

## **Lincoln Award**

Criteria are based on the Music Faculty's grade descriptors.

### **Major award criteria**

For performers:

A highly accomplished performance where technical control and fluency serve the goal of musical communication. There is refinement in the expressive detail, and a strong feeling of engagement and communication through an extremely well-presented performance.

For composers:

Submitted work will realise an imaginative and substantial idea with technical assurance and focus. There should be evidence of serious thought and imagination in most aspects of the style and form, and attention to expressive detail. The writing for instruments and for voices should be thoroughly idiomatic. Vocal settings should demonstrate an imaginative and effective response to the text and a convincing musical design. Presentation will be of a high standard.

### **Minor award criteria**

For performers:

An accomplished performance with a good level of technical control and musical understanding, that communicates through a largely well-presented performance

For composers/others:

Submitted work will attempt to realise a worthwhile idea with a degree of technical assurance, though there may be moments of weakness in respect of harmony, rhythm, scoring or other aspects. Pieces may tend in the direction of historical pastiche, though there should nevertheless be evidence of imagination in matters of style and form. The writing for instruments and for voices will always be playable and singable, but may not always be very idiomatic. Vocal settings may show an unimaginative response to the text or the musical design, though both will be generally competent. Presentation will be of a reasonable standard.

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These criteria can be considered indicative for producers/other genres. Where the panel lacks the expertise to assess a submission, external advice will be sought.