

Welcome and Congratulations!

Dear Provincial Festival Music Participant :

On behalf of the Provincial Board of Directors and our Member-Festivals, congratulations on being selected to represent your local Festival at the 2012 Performing Arts BC Provincial Festival, May 27 – 31 in Nanaimo. We sincerely hope your time will be filled with interesting, educational and challenging experiences.

Your participation begins now: You have been recommended by your local Festival Adjudicator to proceed to the Provincial Festival. Your Festival secretary or other local Festival official will supply you with information and the form that you need to fill out and return to them by their deadline. As we are continuing to use an online registration system, you will receive email confirmation of your entry once it is entered in the system by your local festival. Please notify the PABC office immediately of any errors on this and keep a copy of the email for your record. Regardless of whether your festival pays for your entry or if you pay for it yourself, you **must** sign and return the waiver that is attached to the confirmation, to the provincial festival office. If you pay for your own entry, you now have the option of being able to pay by credit card using PayPal **or** you may send a cheque to the festival office. Payments using PayPal will be subject to a surcharge. You will not be considered registered until the office receives both your payment and signed waiver.

Be aware of the rules and procedures: You will find information in this Letter and Guide, and in the 2011/12 Syllabus which is on the PABC website. As many details of the Festival have not yet been finalized, more information will be placed on our web-site – keep checking for updates. As well, your local Festival secretary/contact official can help you with our Syllabus and the National Syllabus for rules and regulations that pertain to you.

A few items now: many performers enter more than one local Festival, which is certainly allowed, however you may only be recommended for the Provincial Festival from ONE (see an exception below). Once you have accepted a recommendation, you must inform the other Festivals in which you are entered that you are not eligible to accept a recommendation from the subsequent Festival(s).

Chamber Group performers may be an exception to the One-Festival rule as they may be recommended in a Chamber Group from one Festival, and recommended as a soloist from another. As well, “double entry” Chamber Group performers are allowed representing two different Festivals, but these performers **MUST** contact Provincial Office immediately upon recommendation to be sure of eligibility procedures for their two classes. (See Music Division: General Rules and Guidelines, Section 7, paragraph ‘e’)

Parallel Classes: any performer recommended in a Piano class may also choose to perform in the parallel Canadian Piano class, just as any performer recommended in a Classical Voice class or in a Musical Theatre class may also choose to perform in the parallel Vocal Variety class. An Adjudicator’s recommendation is not required; the selection you choose need not have been performed at the local Festival. Note: you are allowed to perform in the parallel class at a higher level than your main class if you have won this class in a preceding year. Please refer to the 2011/12 Syllabus for more information, or check the website.

At the Provincial Festival, **time limits** must be observed – time your selections carefully as you prepare. Check the Syllabus to understand the maximum time allowed and how the timing is done.

All performers must comply with laws regarding **copyright** – bring original music scores for the Adjudicator, your accompanist (if required) and for yourself if you are not playing from memory. Permission letters and publisher receipts etc. may be necessary in some cases. It is generally understood that no photocopies are allowed except by permission. The National festival does now allow photocopies for page turns as long as the original score is present on the piano or music stand. Internet scores that have permissions attached are acceptable providing the permission letter or receipt of purchase is submitted at the time of your performance. National performers must bring an original full score (not just the solo part) for the Adjudicator.

The **schedule and order of performance** is determined at the Provincial Office and may not be changed by a performer except with special permission of the President and/or Executive Director. Class times and the Performance schedules will be available in your Programme which you will receive at Registration. Check the website for tentative and then finalized schedules.

Accommodation, venues: The web-site will soon list accommodation in the Nanaimo area, along with a venue map. Keep checking for information! Make your own accommodation arrangements, and be prepared to provide us with that information at Registration. Performance venues will also be added when the information is available. Please check the website for **Travel** suggestions too.

Registration/Tickets and Welcome to Nanaimo: Registration will open on Sunday, May 27 at 11:00am, in the Lounge of the **Beban Park Social Centre**, 2300 Bowen Rd., Nanaimo. It will stay open until 9:00pm that evening and then relocate to the festival office in Room 8 of the same building, reopening on Monday morning at 8:00am and staying open all day Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. You must register in person and have received a name tag before you will be able to perform. At registration you will also receive your participant package and Programme.

On Sunday evening the opening festival event will be held at Maffeo Sutton Park (Swy-a-Lana Lagoon) on the Nanaimo waterfront from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Please drop by and meet your fellow competitors and your Nanaimo hosts. Along with lots of local entertainment, food services will be onsite.

