

**CALL FOR ENTRIES:
2026 CONTEST FOR BANDS AT THE 49TH GETXO INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL**

1. PURPOSE

Getxo Kultura announces the launch of this year's Contest for Bands held as part of the 49th Getxo International Jazz Festival.

2. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

The competition is open to bands and ensembles from Europe (comprising two or more members) that perform any style or trend of jazz music.

The applicant must designate themselves as the band's/ensemble's representative for communication purposes with Getxo Kultura and fulfil any obligations corresponding to the ensemble or band as the beneficiary.

The maximum age of each participant in the Contest will be 30 years old in 2026, and this must be proven at the time of registration.

In the event that the project incorporates pre-existing works or intellectual services subject to intellectual property rights, the applicant declares and guarantees that they have the corresponding authorisations for their use in accordance with all the purposes established in this call for competition entries.

The assumption of all responsibilities arising from the infringement of the provisions in the preceding paragraphs shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant, who shall be held accountable to third parties for any claims that may arise.

People who are subject to any of the reasons for exclusion or prohibition provided for in Article 13 of the General Subsidies Law 38/2003, or in Article 24.2 of the Gender Equality Law 4/2005, will not be eligible to take part in the competition.

3. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION

To enter the contest, applicants must complete the form available at the following URL:

<https://getxo-kultura.eus/es/agenda/getxo jazzcontest>

The form is also available via our online portal.

In addition, the following documentation must be submitted:

- Photocopy of the ID card or passport of the applicant and all other musicians in the ensemble or band.
- Material certifying the ensemble or band's standard of musicianship, submitting at least three recorded tracks. The musicians and instruments indicated on the registration form must be the same as those playing on the audio or video recordings submitted. This line-up must be the same if the band or ensemble is chosen for the final round. Any changes in the line-up must be submitted to the organisers for approval.
- A high-quality photograph of the band or ensemble.

All graphic and audiovisual documentation will be submitted exclusively by means of a URL or web address (Drive, YouTube, Spotify, Bandcamp) for consultation. The URL should be functional until at least 31 July 2026.

The audio files or videos submitted must be in one of the following formats: JPEG, AVI, MOV, MPEG, FLV, MP3.

An official certificate confirming that the applicant is up to date with any tax obligations owing to the Provincial Treasury of the Historical Territory of Bizkaia, Gipuzkoa or Álava will be obtained ex officio, unless the applicant expressly objects (in Annex I), in which case they must submit the certificate themselves. Where the applicant is

required to pay taxes to the State Tax Authority, they must submit the corresponding certificate confirming compliance with their tax obligations to that authority.

An official certificate confirming that the applicant is up to date with their obligations to the Social Security system will be obtained ex officio, unless the applicant expressly objects (in Annex I), in which case they must submit the certificate themselves.

An official certificate confirming that the applicant is up to date with their obligations to the Getxo Town Council will be obtained ex officio, unless the applicant expressly objects (in Annex I), in which case they must submit the certificate themselves.

Any applicants who are not tax residents of Spain must submit a tax residence certificate issued by the competent authorities of their country of residence.

Getxo Kultura will only require the aforementioned certificates for the bands or ensembles chosen by the Selection Committee.

4. PLACE AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Applications and required documentation must be submitted via email to the following address: jazz@getxo.eus

The deadline for the submission of applications is 13th February 2026.

Applications submitted after the stated deadline will be rejected and archived without further processing. In addition, any applications that do not comply with the terms set out in this call for entries will be excluded.

5. STAGES OF THE COMPETITION

The Contest for Bands held as part of the 49th Getxo International Jazz Festival is spread over **two stages**:

a. STAGE ONE: SELECTION OF BANDS/ENSEMBLES

A Selection Committee, composed of 5 jazz specialists, will evaluate all applications submitted to the competition. They will compare the documentation and tracks submitted, in order to rank entries based on the evaluation criteria set out below:

EVALUATION CRITERIA	Maximum score: 50 points
1. Technical quality: precision, tuning, instrumental proficiency, band cohesion.	Up to 12 points
2. Interaction and cohesion between band members: synchronisation, active listening, artistic unity, interaction and mutual understanding	Up to 12 points
3. Expressive and conceptual standard: expressiveness, conceptual coherence and artistic maturity.	Up to 12 points
4. Composition of original pieces: originality, structural quality and contribution to the overall performance.	Up to 10 points
5. Gender perspective: women musicians in the ensemble, repertoire that includes pieces by women, visibility of underrepresented roles.	Up to 4 points

The Selection Committee will choose **four bands/ensembles** from all the applications received to take part in the competition final, which will take place from 1 to 4 July 2026. In addition, four alternate bands/ensembles will be selected in case any of the chosen participants are unable to attend and participate in the final.

Each member of the Selection Committee will receive an allowance of 150 euros. This will be subject to the corresponding Personal Income Tax withholding in accordance with current regulations.

