



## OMFA IMPORTANT DATES for 2025

**FESTIVAL DATES:** Monday June 9 – Saturday June 14, 2025

**LOCATION:** Kitchener-Waterloo

### ENTRY DEADLINES

- All entry deadlines for OMFA 2025 (live and virtual) will be a **maximum of 3 weeks after the final day of COMPETITION** (not the final concert date). This will include registration, payment, repertoire, and performance videos if required.
- **FINAL Entry Deadline** for later festivals will be **May 5, 2025 11:59 PM**
- **Late entries** will be accepted for a **maximum of 3 days after the deadline** at a cost of **\$25 per day (maximum \$75)**

### CHANGE FEES

1. A **\$25** fee, per incidence, will be levied for the following:
  - Changing a piece
  - Changing a video

### CORRECTION FEES

2. A **\$25** CORRECTION fee, per incidence, will be levied when the OMFA office administrators need to contact the competitor regarding the following:
  - Incorrect Repertoire
  - Incomplete Repertoire

## OMFA IMPORTANT RULES for 2025

### LEVELS

- If competitors compete at 2 or more different levels at a local festival, **they can only be recommended for ONE level** (usually the level they have performed at best)

### PROFESSIONAL vs AMATEUR

All competitors **MUST** be amateurs.

- An **amateur** shall be defined as a music student, performer, or any person who does **NOT** earn significant income (see below) from performance or teaching in the discipline in which they are participating.

A **professional** shall be defined as:

- an individual performing in a professional show **and/or** earning significant income (over \$5000.00 for adults and over \$1000 for children up to 18 years) from performing or teaching music privately or in the school system.
- Individuals who are full or junior members of either **ACTRA** or **EQUITY** or are collecting credits to becoming an Equity member.
- Children up to 18 years who perform in a professional show and are not paid, receive valuable professional experience, and are therefore considered professional for the calendar year in which they are cast.
  - a. The calendar year is defined as September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. If the individual is enrolled as a full member of either ACTRA or EQUITY, has performed in a professional show **and/or** received professional income (over \$5000.00 for adults and over \$1000 for children up to 18 years), they are then considered professional and are therefore ineligible to participate in the OMFA Provincial Finals *for that same year* (eg. if the individual was recommended in February, but then joined ACTRA or EQUITY (eg. April).
  - c. If the individual has received professional income *after* they were recommended to the OMFA Provincial Finals, they would be ineligible to participate and their entry fee would be refunded, if applicable.
  - d. An exception would be made for an individual participating in another discipline that is different from the reason for their ACTRA or EQUITY membership (eg. an individual performing in a professional musical that has been recommended for classical piano would be allowed).
  - e. Disciplines that **CANNOT** be entered when performing in a professional musical include Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Songs from the Screen and More and Popular Voice.

## OMFA NEW CLASSES & DEFINITIONS for 2025

*\*Those who intend to participate in the Sudbury Music Festival with the goal of qualifying for the Provincials are advised to contact OMFA to verify if their selected pieces meet the eligibility requirements.*

<https://omfa.ca/contact-us/>

<https://omfa.ca/syllabus/>

### NEW CLASSES

a) **Open** and **Diploma classes** will now be combined into one class called “**Advanced**”.

b) **Woodwinds** has been split into two separate classes

- Flutes
- Reeds

**c) **Woodwind** and **Brass Concerti**** now have a separate class.

- Concerti will not be permitted in levels 1-10
- 1 piece required

**d) **Composition**** has been split into two separate classes

- Score only
- Score with performance video
- *Moved pop own composition to composition class*

**e) **Classical Voice**** is changing from **graded levels** to **age levels** (i.e. beginner, primary, etc.)

**f) **Small Ensembles**** will be offered for each discipline.

- Festivals are allowed to send 3 recommendations per discipline.

## **CLASSES MOVING FROM VIRTUAL TO LIVE**

- a) Chinese Instruments – All Levels
- b) Classical Brass – All Levels
- c) Classical Guitar – All Levels
- d) Classical Harp – All Levels
- e) Classical Woodwinds – All Levels
- f) Percussion – All Levels
- g) Piano Concerti – All Levels

## **CLASSES MOVING FROM 2 PIECES TO 1 PIECE** (*entry fees for these will be lower*)

- a) Chamber
- b) Contemporary Piano
- c) Popular Brass, Popular Guitar, Popular Piano, Popular Woodwinds

## **CHANGES TO CLASS RULES**

**a) **Popular Voice****

- no live accompanists – backtracks only
- singers must use a microphone for live pop classes, optional for virtual classes

**b) **Teacher and Child duet classes**** will be removed.

c) No measures need to be marked for all voice disciplines – Classical, Musical Theatre, Songs from the Screen and More, Popular and Self-Accompanied Voice

**d) Songs from the Screen and More**

- a comprehensive list has been compiled and will be distributed and available on the website for teachers/students to choose selections from.
- pieces not appearing on the list will have to be submitted to OMFA for approval, then once approved they will be added to the list.
- any Festival that has questions about what songs are allowed, can submit their entry lists to OMFA for vetting.

