



2023

Syllabus

www.albertamusicfestival.org



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

October 23, 2022

Dear Local Festivals, Teachers, and Competitors,

After the difficulty and constant adjustments of the last two years, almost every Local Festival is back to in-person programming!! The Provincial Festival will return in-person for all solo disciplines in Spring of 2023 as well! Please see below for how the decisions made at the 2022 AMFA AGM will affect the Alberta Festivals in the coming year.

2023 Syllabus Changes

Outside of minor edits and corrections, significant changes to the 2023 AMFA Syllabus include:

- **Local Piano Duet Classes Added:** Piano Duets have been removed from Piano Plans I and II and a new stream of Piano Duet classes have been added to the Local Syllabus (found on page 41). These Piano Duet classes are eligible for Provincial recommendation.
- **Provincial Classes Added:** The following classes have been added to the Provincial Festival Syllabus:
 - Piano Duet – Age 12 and Under
 - Piano Duet – Age 13 and Over
 - Piano Plan I – Age 9 and Under
 - Piano Plan I – Age 14 and Under
 - Violin/Viola – Age 14 and Under
 - Cello/Double Bass – Age 14 and Under
 - Speech – Age 14 and Under
 - Musical Theatre Ballad – Age 14 and Under
 - Musical Theatre Up-Tempo – Age 14 and Under
- **17 and Under Provincial Classes** All classes that were 16 and Under at the Provincial Festival in previous years are now 17 and Under.
- **Choral:** All sung Choral at the 2023 Provincial Festival will be submitted by AUDIO Recording (no in-person choral classes in 2023).
- **Choral Speech:** All Choral Speech at the 2023 Provincial Festival will be submitted by VIDEO Recording (no in-person choral speech classes in 2023).

Alberta Hosting the 2023 Canada West Performing Arts Festival

In partnership with the provincial performing arts festival associations of British Columbia and Saskatchewan, AMFA is pleased to host the second annual Canada West Performing Arts Festival (CWPAF) on July 21-22, 2023 in Edmonton!

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 President, RJ Chambers (president@albertamusicfestival.org).

Sincerely,

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

RJ Chambers
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 may a teacher, parent, or competitor engage the adjudicator in conversation prior to or during any performance for that adjudicator. 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).
19. Competitors in Piano Plan II are NOT eligible to receive a Canada West Performing Arts Festival recommendation at the Provincial Festival. Piano competitors that want to be considered for the Canada West Performing Arts Festival must enter Piano Plan I and/or a Piano Concerto class at the Local Festival and continue on to the Provincial Festival.

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.

HANDBELLS – COMMUNITY

HANDBELL RINGING CHORUS

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

RECOMMENDATION

TWO contrasting selections, own choice

		TIME LIMIT
68014	14 AND UNDER	10 minutes
68016	16 AND UNDER	12 minutes
68018	18 AND UNDER	14 minutes
68019	19 AND OVER	18 minutes

HANDBELL RINGING CHORUS – RECITAL

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

RECOMMENDATION

THREE selections, own choice, **ONE** from each of:

- A transcription arrangement for handbells of a composition by a classical composer.
- A handbell arrangement of a selection from the popular style.
- An original piece written for a handbell chorus.

		TIME LIMIT
68212	12 AND UNDER	10 minutes
68214	14 AND UNDER	15 minutes
68216	16 AND UNDER	20 minutes
68218	18 AND UNDER	23 minutes
68219	19 AND OVER	30 minutes