

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 2026 Performing Arts BC Provincial Festival, June 1 - 5, in Prince George. We sincerely hope your time will be filled with interesting, educational, and challenging experiences.

Your participation begins now:

- Completed Entry Forms must be returned to your local festival **by their deadline**.
- Check your registration confirmation for accuracy and report any problems or errors to your local festival representative. **You must return the signed waiver attached to the registration confirmation to complete your registration.**
- If you are paying your own fees, please mail a cheque, pay by e-transfer or use PayPal. The registration confirmation will tell you exactly how much is owing and how to submit payment.

Be aware of the rules and procedures:

- Read this Letter and Performance Guide so that you are aware of rules.
- Read the 2025/26 PABC Syllabus and the CWPAF Syllabus posted on our website for further rules.
- Information will be posted on the website as it becomes available.
- Many performers enter more than one local Festival, which is allowed, however you can only be recommended for the Provincial Festival from ONE only. Once you have accepted a recommendation, you must inform all subsequent Festivals in which you are entered that you are no longer eligible for recommendation.

Duets & Chamber Groups:

- Duet and Chamber group performers may be an exception to the One-Festival rule as they may be recommended in a Duet or 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 the Provincial Office immediately upon recommendation to be sure of eligibility procedures for their two classes. (See Music Division: General Rules and Guidelines, page 7, Section 16)

Parallel Classes: Adjudicator recommendation is not required

- Piano competitors may also choose to perform in the parallel Canadian Piano class.
- Performers recommended in a Classical Voice class or a Musical Theatre class may also choose to perform in the parallel Vocal Variety class.
- Note: you must 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 2025/26 Syllabus for more information, or check the website.

Time limits:

- Total performance times must be observed – time selections carefully as you prepare. Check the Syllabus to understand the maximum time allowed and how the timing is done.

Copyright:

- 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 when using music downloaded from the Internet.
- Music downloaded from IMSLP is acceptable but the full URL for the work must be written on the first page of the adjudicator's copy.
- Photocopies for page turns are allowed as long as the original score is present on the piano or music stand.

Schedule and order of performance

- Is determined by 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 PABC website for tentative and then finalized schedules.

Accommodation, venues:

- A list of accommodations in Prince George holding blocks of rooms for the Provincial Festival will be listed on the PABC website.
- A list of performance venues will be posted on the PABC website.

Registration:

- Starts on Monday, June 1 at 12noon at UNBC and will stay open until 9:00pm.
- Registration reopens Tuesday morning at 7:30am in the same location and that afternoon will move to the festival office located in the same building, and will stay open all day through Friday morning at 12noon.
- You must register in person and have received a name tag before you will be able to perform. At registration you will also receive a Festival Programme.
- Your name tag also allows you free admission to any competitive sessions throughout the festival. Admission for non-festival participants is \$5 a session. \$20 weekly passes will be available at registration and at venues.

Concert Tickets:

- Tickets for the Wednesday evening Highlights concert, the Thursday Dance Finals concert and the Friday evening Provincial Excellence concert will be available for purchase. Tickets prices will be posted at a later date. Please check the PABC website for concert locations and pre-concert ticket sales. **Cash sales are preferable for all passes and tickets, please.**
- Tickets are not required for the daily noon-time Music and Speech Arts Future Stars Concerts or the Dance Future Stars concerts. Admission free with participant name tag or \$5 at the door for all others.

Accompanists:

- A list of available accompanists will be posted on the PABC website. Please contact them directly.
- Should an accompanist arrive late at a performance venue, that performance will be re-scheduled 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; please sign up at Registration. 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.

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 or Wednesday evening Highlights Concerts or if your classes only take place on Thursday, during the Thursday evening concert.
- All Provincial Excellence class winners will perform on Thursday 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, Antonia Mahon, ED PABC
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www.performingartsbc.ca

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-tag and showing your music which should be clearly identified with your name, the pages of selections marked, **and the first bar of each line numbered**. To simplify procedures, you will hand your music to the Adjudicator's Assistant as you go up to perform. Your music will be retained and given back at the end of the Adjudication session, which may be somewhat later in the day.

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

Just prior to your performance, an off-stage warm-up area will be available – when asked, proceed back the performance venue.

Wait to be called by the Adjudicator's Assistant.

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

Tune your instrument (if applicable), then introduce yourself, your accompanist and your program and start your performance. **Timings will be for your total time on stage after your first tuning and include your introductions, additional tunings and applause between pieces**. Please see the 2025/2026 Official PABC Syllabus for a full description of what this means (page 6, Section 9). Time limits are incredibly important as PABC does not wish to disqualify anyone! All total time limits are listed in the Syllabus for each discipline and level. Please note: these will be strictly enforced. Should the timer ring the bell indicating you are out of time, stop at once.

Specific to Musical Theatre: You must set the scene for each piece you perform as part of your introduction. You may not leave the stage for costume changes during your performance. Please keep costume changes to a minimum, such as adding a scarf or picking up a book. There will be nowhere to change on stage, so please do not try to hide behind the piano, for instance. Any costume changes should be incorporated into your performance.

Performances will 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. Applause and a second tuning will be included in your total time, so design your program appropriately.

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

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 Wednesday or Friday 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!