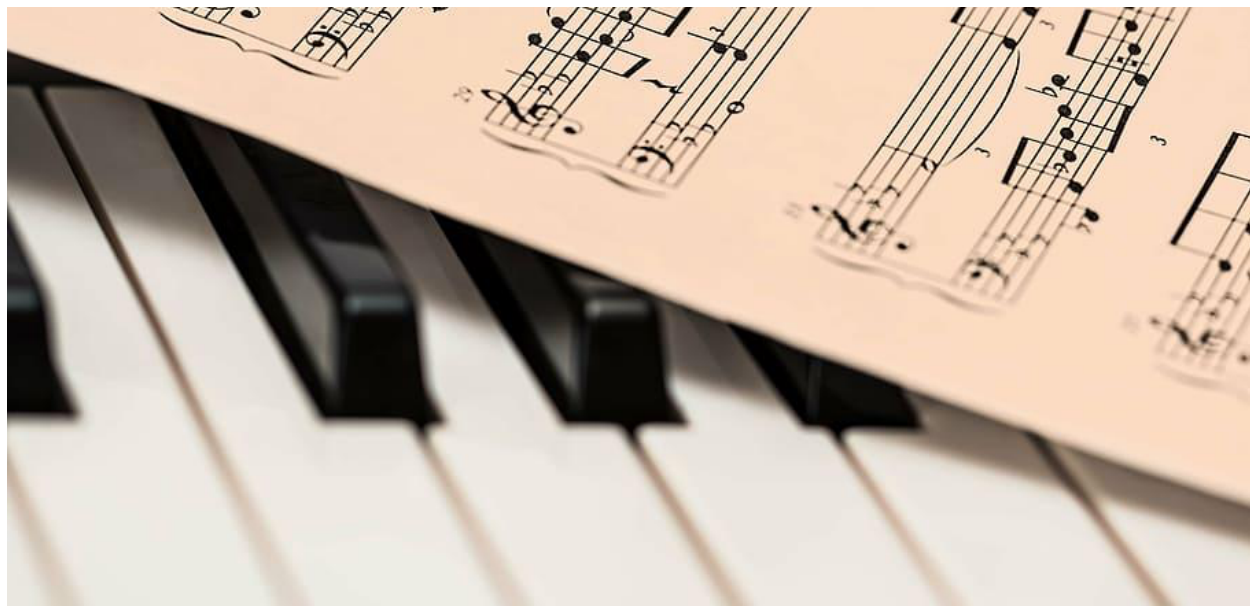


VERNON PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

2027 MUSIC SYLLABUS



IMPORTANT DATES

Registration Opens	November 15, 2026
Registration Closes	January 15, 2027
Junior/Intermediate Piano	March 1-5, 2027
Senior Piano	March 8-9, 2027
Voice	March 2 - 5, 2027
Strings /Guitar / Orchestra	March 5 - 8, 2027
Gala Concert	March 11, 2027

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PROCEDURES FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION/PAYMENT

Please read the general rules and the information for your discipline before registering.

Register online at vpaf.ca

Please ensure you have the following information ready:

- Participant name, birthdate, phone number and email contact.
- Teacher name, phone number and email contact
- Each selection's full title (opus number and movements if needed), composer, performance time and syllabus from which it's selected (where applicable)

Payment is best made through PayPal at the time of registration.

- E-transfer payment to vpafestival@gmail.com is accepted but *must* be accompanied by the student's name and entry number(s) to ensure it is applied to the correct entry.
- Studio teachers entering a large number of students may pay by e-transfer but *must* contact vpafestival@gmail.com for a ready-to-fill spreadsheet to record each individual entry and fee being paid.
- E-transfers not clearly accompanied by student name/entry number will not be accepted.

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

Teachers, participants and parents are responsible to familiarize themselves with the syllabus and rules before registering. Failure to comply with the general rules may result in disqualification.

ELIGIBILITY

- Competitors must be residents of the Southern Interior of British Columbia.
- All classes, unless otherwise specified, are open to amateurs only.
 - The term “amateur” refers to someone whose principal income is not derived from the discipline being entered.
 - This condition does not apply to conductors of choirs and orchestras, nor to music students who teach for the purpose of applying the money to their musical education.
- Adults aged 23 and above are not eligible for scholarships and awards.

