



# **2023**

# **Syllabus**

[www.albertamusicfestival.org](http://www.albertamusicfestival.org)

# 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.

# SCHOOL MUSIC COMPOSITION

## PLEASE NOTE:

- You must enter one class only and submit only one composition.
- The composition may not already have been adjudicated at this Local Community Festival in any previous year.

## THE COMPOSITION AND PERFORMANCE

1. The composition will be adjudicated on the basis of originality of ideas, inventiveness, and the ability to express these ideas in a cohesive musical form.
2. A quality performance is expected, but it is the composition that will be adjudicated.
3. A Solo or Duet performance of a composition MAY be performed live or by recording.
4. Due to space restrictions, compositions having 3 (three) or more performers, or those requiring 2 (two) pianos, MUST be performed by recording.
5. If performing by recording, the competitor MUST bring his or her own equipment.
6. On performance day a copy of the manuscript and the description must be brought to the performance.

## SUBMISSION:

- DO NOT SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT. A digital copy of your completed manuscript must be emailed to the Local Community Festival Administrator prior to the start of the Local Festival.
- Submitted Manuscript: Manuscript must include full notation of melody and harmony or a complete graphic score. Chord charts, lead sheets, or other incomplete manuscripts will not be accepted.

## PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL RECOMMENDATION:

- Should a competitor receive a Provincial Festival recommendation, they are permitted to make changes to the manuscript based on the adjudicator's comments and suggestions.
- The revised manuscript must be digitally submitted to the LOCAL FESTIVAL ADMINISTRATOR within ONE week of the performance.

## SCHOOL MUSIC COMPOSITION

### **NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**RECOMMENDATION** - For Consideration for the Provincial Festival see Composition (non-school) section of syllabus.

**ONE** selection, in any style

29010 For teachers whose work will be performed by their students.

29020 For a student or students whose work will be performed by the other classroom students.