



2024

Syllabus

www.albertamusicfestival.org



RJ Chambers, Past President
10037 84 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6E 2G6

October 31, 2023

Dear Local Festivals, Teachers, and Competitors,

The Provincial Festival is excited to announce the return to in-person choral programming in 2024! Please see below for how the decisions made at the 2023 AMFA AGM will affect the Alberta Festivals in the coming year.

2024 Syllabus Changes

Outside of minor edits and corrections, significant changes to the 2024 AMFA Syllabus include:

- **Provincial Festival Age Categories Changes:** All classes that were 9 and Under at the Provincial Festival in previous years are now 10 and Under. All classes that were 12 and Under are now 13 and Under. And all classes that were 14 and Under are now 15 and Under.
- **Provincial Classes Added:** The following classes have been added to the Provincial Festival Syllabus:
 - Piano Duet – Grade 5 and Under
 - Piano Duet – Grade 6 and Over
- **Choral:** For most sung Choral classes at the 2024 Provincial Festival, entering choirs now have the option of coming live or submitting a video recording (classes 216 and 261 can only be entered by video recording but all other choral classes are given the option of live or video).
- **Choral Speech:** All Choral Speech at the 2024 Provincial Festival will be submitted by VIDEO Recording.
- **Guitar:** All Local Festivals may now send two (2) entries to the Provincial Festival in all Guitar classes.

British Columbia Hosting the 2024 Canada West Performing Arts Festival

In partnership with the provincial performing arts festival associations of Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan, the third annual Canada West Performing Arts Festival (CWPAF) will be held in Victoria, BC on July 25-27, 2024.

The CWPAF features the top amateur music and speech arts competitors from each partnering province's provincial performing arts festival. Competitors compete in three different age categories in a variety of solo disciplines as well as Chamber and Choral.

To learn more about the CWPAF, please visit www.canadawestfestival.ca or contact AMFA's Provincial Administrator, Wendy Durieux (info@albertamusicfestival.org). If you would like to volunteer or sponsor a scholarship at the CWPAF, please contact AMFA's Past President, RJ Chambers (RJ@albertamusicfestival.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RJ Chambers', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

RJ Chambers
Past President, Alberta Music Festival Association

RULES GOVERNING LOCAL FESTIVALS

General

1. It is the responsibility of the competitor to be familiar with the *Rules Governing Local Festivals*, the Local Festival Addendum (if any), as well as the definitions of relevant terms found in the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73).
2. A Local Festival may establish additional classes and/or rules (as published in the Local Addendum for such festival) that apply only to that festival. Please check your Local Addendum (if any) for changes or modifications to classes, rules, or regulations.
3. Certain Local Addendum classes may be used to satisfy eligibility for the Provincial Festival provided such class have been approved in advance by the Provincial Administrator of AMFA (this to be done by the Local Festival).
4. The festival movement is generally for acoustic performances (no electronic amplification), unless indicated in the score (i.e. singing with a recording of whale song, electric string quartet, etc.). Other exceptions may include Contemporary Vocal classes or certain Family and Community classes. It shall be the responsibility of the competitor to supply all required amplification equipment not provided by the Local Festival (please confirm with the Local Festival on what, if any, amplification equipment shall be provided).
5. Local Festival/s reserve the right to refuse any entry.

Local Festival Management

6. Each Local Festival is managed by a Committee. Questions concerning a Local Festival should be directed to the Local Festival contact person. Decisions of the Local Festival Committee regarding the Local Festival are final.
7. A protest may only be considered if it is made in accordance with the regulations established by the Local Festival.
8. Each Local Festival reserves the right to add classes or delete classes upon request.
9. Adjudicator decisions regarding performances, marks, placings, scholarships, and Provincial Festival recommendations are final. No Local

Festival, or Committee thereof, can change either the mark/s given to a competitor by the adjudicator nor can they change any adjudicator's recommended entrants to the Provincial Festival. If such an activity is discovered, the competitor (the one that was named instead of the adjudicator recommended competitor) shall be disqualified and a \$500 fine will be levied upon the offending Local Festival, per offense.

10. At no time (before, during, or after the performance or adjudication) shall the adjudicator be approached or confronted about marks, placings, or adjudications, by a competitor, parent, teacher, or other individual (with the exception of the festival committee representative). Such contact may result in the competitor's disqualification.
11. The Local Festival may use the following grading system or any other grading system of their choosing.