ENTRY INFORMATION

- Competitor age is determined as of Dec 31 before the upcoming festival:
- Entries must be selected from the current or one previous Royal Conservatory or Conservatory Canada syllabus, *unless otherwise specified*:
 - In case of a conflict between syllabi, the *current RCM syllabus* will determine the level of a piece.
- Participants must enter at the level in which they are currently studying:
 - The level must be consistent across all classes entered. For Vocal pieces may be chosen from adjacent levels.
 - Concert class entries may include one piece that is one level higher.
 - Ensembles are entered at *the level of the most advanced player*.
 - Non-syllabus selections (pop, jazz, etc.) should reflect the student’s current playing level.
- Participants are responsible for entering the correct level and classes:
 - Pieces must be played as entered; no changes will be accepted.
 - A selection entered in the wrong level or class will be adjudicated as non-competitive
 - The festival cannot be responsible for catching errors
- Participants have the option to enter non-competitively:

- Non-competitive participants will receive an adjudication but are not eligible for awards or provincial recommendations.
- Choose this option by ticking a box in the online form

PRINTED MUSIC / COPYRIGHT REGULATIONS

- Legally purchased sheet music:
 - The performer must provide the adjudicator with a legally purchased score or authorized copy of the selection to be performed.
 - Accompanists, directors, groups, and soloists not performing from memory must each have a legally purchased copy or authorized copy of the music
- Use of photocopied music:
 - Use of unauthorized copies will result in disqualification and the performance will be adjudicated as non-competitive.
 - Authorized copies must be accompanied by a letter of authorization from the copyright holder which must be given to the secretary at the time of performance.
 - If a selection is in the public domain, a letter confirming this fact is required from the publisher along with permission to copy.
- Use of downloaded scores:
 - The use of downloaded music is permissible if it states on each sheet “Public Domain” OR there is a receipt of purchase attached to each piece downloaded, verifying the purchase.
 - If membership in a site provides free use of the material downloaded, proof of membership **MUST** be provided.
 - Music downloaded from *imslp.org* is permitted. Please write the full URL of the work being performed on the first page of all parts and copies being used.
- Transposition:
 - Vocal scores may be transposed to suit voice ranges, but the original score must be present.
- Page turns:
 - VPAF allows photocopies for the purposes of page turns, but the full score *must* still be present at the performance venue, in addition to an original copy for the adjudicator.

ADJUDICATION

- In all matters of adjudication, the Adjudicator's decision will be final.
- No protest or complaint may be addressed directly to any adjudicator.
- The Adjudicator shall have discretionary power to stop any performance at any time.
- Teachers, participants, parents of participants, or members of the audience should have no unauthorized communication with the Adjudicator prior to or during the festival.
- Unauthorized communication with an Adjudicator by the participant or their parents or teacher may result in disqualification of the participant.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULING

- Class divisions will be determined by level and number of entries.
- The festival cannot accommodate a participant's or teacher's requests for preferential scheduling.
- Festival classes may be scheduled for any day of the week.
- The Festival Committee reserves the right to eliminate, combine, subdivide or create classes as deemed necessary or to refuse any entry.
- Participants may only enter once in any particular class (eg. Level 8 Romantic), but are encouraged to enter several classes.

VENUES

- Unless a special room is provided, NO part of the venue may be used for practice.
- Performers and audience members must remain in the areas of the venue designated for festival participation.
- Absolutely no food or drinks are allowed into any venue.
- Talking and entering/exiting the venue are not permitted during a performance.
- All electronic devices should be silenced in the performance space.

PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES

- Arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before scheduled performance time.
- Please erase all pencil marks and notations in music books

- Number the first measure of each line on the music provided for the adjudicator.
- When your name is called, hand your book to the Adjudicator's Secretary before proceeding to the performance floor or stage.
- Memorization is not compulsory but is encouraged. If sheet music is used, there will be a 2 mark deduction.

ACCOMPANIMENT

- Strings and Vocal performances must be accompanied by piano, with the exception of unaccompanied solos and self-accompanied vocal classes.
- Participants are responsible for arranging their own accompanist.
- Pre-recorded accompaniment tracks are not permitted

ADJUDICATION, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND PROVINCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- To be eligible for any individual scholarships, a student must enter at least 2 competitive classes, excluding ensembles.
- Competitive performances will not receive a numeric mark on the adjudication sheets, but teachers may submit a request for their students' marks after the festival.
- Scholarships are awarded to up to three top students in each of the Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories for piano and strings, and to the top Classical and top Musical Theatre student in each of Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories for voice. Additional scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.
- Provincial Competitors and Alternates will be selected at the adjudicator's discretion.

