

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

A. WORKING MANAGEMENT

- A-1** The competition shall be under the management of the Executive Committee, which is hereinafter called "The Committee". Any questions not dealt with in these rules shall be referred to the committee, whose decision on such matters shall be final and binding on all concerned.

B. ELIGIBILITY DEFINITIONS

- B-1** All competitions, unless otherwise stated, shall be open to amateurs only. For the purpose of these competitions, an amateur shall be defined as any person whose principal means of livelihood is NOT obtained from the profession of music.
- B-2** All competitions, unless otherwise stated, shall be open to any competitor whose principal residence lies within: (a) the areas bounded by Greater Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island, or (b) another area of Northeastern Ontario where a similar festival opportunity does not exist.
- B-3** PHOTOCOPIES ARE **NOT** PERMITTED unless accompanied by legal authorization by the copyright holder. To do so is a violation of the Canadian Copyright Act. Competitors using illegal copies will be **DISQUALIFIED** and receive an adjudication only. **This rule must be adhered to by ALL competitors in ALL divisions.**
- B-4** When a competitor uses music **downloaded** from a website, the music must be accompanied by a copy of the receipt to show **proof of purchase** for each copy being used (i.e. performer(s) copy, adjudicator copy and if applicable, accompanist copy). If the music is downloaded from a public domain website then the name of the website must be **clearly indicated** as the resource. Failure to do so will result in disqualification and the performer(s) will receive a Participation certificate and an adjudication only (no mark) from the adjudicator.
- B-5** In all classes where an age limit is set, competitors must be under the prescribed age as of **JANUARY 1st**, preceding the date of the Festival. The exact date and year of birth **MUST** be shown on the entry form.
- B-6** Unless otherwise stated, there is no limit on the number of classes a competitor may enter in any section.
- B-7** **Competitors must compete at the grade level at which they are currently studying.** Current grade level **MUST** be stated in the appropriate area on the entry form. Students may enter **ONE** grade level above their current grade in **ONE CLASS ONLY**.
A. Students in Grades 1 – 7 **MAY NOT** compete in the same grade level 2 years in a row.
B. Students in Grade 8 and over **MAY** compete in the same grade level 2 years in a row but the same selections **MAY NOT** be used the second year.

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

- B-8** In all 'Quick Study' classes, test pieces will be available at the Festival Office 48 hours prior to the competition. Competitors may be asked to purchase their copy.
- B-9** The piano category BEGINNER is for students playing at Beginner level ONLY. Students who meet the age criteria, but who are already studying at the Conservatory Grade levels **may not** enter the BEGINNER classes.
- B-10** All 'Solo' class pieces must be memorized unless otherwise stated. Where a specified edition of a test piece is indicated in the Syllabus, the original music will be provided to the Adjudicator by the Festival.
- B-11** Competitors entering 'Original Composition' classes must create and organize the performance of their own original music. Assistance may be given in the transcribing of the music for Junior and Intermediate students ONLY. Please see the composition guidelines located in the syllabus for requirements of each level.
- B-12** Competitors requiring accompaniment must provide and pay for their own accompanist.
- B-13** In string classes for **Juniors**, competitors may have their instruments tuned by a teacher or other person.
- B-14** A minimum of eighty percent of all competitors in orchestras and bands must be bona fide members of their respective organizations.
- B-15** All competitors of Church groups and choirs must be bona fide members of their respective organizations.
- B-16** Conductors may be professional or amateur. Conductors may conduct any number of organizations in the same class or otherwise, but **MUST NOT** sing with their choirs, nor play with their orchestras or bands.
- B-17** In choral classes the minimum of voices required to compete is 13 unless otherwise stated.

"OWN CHOICE" GUIDELINES:

- B-18** Competitors in 'Own Choice' classes must write specific, complete titles, composer names and actual performance times on the entry form. PLEASE ENSURE THAT TITLES AND COMPOSER NAMES ARE SPELLED CORRECTLY.
- B-19** 'Own Choice' selections are to be chosen from the current RCM or Conservatory Canada syllabi or the selection may be another work of equal difficulty and length for the grade level represented. If a work is questioned, the adjudicator's recommendation will be final. (keep in mind that students in Grade 6 and above are eligible to be nominated to the Provincial Competitions. Selections for Provincials **MUST** be from the current RCM or ConCan syllabi.)

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

- B-20** In the event a discrepancy in grade levels occurs between syllabi then the committee will deem the current syllabus authoritative.
- B-21** **Competitors in 'Own Choice' classes may not use the same selection in successive years.**
- B-22** Prescribed pieces may not be used in 'Own Choice' sections.
- B-23** Own choice selections cannot be changed after the closing date.
Exception: School Band or Choir entries ONLY.
- B-24** Competitors in 'Own Choice' classes must provide the adjudicators with full original scores. Competitors will hand their music, opened at the correct page, to the adjudicator's secretary.
- B-25** Measure numbers must be written on ALL music provided to the adjudicator. If measure numbers are not already on the printed music, competitors MUST write them in. Failure to do so makes it impossible for the adjudicator to give detailed references to music for adjudication purposes.

VIDEO RECORDINGS ~ NEW FOR 2024 ~ PLEASE NOTE!

- B-26** In recent years, OMFA (Ontario Music Festival Association) has adapted their format to include both in-person and virtual competitions. To assist participants aiming for the **virtual** classes at the provincial level, OMFA has suggested that regional festivals permit controlled video recording to eliminate the need for additional video recording by parents. Please follow the guidelines listed below for SMF video recordings.
- Sudbury Music Festival will provide a **designated area for parents, guardians OR teachers to discreetly film their student's / child's performances only (not including the adjudications that follow) without obstructing the audience's view.**
 - Only the **parent, guardian, or teacher** seated in the designated area is allowed to record videos.
 - Recording of both the Adjudicators and their adjudications is **strictly prohibited.**
 - Prior to each class, an announcement will specify that only the parent/guardian OR teacher of the performer may record the performance.
 - For ensembles, the video can be shared **privately** with parents through a designated link.
 - It is crucial to note that due to copyright concerns, the recordings must **NOT** be shared on social media. Sudbury Music Festival disclaims responsibility for any **copyright infringement** if this guideline is violated.