90% and Over	Superior
85%-89%	Distinction
80%-84%	Honours
79% and Below	Merit

Competitors

12. The age of a competitor is established as of December 31 preceding the Local Festival.
13. The Festival movement is intended for "amateurs." Please refer to the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73) for a definition.
14. A competitor may enter only once in a single class or *Group of Classes*. A Group of Classes is determined by a single heading in each discipline. For example, in Piano, "PIANO SOLO – OWN CHOICE" and "PIANO SOLO – BAROQUE" are two separate groups/headings.
15. A member of a Duet or larger ensemble may enter more than once in a class provided that they perform a different part, play a different instrument, or is the conductor.
16. A solo competitor taking private music lessons may not enter School classes.
17. Local Festivals may set their own residency requirements for competitors performing in the Local Festival or for those receiving scholarships or provincial recommendations. Only

competitors whose residence or domicile (family home) is within the Province of Alberta or the Northwest Territories may be recommended to the Provincial Festival from the Local Festival, unless the competitor has studied in their discipline with a teacher who resides in Alberta or the Northwest Territories for a minimum of six months during the previous year. This covers lessons via Skype and/or other electronic means.

18. Solo competitors entering Piano Plan I (by age) may not also enter Plan II (by Grade/Level). As well, solo competitors entering Piano Plan II (by Grade/Level) may not also enter Plan I (by age). **Exception:** Piano Plan I Duet class. Please read the Piano Duet class descriptions (page 41) for specific entry information.
19. Competitors in Piano Plan II are NOT eligible to receive a Canada West Performing Arts Festival recommendation at the Provincial Festival (as there is no graded piano offered at the CWPAF). Piano competitors that want to be considered for the Canada West Performing Arts Festival must enter Piano Plan I at the Local Festival and continue on to the Provincial Festival. Piano Concertos are also not allowed at the CWPAF.

Selections and Performance

Note: Some repertoire may contain themes/language intended for a mature audience.

20. A **Selection** is a stand-alone piece of music. For a full definition, please refer to the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73). Studies/Vocalises from RCM or CC may be placed in an era class appropriate to the date of composition.
21. In classes using grades/levels, the syllabus from either the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) OR Conservatory Canada (CC) must be used. If an older version of either syllabus is used, the publication date of the syllabus must be included with the entry. If a chosen selection is not listed in either the RCM or CC syllabus, proof of classification must be submitted with the entry. Competitors may contact either CC or RCM and ask for a specific piece to be classified.
22. A solo or group competitor may not perform the same **selection** in the same Festival in the following two (2) festival years. **Exception:** In Concerto or Sonata classes, the first movement may be repeated in a future year provided it is augmented by additional movements in the future year.

23. A solo or group competitor may only perform a specific **selection** once using the same instrument in a single festival year.
24. In classes with “own choice” selections, the total performance must not exceed 20 minutes unless otherwise stated. **Exception:** *Complete Concerto* or *Complete Sonata* Classes.
25. Accompaniments must be played as written. **Exception:** *Contemporary Vocal*, *Musical Theatre*, and all other *Pop/Folk* classes (in any discipline).
26. For all solo classes, any acoustic instrumental accompaniment (single instrument) may be used. Electronic accompaniment is allowed in Contemporary Vocal but must be provided by the competitor (some Local Festivals may provide certain electronic options at their discretion).
27. Each Local Festival reserves the right to disqualify a competitor who is not ready to perform when called.
28. Each Local Festival sets its own regulations regarding memorization.
29. No person – on or off stage – may augment or coach a performance.
30. Transpositions are permitted but any transposed selection must be marked with the key in which it will be performed. **Exception:** The following classes do not allow transpositions: *Classical Vocal Solo – Bach Aria*, *Classical Vocal Solo – Opera*, and *Classical Vocal Solo – Oratorio*.
31. A competitor’s performance may be recorded by their parent/guardian but recordings of any and all adjudications and/or another competitor’s performance/s is strongly discouraged. Please refrain from using any flash or lighted photography of any type.

Copyright

32. One (1) complete **licensed** score/edition, including solo and accompaniment music and speech materials, must be onsite in the performance space (with the exception of Music Composition). Works classified as Public Domain by the Copyright Act are acceptable as photocopies. Additionally, if the Copyright holder has provided written approval, a copy of such work may be accepted. It is the competitor’s responsibility to ensure and provide proof of their claim as to a selection’s

valid use (such as a receipt for works purchased online). The Local Festival may disqualify any entry that does not adequately prove valid use of copyrighted material.

- 33. Date ranges for specific periods (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, etc.) listed in the syllabus are for purposes of AMFA only. For AMFA festivals, repertoire should be entered into the appropriate class as per the date ranges as presented in the AMFA syllabus.

Group Classes (Band, Orchestra, Chorus, etc.)

- 34. When a school entry contains combined grades, the grade or grade range having the largest number of students determines the class to be entered.
- 35. Every Community Chorus member must be an official (bona fide) member. Ten percent (10%) of the choir membership may exceed a specified age limit by no more than two years.
- 36. Every choir must consist of at least thirteen (13) members. Choirs with fewer members should enter ensemble classes (or should consult with the Local Festival contact person prior to entry).
- 37. A School Chorus, School Band or School Orchestra entry with members from two or more schools, and trained as a single unit, may compete as a school entry ONLY if the members have not been selected on the basis of performing ability. Otherwise, such auditioned school ensembles that are made up from singers/players of more than one school must compete as a Community group.