PIANO

Refer to General Rules at the beginning of this syllabus.

JUNIOR PIANO CLASSES (PRE-LEVEL 1 - LEVEL 3)	
Baroque	Composed during the Baroque era or in the Baroque style
Classical	Composed during the Classical era or in the Classical style
Romantic	Composed during the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
Early 20th c.	Bartok, Kabalevsky, etc.
Later 20th/21st c.	Excludes Canadian composers
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Pop	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level

Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category in which the student is already entered (e.g. a second Baroque piece)
Concert Program	Two or three contrasting selections, limited to 7 minutes. One piece may be a level higher than the student's current level. The entire performance is considered as a single entry for the purpose of scholarships.
Own Composition	Non-competitive
Junior Ensemble	Duet or Trio. Most advanced player is Level 3 or below.

JUNIOR PIANO FEES		
	Pre-Level 1	Levels 1-3
Solo Classes	\$25	\$28
Concert Class	\$45	\$55
Ensemble	\$15 per participant	\$15 per participant

INTERMEDIATE PIANO CLASSES (LEVEL 4-7)	
Baroque	Composed during the Baroque era or in the Baroque style
Classical	Composed during the Classical era or in the Classical style
Romantic	Composed during the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
Early 20th c.	Bartok, Kabalevsky, etc.
Later 20th/21st c.	Excludes Canadian composers
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Pop	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category in which the student is already entered (e.g. a second Baroque piece)
Concert Program	2 or 3 contrasting selections - one piece may be one level higher than the student's current level, limited to 10 min. The entire performance is considered as a single entry for the purpose of scholarships.
Own Composition	Non-competitive
Ensemble	Duet or Trio. Most advanced player is Level 7 or below

INTERMEDIATE PIANO FEES	
Solo Classes	\$33
Concert Class	\$65
Ensemble	\$15 per participant

SENIOR PIANO CLASSES (LEVEL 8 - ARCT)	
Baroque	Bach, Handel and contemporaries
Classical	Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and contemporaries
Romantic	Brahms, Chopin, Liszt and contemporaries
Impressionistic	Debussy, Ravel, etc.
Early 20th c.	Bartok, Rachmaninoff, etc.
Later 20th/21st c.	Excludes Canadian composers
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Pop	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style. Does not need to be listed in a recognized syllabus but should reflect the student's current playing level
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category in which the student is already entered (e.g. a second Baroque piece)
Concert Program	2 or 3 contrasting selections - one piece may be one level higher than the student's current level. Limited to 12 min. The entire performance is considered as a single entry for the purpose of scholarships.
Own Composition	Non-competitive.
Ensemble	Duet or Trio. Most advanced player is ARCT or below

SENIOR PIANO FEES			
	Level 8-9	Level 10	ARCT
Solo Classes (excluding Classical)	\$38	\$42	\$45
Classical	\$38	\$47	\$50
Concert Program	\$75	\$75	\$75

Ensemble	\$15 per participant
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STRINGS, GUITAR AND ORCHESTRA

Refer to the General rules and information section at the beginning of this syllabus.

JUNIOR STRINGS CATEGORIES (Pre-Level 1 - Level 3)	
Suzuki	Pieces <i>not in a recognized syllabus</i> , from the Suzuki books. Should be at the student's current playing level.
Baroque	From the Baroque era or in the Baroque style
Unaccompanied Solo	Music for solo string instrument.
Classical	From the Classical era or in the Classical style
Concerto/Concertino	Must perform the required movements listed in syllabus
Romantic	From the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
Traditional Fiddle	May or may not be in the syllabus, but should be at the student's current playing level.
20th/21st Century	Works by recognized 20th/21st c. composers, excluding Canadian.
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category which the student has already entered (e.g. a second Canadian piece).
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections. One piece may be a level higher. Limited to 7 minutes. Considered as a single entry for the purpose of awards.
Own Composition	Non-competitive
Duet	Most advanced student at Level 3 or below.