The Secretary of the Selection Committee shall be the person responsible for the Getxo Jazz Festival Band Competition, with a substitute appointed from among technical staff of a similar grade. The Secretary shall not receive any allowance.

Where deliberations are held in person, Getxo Kultura shall cover the accommodation and travel expenses plus one lunch and one dinner for the members of the Selection Committee. These items are not included within the aforementioned allowances. Where travel is undertaken using a private vehicle, reimbursement shall be paid at a rate of €0.29 per kilometre travelled. Getxo Kultura shall be responsible for deciding whether the deliberations are conducted remotely or in person, as well as for determining the methodology of the selection process.

The composition of the Selection Committee and the appointment of its Chair shall be made public together with the Committee's decision and shall comply with the provisions set out in Article 3.9 of Basque Law 4/2005 of 18 February on Equality between Women and Men.

b. STAGE TWO: CONTEST FINAL

The final of the Contest for Bands will take place from 1 to 4 July 2026, in Muxikebarri, as part of the Jazz Festival programme. Furthermore, on Sunday 15 July, the winning band or ensemble will give an additional concert.

The performance time will be determined by the Festival Organisers and will be communicated to the bands with sufficient advance notice.

The Getxo Jazz Festival Organisers reserve the right to establish a required piece of music to be performed by the bands selected; in this case, it will be communicated to them in advance so they have enough time to prepare it.

The whole Contest will be streamed and may be recorded to broadcast on television or for other promotional purposes.

A) Financial and logistical compensation

Once the selected bands/ensembles travel to Getxo, they will receive the following financial compensation to cover travel expenses:

- €225 for bands/ensembles from the Basque Country.
- €800 for bands/ensembles from Spain.
- €1.300 for bands/ensembles from France, Portugal, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium and Switzerland.
- €1.600 for bands/ensembles from Italy, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia.
- €1.900 for bands/ensembles from the remaining countries: Sweden, Finland, Norway, Romania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Iceland, Malta and Russia.

In addition, the Festival will provide accommodation for all musicians for five days in hostels in Getxo, and each musician will receive a daily allowance of €42, broken down as follows: €6 for breakfast, €18 for lunch and €18 for dinner.

Payment will be made by bank transfer on the day the Festival begins, provided that the band/ensemble is present in Getxo. To this end, the selected bands/ensembles must have submitted, through their designated representative, the third-party details form provided by the Organisers, together with a certificate of bank account ownership, so that each member of the band/ensemble receives the allowance on an individual basis.

B) Prizes

The following prizes are established:

- **First Prize:** 4.500 euros, production of a CD and a trophy.
- **Second Prize:** 1.900 euros and a trophy.
- **Best Soloist:** 950 euros and a trophy.

These amounts will be distributed proportionally among all the members of the band/ensemble. They will be subject to current taxation and will be paid within 15 days after the end of the competition.

This prize will be compatible with any other prizes subsequently granted by other national or international public or private administrations and/or entities for the same piece.

The CD will be recorded live and will include a selection of songs performed at the two shows by the winning band/ensemble. In terms of copyright, 100 units of the CD print run will be sent to the band/ensemble.

6. AWARD PROCEDURE AND JURY

The awarding of prizes will be carried out through a competitive process, that is, by the establishment of a Jury which will compare the pieces submitted in order to establish a ranking based on the assessment criteria set out below, proposing prizes for those that have obtained the highest scores.

The proposal for the awarding of the prizes will be based on the following criteria:

EVALUATION CRITERIA	Maximum score: 100 points
1. Technical quality: precision, tuning, instrumental proficiency, band cohesion.	Up to 15 points
2. Interaction and complicity on stage: communication, mutual listening, and musical responsiveness between members.	Up to 10 points
3. Originality and creativity: innovation in arrangements, compositions and musical proposals.	Up to 15 points
4. Quality of the performance: expressiveness, sensitivity and ability to convey emotions.	Up to 10 points
5. Repertoire and difficulty: varied and appropriate selection, complexity of the pieces performed.	Up to 10 points
6. Improvisation: level, fluency and coherence of the improvisations.	Up to 15 points
7. Stage presence: attitude, connection with the audience, visual and performance impact	Up to 10 points
8. Originality of the musical project: uniqueness and artistic value within the current landscape.	Up to 10 points
9. Dynamism and rhythmic variety: versatility, changes in tempo, metrics and dynamics.	Up to 5 points

For the assessment of the best soloist, criteria 2 and 8 will not be applicable.

The jury will be composed of five individuals of recognised standing in the music world and specialists in jazz, who will evaluate the performances of the bands/ensembles during the festival and make the proposal for the awarding of prizes.

The Secretary shall be the person responsible for the Festival Jazz, with a substitute appointed from among technical staff of a similar grade. The Secretary shall not receive any allowance.