PIANO PLAN II (BY SYLLABUS GRADE)

Solo Competitors entering Plan II (by grade/level) **MAY NOT also enter Plan I (by age).*

“Grade” (in Piano Plan II) refers to the grade or level as classified by the recognized syllabus. **Selection grade/level must be classified by either the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) or Conservatory Canada (CC). If a chosen selection is not listed in either the RCM or CC syllabus, proof of classification must be submitted with the entry. Competitors may contact either CC or RCM and ask for a specific piece to be classified.*

Piano Concertos may **ONLY be played in Piano Concerto Classes (found on page 41).*

**Canada West Eligibility Note: Canada West Festival Piano Competitors are only considered from Piano Plan I as there are no graded piano classes at Canada West. If a competitor would like to be considered for Canada West Eligibility from the Provincial Festival, they must enter Piano Plan I.*

PIANO SOLO – OWN CHOICE

“Classical” (serious), not pop.

ONE selection, own choice

74000	PRE-GRADE 1
74001	GRADE 1
74002	GRADE 2
74003	GRADE 3
74004	GRADE 4
74005	GRADE 5
74006	GRADE 6
74007	GRADE 7
74008	GRADE 8
74009	GRADE 9
74010	GRADE 10
74011	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – CANADIAN COMPOSERS

“Classical” (serious), not pop.

ONE selection, own choice

74500	PRE-GRADE 1
74501	GRADE 1
74502	GRADE 2
74503	GRADE 3
74504	GRADE 4
74505	GRADE 5
74506	GRADE 6
74507	GRADE 7
74508	GRADE 8
74509	GRADE 9
74510	GRADE 10
74511	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – BAROQUE

For AMFA purposes, music composed circa 1750 and prior. Includes works of Handel, Bach, Telemann, Scarlatti and their contemporaries.

- If a Prelude is connected with a Fugue, it must be performed with the Fugue in the Prelude & Fugue Class (found on page 39).

ONE selection, own choice

75000	PRE-GRADE 1
75001	GRADE 1
75002	GRADE 2
75003	GRADE 3
75004	GRADE 4
75005	GRADE 5
75006	GRADE 6
75007	GRADE 7
75008	GRADE 8
75009	GRADE 9
75010	GRADE 10
75011	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – CLASSICAL PERIOD

For AMFA purposes, music composed circa 1750-1820. Includes works of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Clementi and their contemporaries.

ONE selection, own choice, which MAY be movement(s) of a sonatina or sonata.

75100	PRE-GRADE 1
75101	GRADE 1
75102	GRADE 2
75103	GRADE 3
75104	GRADE 4
75105	GRADE 5
75106	GRADE 6
75107	GRADE 7
75108	GRADE 8
75109	GRADE 9
75110	GRADE 10
75111	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – EARLY ROMANTIC

For AMFA purposes, music composed circa 1820-1850. Includes works of Schumann, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Grieg, Liszt, and their contemporaries.

ONE selection, own choice.

75200	PRE-GRADE 1
75201	GRADE 1
75202	GRADE 2
75203	GRADE 3
75204	GRADE 4
75205	GRADE 5
75206	GRADE 6
75207	GRADE 7
75208	GRADE 8
75209	GRADE 9
75210	GRADE 10
75211	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – LATE ROMANTIC

For AMFA purposes, music composed circa 1850-1900. Includes works of Rachmaninoff, Medtner, Albéniz, Granados, Scriabin, and their contemporaries.

ONE selection, own choice

75305	GRADE 5
75306	GRADE 6
75307	GRADE 7
75308	GRADE 8
75309	GRADE 9
75310	GRADE 10
75311	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – IMPRESSIONISM

Works of Ravel, Debussy, Ireland, Griffes, Satie, and their contemporaries.

ONE selection, own choice

75406	GRADE 6
75407	GRADE 7
75408	GRADE 8
75409	GRADE 9
75410	GRADE 10
75411	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – EARLY MODERN COMPOSERS

“Classical” (serious), not pop. For AMFA purposes, music composed between 1900-1970.

ONE selection, own choice

75500	PRE-GRADE 1
75501	GRADE 1
75502	GRADE 2
75503	GRADE 3
75504	GRADE 4
75505	GRADE 5
75506	GRADE 6
75507	GRADE 7
75508	GRADE 8
75509	GRADE 9
75510	GRADE 10
75511	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – LATE MODERN COMPOSERS

“Classical” (serious), not pop. For AMFA purposes, music composed between 1971-Present.