JUNIOR STRINGS FEES		
	Pre-Level 1	Levels 1-3
Solo Classes	\$25	\$28

Concert Class	\$45	\$55
Duet	\$15 per participant	

INTERMEDIATE STRINGS CATEGORIES (LEVELS 4-7)

Baroque	From the Baroque era or in the Baroque style
Unaccompanied Bach	Music by J.S. Bach, for solo string instrument
Unaccompanied Solo	Music for solo string instrument, excluding Bach
Classical	From the Classical era, other than Sonata or Concerto
Sonata/Sonatina	Must perform the required movements listed in syllabus.
Concerto/Concertino	Must perform the required movements listed in syllabus.
Romantic	From the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
French	Debussy, Ravel, etc.
Traditional Fiddle	May or may not be in the syllabus, but should be at the student's current playing level.
20th/21st Century	Works by recognized 20th/21st c. composers, excluding Canadian.
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category which the student has already entered (e.g. a second Canadian piece).
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections. One piece may be a level higher. Limited to 12 minutes. Considered as a single entry for the purpose of awards.
Own Composition	Non-competitive
Duet	Most advanced student at Level 7 or below.

INTERMEDIATE STRINGS FEES

Solo Classes (excluding Sonata/Concerto)	\$33
Concert Class	\$65
Duet	\$15 per participant

SENIOR STRINGS CATEGORIES (LEVELS 8-ARCT)	
Baroque	From the Baroque era or in the Baroque style
Unaccompanied Bach	Music by J.S. Bach, for solo string instrument
Unaccompanied Solo	Music for solo string instrument, excluding Bach
Classical	From the Classical era, other than Sonata or Concerto
Sonata/Sonatina	Must perform the required movements listed in syllabus.
Concerto/Concertino	Must perform the required movements listed in syllabus. 20-25 minutes.
Romantic	From the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
French	Debussy, Ravel, etc.
Traditional Fiddle	May or may not be in the syllabus, but should be at the student's current playing level.
20th/21st Century	Works by recognized 20th/21st c. composers, excluding Canadian.
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category which the student has already entered (e.g. a second Canadian piece).
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections. One piece may be a level higher. Limited to 20 minutes. Considered as a single entry for the purpose of awards.
Own Composition	Non-competitive
Duet	Most advanced student at ARCT level or below.

SENIOR STRINGS FEES		
	Levels 8-9	Levels 10-ARCT

Solo Classes (excluding Sonata/Concerto)	\$38	\$38
Sonata/Concerto	\$43	\$48
Concert Class	\$75	\$75
Duet	\$15 per participant	

STRING ENSEMBLES	
Chamber Ensemble	3-9 performers. 2-3 contrasting selections. Average age 14 and under - 15 min. limit. Average age 17 and under - 20 min. limit. Average age 28 and under - 25 min. limit.
Community String Ensemble	Max. 20 performers. 2-3 contrasting selections. 15-20 minutes.
Youth Community Orchestra	Over 20 performers. 2-3 contrasting selections. 15-20 minutes.

STRING ENSEMBLE FEES	
Chamber Ensemble	\$12 per participant
Community String Ensemble	\$100
Youth Community Orchestra	\$150

CLASSICAL GUITAR

Refer to the General rules and information section at the beginning of this syllabus

CLASSICAL GUITAR CATEGORIES	
Renaissance / Baroque	From the Renaissance/Baroque era
Bach	Works by J.S. Bach
Classical	From the Classical era, other than Concerto
Concerto	
Romantic	From the Romantic era or in the Romantic style
Spanish	traditional Spanish composers or Spanish folk idioms.
20th/21st Century	Recognized 20th/21st c. composers, excluding Canadian.
Canadian	Works by recognized Canadian composers
Jazz/Contemporary	With or without improvisation
Additional Repertoire	Additional repertoire from a category which the student has already entered (e.g. a second Canadian piece).
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections - one piece may be one level higher. The entire performance is counted as a single entry for the purpose of awards.
Duet/Trio/Quartet	Single selection. Enter at level of most advanced player.
Ensembles	2-3 contrasting selections.

CLASSICAL GUITAR FEES			
	Junior	Intermediate	Senior

	Pre Level 1 - Level 3	Levels 4-7	Level 8-ARCT
Solo Classes	\$28	\$33	\$38
Concerto	\$28	\$33	\$48
Concert Program	\$55	\$65	\$75
Duet/Trio/Quart.	\$15 per person	\$15 per person	\$15 per person
Ensembles	\$15 per person	\$15 per person	\$15 per person

VOCAL

Refer to the General rules and information section at the beginning of this syllabus.