Events at the Festival include the “Highlights” Concert on Tuesday evening which will feature winners from those Music and Speech Arts classes completed by that time, the National Music Concert and the Dance Semi-Finals Concert on Wednesday and the Provincial Finals Concert on the Thursday. There will also be Observer concerts scheduled during the festival. Information will be in your programme. As a Recommended performer, you may attend as many Music and Speech Arts sessions and Daily Dance Performances as you wish – just show your Festival ID for free entry.

Concert Tickets: Tickets for evening concerts are available for purchase online at www.porttheatre.com or through the Port Theatre Box Office at 125 Front St.

Accompanists: Official Accompanists are not provided by the Association, so you will need to make your own arrangements. There will be a list of available local accompanists posted on the website, but you must contact them yourself. As it is very difficult to schedule around accompanists, if any changes in the order of performance have to be made at the Festival because of your accompanist’s schedule, the Adjudicator’s Assistant will do this for you – no one will be left out! Should an accompanist arrive late, that performance will be re-scheduled for as soon after arrival as possible (but not put to the end of the class as this may cause problems for other accompanists and performers).

Practice facilities: Practice facilities will be available for you – just sign up at Registration. Please note that this cannot be done in advance. Practice time is limited to 1 hour a day. Many of these practice facilities are in private homes – please respect the homeowners who have opened their homes to you. A warm-up room will be available at each venue for a very short warmup immediately prior to your performance. Please note that no one is permitted to rehearse in or “try out” a performance venue, with the exception of Piano Concerto performers in Senior and National music classes – those students may be given a few minutes in the venue but must book this time with the Senior Piano Venue Captain at the Festival.

Class Attendance and Workshops: You are required to attend all sessions of your competition if more than one is scheduled, and the Adjudication session. If you are the Winner, you will be asked to perform in either the Tuesday night “Highlights” Concert or the Provincial Finals Concert on Thursday evening. All performers who place first at the provincial level of The National Festival classes are required to perform at the National Concert on the Wednesday evening. There may be workshops offered in various disciplines at any time during the festival. It is hoped that you will attend these sessions.

Once again, congratulations and welcome to the Provincial Festival.

Sincerely,

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PROCEDURE GUIDE FOR MUSIC PARTICIPANTS

Be early: it is suggested that you arrive at your competition/class at least 20 minutes ahead of time. You **MUST** check in there with the door person, showing your name-badge and showing your music which you should have clearly identified with your name, with pages of selections marked, and bars numbered. To simplify procedures, you will hand your music to the Adjudicator's Assistant as you go up to perform. If the Adjudication follows immediately, the music will be retained and given back afterwards. If your Adjudication isn't in the same session, depending upon the Adjudicator, your music may be retained for use later, or may be given back to you following the performances – in that case, you must bring your music back with you for the final/Adjudication session, and hand it in again then.

Please note that your attendance is required for all sessions of your class, which may entail one, two or more sessions, plus the Adjudications. Your attendance is expected for any Workshops that may be scheduled for your class/level.

Just prior to your performance, a warm-up area will be available for you – when ready, proceed back into the performance venue.

Wait to be called – the Adjudicator's Assistant will introduce you by your name and local Festival, and will also introduce your accompanist (if applicable).

Hand your music to the Adjudicator's Assistant on your way to the stage.

You may announce the titles and composers of your selections yourself, or you may ask the Adjudicator's Assistant to do so for you.

The adjudicator will give the signal for you to commence.

Tune your instrument (if applicable) and then play the first selection.

Performances are to be in "concert style" – i.e. do NOT pause between selections to wait for the adjudicator's nod, but instead continue on following the applause, taking only a brief moment between. You may re-tune if necessary.

Time limits are important! Should the timer ring the bell indicating you are out of time, stop at once. For information regarding time-limits and procedures, please check the PABC Syllabus.

Following your performance, bow, acknowledge your accompanist (if applicable), leave the stage and resume your seat.

Winners, Runners-Up and Honourable Mentions will be announced at the conclusion of the Adjudications. All performers will receive a Participation Certificate; Winners will also receive a medal. Winners and Runners - Up will receive appropriate Certificates.

If you are a Winner or Runner Up, you must check in with the Adjudicator's Assistant immediately following the session for further instructions regarding your possible performance in either the Tuesday or Thursday evening concerts. They will be able to give you more information.

As a courtesy to your hosts, please wear appropriate attire for the performances and Concerts.

No contact is to be made with the adjudicator until all competitions at the Festival are complete. This rule applies to all competitors and their family members.

BEST WISHES!