



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, horizontal flourish 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.

VOCAL – CONTEMPORARY/POP

**Does NOT include Classical Vocal music. Please refer to the Vocal – Classical section of the syllabus for more classes.*

**Does NOT include music performed using costumes or choreography. For Musical Theatre Classes (with costume and choreography), please refer to the Vocal – Musical Theatre section of the syllabus for more classes.*

Microphone/s for Contemporary Vocal may be provided and/or required at the discretion of the Local Festival. Please consult with the Local Festival Administrator for more information. **Provincial Festival Note: A microphone is provided by the Provincial Festival but competitors are not required to use it.*

**Any instrumental accompaniment (single instrument) may be used. Electronic accompaniment is allowed but must be provided by the competitor (some Local Festivals may provide certain electronic options at their discretion).*

**Unpublished editions are not allowed but published and notated lead sheets are accepted.*

Selections should be entered based on the **original publication date by the original composer.*

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – OWN CHOICE

ONE selection, own choice

94006	6 AND UNDER
94008	8 AND UNDER
94010	10 AND UNDER
94011	11 AND UNDER
94013	13 AND UNDER
94015	15 AND UNDER
94017	17 AND UNDER
94018	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – CANADIAN

COMPOSERS

ONE selection, own choice

94106	6 AND UNDER
94108	8 AND UNDER
94110	10 AND UNDER
94111	11 AND UNDER
94113	13 AND UNDER
94115	15 AND UNDER
94117	17 AND UNDER
94118	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY/POP VOCAL SOLO – 1940-1964

- Excludes Jazz, Motown, Disco, R&B, Rap, Punk, Emo, Folk, and all Country genres.

ONE selection, own choice

94206	6 AND UNDER
94208	8 AND UNDER
94210	10 AND UNDER
94211	11 AND UNDER
94213	13 AND UNDER
94215	15 AND UNDER
94217	17 AND UNDER
94218	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY/POP VOCAL SOLO – 1965-1979

- Excludes Jazz, Motown, Disco, R&B, Rap, Punk, Emo, Folk, and all Country genres.

ONE selection, own choice

94306	6 AND UNDER
94308	8 AND UNDER
94310	10 AND UNDER
94311	11 AND UNDER
94313	13 AND UNDER
94315	15 AND UNDER
94317	17 AND UNDER
94318	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY/POP VOCAL SOLO – 1980-1989

- Excludes Jazz, Motown, Disco, R&B, Rap, Punk, Emo, Folk, and all Country genres.

ONE selection, own choice

94406	6 AND UNDER
94408	8 AND UNDER
94410	10 AND UNDER
94411	11 AND UNDER
94413	13 AND UNDER
94415	15 AND UNDER
94417	17 AND UNDER
94418	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY/POP VOCAL SOLO – 1990-1999

- Excludes Jazz, Motown, Disco, R&B, Rap, Punk, Emo, Folk, and all Country genres.

ONE selection, own choice

94506	6 AND UNDER
94508	8 AND UNDER
94510	10 AND UNDER
94511	11 AND UNDER
94513	13 AND UNDER
94515	15 AND UNDER
94517	17 AND UNDER
94518	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY/POP VOCAL SOLO – 2000-PRESENT

- Excludes Jazz, Motown, Disco, R&B, Rap, Punk, Emo, Folk, and all Country genres.

ONE selection, own choice

94606	6 AND UNDER
94608	8 AND UNDER
94610	10 AND UNDER
94611	11 AND UNDER
94613	13 AND UNDER
94615	15 AND UNDER
94617	17 AND UNDER
94618	18 AND OVER

**CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – CONTEMPORARY
SACRED**

Including music originally performed by Twila Paris, Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Casting Crowns, TobyMac, Skillet, and others.

- Excludes Sacred R&B, Traditional Gospel, and Praise and Worship.

ONE selection, own choice

94706	6 AND UNDER
94708	8 AND UNDER
94710	10 AND UNDER
94711	11 AND UNDER
94713	13 AND UNDER
94715	15 AND UNDER
94717	17 AND UNDER
94718	18 AND OVER

**CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – SACRED R&B /
TRADITIONAL GOSPEL**

Including music originally performed by Kirk Franklin, Mary Mary, Yolanda Adams, J. Moss, CeCe Winans, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

94806	6 AND UNDER
94808	8 AND UNDER
94810	10 AND UNDER
94811	11 AND UNDER
94813	13 AND UNDER
94815	15 AND UNDER
94817	17 AND UNDER
94818	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – PRAISE / WORSHIP

Music typically written for use in congregational music, including music originally performed by Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood, Keith and Kristyn Getty, Hillsong, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

94906	6 AND UNDER
94908	8 AND UNDER
94910	10 AND UNDER
94911	11 AND UNDER
94913	13 AND UNDER
94915	15 AND UNDER
94917	17 AND UNDER
94918	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – JAZZ

Styles including Blues, Ragtime, The Great American Songbook, etc., including music performed by Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Count Basie, Diana Krall, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95006	6 AND UNDER
95008	8 AND UNDER
95010	10 AND UNDER
95011	11 AND UNDER
95013	13 AND UNDER
95015	15 AND UNDER
95017	17 AND UNDER
95018	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – COUNTRY