JUNIOR A (10 and under)/ JUNIOR B (11-14) VOICE CLASSES	
Classical	
Baroque	From the Baroque era or in Baroque style
Classical	From the Classical era or in Classical style
Romantic/Post-Romantic	From the Romantic era or in Romantic style
20th/21st century (excluding Canadian)	By recognized 20th/21st c. composers
Canadian	By recognized Canadian composers
Folk song	Traditional folk song
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for the purpose of awards. One piece may be a level higher.
Musical Theatre	
Comedy	Lighter and more humorous than a ballad selection
Ballad	Slower and more introspective than comedy selection
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Musical Production	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for the purpose of awards.
Contemporary	

Pop and Modern	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc.
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style
Self-Accompanied	The singer is self-accompanied on piano, guitar, etc.
Own Composition	Non-competitive performance of original composition
Duet/Trio	Enter at the level of the most advanced singer

INTERMEDIATE (15-17) VOICE CATEGORIES	
Classical	
Baroque	From the Baroque era or in Baroque style
Classical	From the Classical era or in Classical style
Romantic/Post-Romantic	From the Romantic era or in Romantic style
20th/21st century (excluding Canadian)	By recognized 20th/21st c. composers
Canadian	By recognized Canadian composers
Folk song	Traditional folk song
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for the purpose of awards. One selection may be a level higher.
Musical Theatre	
Comedy	Lighter and more humorous than a ballad selection
Ballad	Slower and more introspective than comedy selection
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Musical Production	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for the purpose of awards.
Contemporary	

Pop and Modern	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc.
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style
Self-Accompanied	The singer is self-accompanied on piano, guitar, etc.
Own Composition	Non-competitive performance of original composition
Duet/Trio	Enter at the level of the most advanced singer.

SENIOR (18-22) and OPEN (23+) VOICE CATEGORIES	
Classical	
Baroque	From the Baroque era or in Baroque style
Classical	From the Classical era or in Classical style
Romantic/Post-Romantic	From the Romantic era or in Romantic style
20th/21st century (excluding Canadian)	By recognized 20th/21st c. composers
Canadian	By recognized Canadian composers
Folk song	Traditional folk song
Opera	
Oratorio	
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Concert Class	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for purpose of awards. One selection may be a level higher.
Musical Theatre	
Comedy	Lighter and more humorous than a ballad selection
Ballad	Slower and more introspective than comedy selection
Additional Repertoire	From a category which the student has already entered
Musical Production	2-3 contrasting selections, counted as a single performance for the purpose of awards.

Contemporary	
Pop and Modern	Arrangements of popular songs, film music, etc.
Jazz and Blues	In a jazz or blues style
Self-Accompanied	The singer is self-accompanied on piano, guitar, etc.
Original Composition	Non-competitive performance of original composition
Duet/Trio	Enter at the level of most advanced singer

CHORAL

- Two or three contrasting selections, one of which may include a brief solo or solo ensemble passages. The total bars for a solo or solo ensemble passage may not exceed 10% of the total score.
- Total Time: 30 minutes for warm up, performance and adjudication
- One selection may be one or more movements of a multi movement work.
- Only one folk song is permitted.
- Split grade classes should be entered at the higher grade category.
- Age is determined as of December 31 prior to the start of the festival.
- Choirs are responsible for their own accompaniment. Recorded accompaniments are permitted.
- Choirs must stay for the duration of their class.
- Directors, please ensure students observe proper concert etiquette.

CHORAL CATEGORIES	
Ensembles	Limited to 4 to 10 singers.
School Choirs	
Grade 4 & under	Unison.
Grade 6 & under	One selection sung in two parts is encouraged.
Grade 8 & under	At least one selection sung in two or more parts.
Grade 10 & under	At least one selection sung in three or more parts.
Grade 12 & under	At least one selection sung in three or more parts.
Community Choirs	
Age 12 & under	One selection sung in two parts is encouraged.

Age 16 & under	At least one selection in two or more parts.
Age 19 & under	At least one selection in three or more parts.
Age 19 & over	Majority of participants over age 19. At least one selection in three or more parts.
Seniors	2-3 contrasting selections.
Mixed Community Choir	No age restrictions.

VOICE/CHORAL FEES			
Vocal	Junior A/B	Intermediate	Senior/Open
Solo Classes	\$28	\$33	\$38
Concert Class/Musical Production	\$55	\$65	\$75
Duet/Trio	\$15 per participant		
Choral			
Ensemble (4-10 singers)	\$12 per participant		
School Choir	\$100		
Community Choir	\$100		