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

C. DISQUALIFICATIONS

- C-1** Competitors who do not comply with all rules of Section B as outlined above will be **adjudicated without a mark or place**.
- C-2** There must be **NO CONTACT** between the adjudicator and any parents, teachers, students or members of the general public from when an adjudicator has signed the contract with the Festival until his/her responsibilities as adjudicator have been fulfilled (i.e. all paperwork has been handed in to the Festival Coordinator). **Failure to comply WILL result in the disqualification of the student(s) in question from the festival.**
- C-3** With the exception of the recording guidelines listed under **B-26** above, any other use of audio or video recording devices or cameras during the festival by a performer or an audience member is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. Failure to comply WILL result in the disqualification of the student or students in question from the festival.
- C-4** The use of photocopied music is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** by law. Competitors who use photocopied music will be awarded a Participation Certificate and receive an adjudication only (no mark). Competitors who use photocopied music will be disqualified from any award consideration.
- C-5** Participants are NOT ALLOWED to rehearse in Competition venues for the calendar duration of the Festival. Any infraction of this rule will result in disqualification of the offender.
- C-6** When a competitor uses music **downloaded** from a website, the music must be accompanied by a copy of the receipt to show **proof of purchase** for each copy being used (i.e. performer(s) copy, adjudicator copy and if applicable, accompanist copy). If the music is downloaded from a public domain website then the name of the website must be **clearly indicated** as the resource. Failure to do so will result in disqualification and the performer(s) will receive a Participation certificate and an adjudication only (no mark) from the adjudicator.

D. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- D-1** Copies of the Official Syllabus may be obtained by visiting the Festival website at www.sudburymusicfestival.ca.
- D-2** **ENTRY FEES CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE REFUNDED.**
- D-3** Only those whose names appear on the entry form will be allowed to compete.
- D-4** The Committee shall set the date by which entries must be received. ANY ENTRIES RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE will be accepted only with the inclusion of a late fee of **\$10.00 PER CLASS**. The festival coordinator will determine the final date late entries can be submitted.

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

E. PROGRAM PROCEDURE

- E-1 The Committee shall decide the order in which classes will be run during the Festival.
- E-2 The Committee reserves the right to split any class deemed too large.
- E-3 Competitors will receive notification in the mail of their performance dates and times prior to the start of the Festival.

F. CONCERNS, PROTESTS AND SUGGESTIONS

- F-1 Any minor concern or problem during a session must be directed to the ADJUDICATOR'S SECRETARY ONLY or the festival administrator if he/she is present.
- F-2 Serious complaints must be made ONLY to the committee in WRITING during the Festival.
- F-3 The Committee welcomes any constructive suggestions or criticisms IN WRITING from performers, teachers, parents or other interested persons. ALL comments will be considered and, where feasible and beneficial, implemented accordingly.

G. MARKING AND AWARD SYSTEMS

- G-1 The Festival marking system is as follows:
DIAMOND – 90+, GOLD 85-89, SILVER 80-84, BRONZE 75-79
All participants will receive a certificate with a sticker to reflect the mark assigned by the adjudicator.
1st, 2nd, and 3rd place marks will be announced at the end of every adjudication.
- G-2 All eligible competitors, whether in solo or ensemble classes, will receive a mark for award considerations. However, announcement of marks is at each individual adjudicator's discretion at the time.
- G-3 In order to preserve a high standard of performance in all classes, it shall be necessary for competitors to obtain an average of 85 and over to be considered for an award. The average is calculated from the THREE highest marks received by the participant. If the standard is not met, awards will be withheld regardless of the number of entries.
- G-4 All marks and decisions of the adjudicator are final.

SUDBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ GENERAL RULES

- G-5** Monetary awards for solo performers will be distributed according to the following guidelines, which apply to ALL competitors in ALL divisions:
- a) students competing in all eligible categories are required to perform in a minimum of three solo classes,
 - b) a placing of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in at least three solo classes must be obtained
 - c) the student's top 3 solo marks will be averaged to determine placement for awards. An average of 85 and over is required. In the case of ties, the total number of classes entered, including ensemble work will be taken into consideration.
 - d) in most divisions, awards are offered separately for ensemble performances
 - e) the festival also offers awards when money is available to students who are specifically mentioned by the adjudicator but that may not qualify under the guidelines listed above.
 - f) students must either attend the final concert OR have someone there to receive the award on their behalf. If the award letter and cheque is not accepted at the concert the award will be reverted to the award fund.
- G-6** Please cash award cheques immediately following the festival. Award cheques not claimed and cashed before August 31 will revert to the Award Fund.

H. THE FINAL CONCERT

- H-1** Competitors may be invited to perform at the final concert at the discretion of the adjudicator and in consultation with the Committee, without remuneration or payment for incidental expenses. The Committee will contact those who are to appear on the program. Because of the large number of classes and the desirability of producing a well-balanced concert, it is impossible to include all winners. Competitors should not assume they will be participating in the program because they are receiving an award.

I. DRESS CODE

- I-1** Competitors in ALL divisions are required to dress appropriately for classical performance. (i.e. dress pants, dress shirt, dresses). Adjudicators will be instructed to deduct 3% from the competitor's mark for inappropriate dress.
- I-2** The Sudbury Music Festival Committee requires that this dress code also be respected for the Final Concert.