Enrolment will, in principle, be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. However, the number of places allocated to each school may be subject to adjustment after taking into consideration the subscription level and broader representation of schools.

9. Enrolment Form

Schools should complete the Enrolment Form by scanning the QR code below by 24 October 2025 (Friday) to enrol on the Online Briefing Session and Training Workshops.

<https://forms.office.com/r/zPAAjzW4ct>



10. Intellectual Property

- All participants, students' parents or guardians, and schools should note and agree with the following terms:
 - a) All entries should be original and have not been publicised on any occasions; and
 - b) Participants need to ensure that the content of the entries does not infringe any copyright and publication rights. Please visit the following website for details related to intellectual property:

<https://www.ipd.gov.hk/filemanager/ipd/en/share/publications/IP-in-Hong-Kong.pdf>



- Any entries that infringe any intellectual property rights will NOT be accepted. The EDB takes no liability whatsoever for such infringement.
- The EDB retains the right to edit, modify, publish, use and display any entries, including the song lyrics and music performance, in any form for educational and/or publicity purposes, and has the final decision of the above actions.

11. Use of Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) in Lyric Writing and Original Composition

While the use of A.I. may assist participants in exploring possibilities for creating lyrics and melodies, such use must be declared when submitting the work to promote ethical A.I. practices. Failure to comply with the declaration may result in score deduction. Students are strongly encouraged to develop authentic and personally innovative ideas through observation, reflection, and imagination.