Styles including Honky Tonk, Country/Western, Rockabilly, Bluegrass, and Country Folk, including music originally performed by Roy Rogers, Hank Williams, Elvis, Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, John Denver, Trisha Yearwood, Garth Brooks, Vince Gil, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95106	6 AND UNDER
95108	8 AND UNDER
95110	10 AND UNDER
95111	11 AND UNDER
95113	13 AND UNDER
95115	15 AND UNDER
95117	17 AND UNDER
95118	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – POETIC

Styles including alternative folk and coffeehouse, including music originally performed by Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Simon and Garfunkle, Joan Osbourne, Tori Amos, Kate Bush, Pete Seeger, Ingrid Michaelson, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95206	6 AND UNDER
95208	8 AND UNDER
95210	10 AND UNDER
95211	11 AND UNDER
95213	13 AND UNDER
95215	15 AND UNDER
95217	17 AND UNDER
95218	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – MOTOWN

Motown genre (circa 1950s-1960s), including music originally performed by The Supremes, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Smokey Robinson and The Miracles, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95306	6 AND UNDER
95308	8 AND UNDER
95310	10 AND UNDER
95311	11 AND UNDER
95313	13 AND UNDER
95315	15 AND UNDER
95317	17 AND UNDER
95318	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – DISCO

Disco genre (circa 1970s), including music originally performed by Donna Summer, The Bee Gees, Barry White, Earth Wind and Fire, Parliament, Sly and the Family Stone, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95406	6 AND UNDER
95408	8 AND UNDER
95410	10 AND UNDER
95411	11 AND UNDER
95413	13 AND UNDER
95415	15 AND UNDER
95417	17 AND UNDER
95418	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – R&B / RAP

Styles including Hip-Hop, Gospel, Blues, and Neo-Soul (circa 1990-present), including music originally performed by N.W.A., Sean Combs, Mariah Carey, Mary J. Blige, Dusty Springfield, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95506	6 AND UNDER
95508	8 AND UNDER
95510	10 AND UNDER
95511	11 AND UNDER
95513	13 AND UNDER
95515	15 AND UNDER
95517	17 AND UNDER
95518	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – PUNK / EMO

Punk and Emo music (circa 1990-present), including music originally performed by The Ramones, Green Day, The Clash, The Cure, My Chemical Romance, Death Cab for Cutie, and others.

ONE selection, own choice

95606	6 AND UNDER
95608	8 AND UNDER
95610	10 AND UNDER
95611	11 AND UNDER
95613	13 AND UNDER
95615	15 AND UNDER
95617	17 AND UNDER
95618	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – MOVIE / TV

Includes Contemporary music written for a movie or television program, or a theme song from a movie or TV show (such as "A Thousand Years" from Twilight, "You've Got a Friend in Me" from Toy Story, "Thank You for Being a Friend" from Golden Girls, etc.).

- MUST be from a published edition for provincial eligibility.
- Must not include costume or choreography.

ONE selection, own choice

95706	6 AND UNDER
95708	8 AND UNDER
95710	10 AND UNDER
95711	11 AND UNDER
95713	13 AND UNDER
95715	15 AND UNDER
95717	17 AND UNDER
95718	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – CONCERT

TWO or **THREE** selections, own choice, from any Contemporary repertoire (single period/genre or any combination of period/genre is allowed).

95806	6 AND UNDER
95808	8 AND UNDER
95810	10 AND UNDER
95811	11 AND UNDER
95813	13 AND UNDER
95815	15 AND UNDER
95817	17 AND UNDER
95818	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – COVER

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL RECOMMENDATION

- A "cover" is an existing contemporary song that has been arranged/re-arranged by the Competitor.
- A notated lead sheet (published or unpublished) should be submitted with the entry.

ONE selection, own choice

96006	6 AND UNDER
96008	8 AND UNDER
96010	10 AND UNDER
96011	11 AND UNDER
96013	13 AND UNDER
96015	15 AND UNDER
96017	17 AND UNDER
96018	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL SOLO – SINGER/SONGWRITER

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

RECOMMENDATION - For Consideration for the Provincial Festival see Composition section of syllabus.

- An original contemporary song written and performed by the competitor that includes original lyrics and original music (written by the competitor).
- A notated lead sheet (published or unpublished) should be submitted with the entry.

ONE selection, own choice

96106	6 AND UNDER
96108	8 AND UNDER
96110	10 AND UNDER
96111	11 AND UNDER
96113	13 AND UNDER
96115	15 AND UNDER
96117	17 AND UNDER
96118	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL DUET

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL RECOMMENDATION

ONE selection, own choice

96206	6 AND UNDER
96208	8 AND UNDER
96210	10 AND UNDER
96211	11 AND UNDER
96213	13 AND UNDER
96215	15 AND UNDER
96217	17 AND UNDER
96218	18 AND OVER

CONTEMPORARY VOCAL GROUP

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL RECOMMENDATION

- Three or more singers. *For choral groups, please see Community or School Chorus section of the syllabus.*
- Please state ages upon entry into Local Festival.

ONE selection, own choice

96505	CONTEMPORARY VOCAL GROUP
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****For Contemporary classes that allow more than one accompanying instrument (such as Garage Bands or other unique make-ups that do not fit in other group disciplines), please refer to the Family and Community section of the syllabus.***