***This category was created to provide the opportunity to perform repertoire that does not fit into other existing categories.***

\*Elementary – Adult, Beginner and Primary will remain in Virtual Festival

\*All other levels are now included in the LIVE festival

While overlap can occur, it is strongly recommended that songs that qualify as Musical Theatre or Popular Voice be entered in those categories.

Please contact the OMFA Screening liaison at [mail@omfa.ca](mailto:mail@omfa.ca) for further clarification re repertoire.

**Performance Requirements for all Levels:**

a) Competitors **MUST** perform **two (2) contrasting selections** from the following:

- Songs from animated films
- Songs from revues, cabarets, movies (**see not permitted below**) or television shows/series
- Songs from musicals that have only been workshopped (not fully staged)
- Stand-alone songs in musical theatre style (e.g., Girl in 14G, Taylor the Latte Boy, Darryl is a Boy, songs from Smash television show, etc.)
- Songs written for but cut from **STAGED MUSICALS** (e.g., More to the Story from Shrek, Crossing a Bridge, Anastasia)
  - o Instrumental cuts are permitted
  - o Duets that can be performed as a solo, e.g. I See the Light, Tangled

b) **NOT** permitted:

- Songs from fully staged musical theatre productions
- Songs that were written first for staged musicals and that were later made into movies, e.g. The Sound of Music, West Side Story, My Fair Lady, Hamilton, In the Heights, Dear Evan Hansen, Wicked
- Selections from Junior show versions of musicals that have been cut or simplified.
- Selections that are primarily spoken patter (e.g., Ya Got Trouble from The Music Man, Aaron Burr, Sir from Hamilton)
- Songs listed in the **RCM** or **CC classical syllabi** (Lists A and B from Levels 1-6; Lists A, B, C from Levels 7-10)
- Operetta/light opera selections (Gilbert & Sullivan, Romberg, Lehar, Johann Strauss)
- Vocal cuts except for repeated choruses or verses

*\*Although Sudbury Music Festival does not feature a specific category for "SONGS FROM THE SCREEN AND MORE," we strongly urge festival participants to reach out to OMFA before finalizing their choices. This proactive step ensures that if their entries are recommended for the Provincial level, they will be well-informed about the appropriate categories for their selections.*

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## Popular Piano

Competitors must perform selections in any of the following genres: pop, pop/ folk, R & B, soul, rock, alternative, indie, jazz, or country. **Selections must be covers from commercial artists in these genres.**

Selections from Conservatory Canada (CC) Contemporary Idioms Piano lists and the Royal Conservatory of Music Popular Lists (RCM) that meet the criteria listed above and are covers of pieces that have been heard on the radio or in TV and movies from 1950 onwards.

Selections that are **NOT** permitted include:

- Rap and Hip Hop
- Songs listed in the RCM or CC classical piano syllabi
- pieces from Christopher Norton anthologies
- pieces from contemporary repertoire anthologies

## Contemporary Piano

Contemporary music is a musical term that defines a wide range of compositions that adopt ideas and elements from both classical and modern music.

- a) Competitors must perform two (2) contrasting selections.
- b) Pieces must have been written after 1960.
- c) This class is designed for competitors who wish to play contemporary piano pieces that do not appear in either the current RCM or CC Syllabus
- d) Pop Songs and Covers are not permitted in this class.
- e) Examples of pieces/collections that can be included in this class:
  - Christopher Norton Connection Series (for pieces not in RCM or CC syllabi)
  - Canadian Contemporary Repertoire Series
  - Northern Lights Repertoire
  - Canadian Contemporary Repertoire Series
  - American Popular Piano Repertoire
  - The Galaxy Series
  - Violet Archer
  - Boris Berlin
  - John Burge
  - Christine Donkin
  - Anne Crosby Gaudet
  - Clifford Poole
  - Elizabeth Raum
  - Ann Southam

The list above is only a guideline. If you are uncertain about where a piece should be entered, please contact the office at [mail@omfa.ca](mailto:mail@omfa.ca) and we will get back to you quickly with an answer.

Conservatory Canada Contemporary Idioms  
(<https://conservatorycanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/CI-Piano-Repertoire-List-Complete.pdf>) is a great source for contemporary works.

Please note that most selections found in the RCM Popular Piano series are “covers” of popular songs and therefore should be played in the Popular Piano section. There are exceptions – so care must be taken.

- f) All selections must be played from memory.
- g) **All classes will be virtual for 2024** with the following ages and maximum time limits.

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| • Beginner (Ages 6-8)       | Ten (10) minutes     |
| • Primary (Ages 9-10)       | Ten (10) minutes     |
| • Elementary (Ages 11-12)   | Ten (10) minutes     |
| • Junior (Ages 13-14)       | Ten (10) minutes     |
| • Intermediate (Ages 15-16) | Fifteen (15) minutes |
| • Senior (Ages 17-18)       | Fifteen (15) minutes |
| • Advanced (Ages 19-28)     | Twenty (20) minutes  |
| • Adults (Ages 29+)         | Twenty (20) minutes  |
| • Duets                     | Fifteen (15) minutes |

*\*Although Sudbury Music Festival does not feature a specific category for " CONTEMPORARY PIANO," we strongly urge festival participants to reach out to OMFA before finalizing their choices. This proactive step ensures that if their entries are recommended for the Provincial level, they will be well-informed about the appropriate categories for their selections.*