ONE selection, own choice

75600	PRE-GRADE 1
75601	GRADE 1
75602	GRADE 2
75603	GRADE 3
75604	GRADE 4
75605	GRADE 5
75606	GRADE 6
75607	GRADE 7
75608	GRADE 8
75609	GRADE 9
75610	GRADE 10
75611	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – CONCERT

TWO or **THREE** selections, own choice, from ONE of the following styles: Baroque, Classical, Romantic (both Early and Late Romantic may be entered in one Concert class), or Modern (both Early and Late Modern may be entered into one Concert class).

	TIME LIMIT:
76000 PRE-GRADE 1	4 minutes
76001 GRADE 1	6 minutes
76002 GRADE 2	8 minutes
76003 GRADE 3	10 minutes
76004 GRADE 4	12 minutes
76005 GRADE 5	14 minutes
76006 GRADE 6	16 minutes
76007 GRADE 7	18 minutes
76008 GRADE 8	20 minutes
76009 GRADE 9	24 minutes
76010 GRADE 10	30 minutes
76011 MIN. ASSOCIATE STANDARD	35 minutes

PIANO SOLO – RECITAL

THREE selections, own choice, from any THREE of the following styles: Baroque, Classical, Early Romantic, Late Romantic, Impressionism, Early Modern, or Late Modern.

	TIME LIMIT:
76100 PRE-GRADE 1	4 minutes
76101 GRADE 1	6 minutes
76102 GRADE 2	8 minutes
76103 GRADE 3	10 minutes
76104 GRADE 4	12 minutes
76105 GRADE 5	14 minutes
76106 GRADE 6	16 minutes
76107 GRADE 7	18 minutes
76108 GRADE 8	20 minutes
76109 GRADE 9	24 minutes
76110 GRADE 10	30 minutes
76111 MIN. ASSOCIATE STANDARD	35 minutes

PIANO SOLO – PRELUDE & FUGUE

ONE selection, own choice

77009	GRADE 9
77010	GRADE 10
77011	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – PARTITA, ENGLISH or FRENCH SUITE

77110	GRADE 10 (2 movements)
77111	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD (3 movements)

PIANO SOLO – JAZZ/BLUES/RAGTIME

- In this class, you MAY NOT perform transcriptions, arrangements, or abridged versions.
- **ONLY** music originally composed for the piano is acceptable.

ONE selection, own choice.

77200	PRE-GRADE 1
77201	GRADE 1
77202	GRADE 2
77203	GRADE 3
77204	GRADE 4
77205	GRADE 5
77206	GRADE 6
77207	GRADE 7
77208	GRADE 8
77209	GRADE 9
77210	GRADE 10
77211	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – ARRANGED JAZZ/BLUES/RAGTIME

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL RECOMMENDATION

- This class is for transcriptions, arrangements or abridged versions of Jazz, Blues, or Ragtime selections.

ONE selection, own choice

77300	PRE-GRADE 1
77301	GRADE 1
77302	GRADE 2
77303	GRADE 3
77304	GRADE 4
77305	GRADE 5
77306	GRADE 6
77307	GRADE 7
77308	GRADE 8
77309	GRADE 9
77310	GRADE 10
77311	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – MOVIE/TV/POP**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
RECOMMENDATION**

- The selection MAY be a transcription, arrangement, or an abridge version.

ONE selection, own choice

77400	PRE-GRADE 1
77401	GRADE 1
77402	GRADE 2
77403	GRADE 3
77404	GRADE 4
77405	GRADE 5
77406	GRADE 6
77407	GRADE 7
77408	GRADE 8
77409	GRADE 9
77410	GRADE 10
77411	MINIMUM ASSOCIATE STANDARD

PIANO SOLO – NATIONAL ANTHEM**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
RECOMMENDATION**

- Class may be divided by grade/level.
- Any standard edition may be used.

77501	O CANADA
77502	ANY NATIONAL ANTHEM (not including O Canada)

PIANO DUET*For all Duet entries (from Piano Plan I or Piano Plan II),
please enter the Piano Duet classes (found on page 41).***PIANO TRIO (ONE PIANO)****NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
RECOMMENDATION****ONE** selection, own choice

77701	ONE PIANO – SIX HANDS
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PIANO SIGHT READING**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
RECOMMENDATION**

- Please state the current GRADE/LEVEL or study.
The test piece will be approximately THREE
grades/levels below the stated grade/level.
- Class may be divided by grade/level.

77801	PIANO SIGHT READING
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PIANO QUICK STUDY**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
RECOMMENDATION**

- Twenty-four (24) hours of study is allowed.
- Please state the current GRADE/LEVEL of study.
- The test piece will be approximately ONE
grade/level below the current grade/level of
study
- Memorization is not required.
- Class may be divided by grade/level.

77805	PIANO QUICK STUDY
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