

**THE  
ALBERTA  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL  
ASSOCIATION**

**2019  
Syllabus**



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# CHANGES TO 2019 SYLLABUS

Watch for **\*\*NEW IN 2019\*\*** and/or **HIGHLIGHTING** throughout the syllabus.

Area of Change:	Details:
AMFA & FCMF (National Music Festival)	At the 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM), member festivals voted for the Alberta Music Festival Association (AMFA) to withdraw its membership in the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals (FCMF). <b>See Page 2 for a letter from AMFA President Beth Cook.</b>
Local Rules	There have been a few updates to <i>Rules Governing the Local Festivals</i> . Changes are clearly noted and highlighted.
Local Classes – <b>String</b>	<b>String Solo – Contemporary/Modern Composers</b> has been split into two (2) groups: <b>String Solo – 20<sup>th</sup> Century Composers 1900-1954</b> and <b>String Solo – 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Composers 1955-Present</b> with class numbers changed as required.
Local Classes – <b>Percussion</b>	A number of new Local Percussion Classes have been added and numbering adjusted to accommodate the new classes.
Local Classes – <b>Piano</b>	In both <b>Piano Plan I</b> and <b>Piano Plan II</b> , a caveat has been added to state that whichever plan you enter at the Local Level is the same plan you must be recommended to at the Provincial Level.
Local Classes – <b>Piano</b>	In both <b>Piano Plan I</b> and <b>Piano Plan II</b> , <b>Piano Solo – Contemporary/Modern Composers</b> has been changed to <b>Piano Solo – 20<sup>th</sup> Century Composers 1900-1970</b> , and <b>Piano Solo – Contemporary Idiom</b> has been changed to <b>Piano Solo – 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Composers 1971-Present</b> .
Local Classes – Speech	<b>Class 80000 Alberta Excellence Speech</b> has been <i>added</i> and <b>Twentieth/Twenty-First Century Poetry Solo</b> has been <i>renamed</i> <b>20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Poetry Solo</b> .
Musical Theatre Props	This has been updated to hopefully provide more clarity.
Provincial Rules	A number of <i>Rules Governing the Provincial Festival</i> have been updated. Changes are clearly noted and highlighted.
Provincial Classes – <b>Additions</b>	There have been additions in Chamber, Speech, and Percussion.
Provincial Piano Class 710	The caveat previously stating “may be from Plan I or Plan II” has been removed, and competitors must have been in Plan II at the Local Level.
Provincial Classes – Name Changes	Classes that were previously called <b>Provincial National</b> are <i>now called</i> <b>Alberta Excellence</b> – including a new <b>Alberta Excellence Speech Class</b> .
Provincial Class Time Limits	There have been changes to the time limits of some of the String Solo classes.
Appendix IV – <b>Alberta Excellence Classes</b>	Appendix IV contains information regarding the requirements for the new Alberta Excellence Classes.
Appendix V – <b>Guidance RE: Recording of Performances and Adjudications</b>	Appendix V gives more detailed background on recording performers and adjudicators.

**\*\*NEW IN 2019\*\***

**Please note this letter from the President, Executive, and Delegates to the  
Alberta Music Festival Association (AMFA)**

October 22, 2018

Dear AMFA Members and Festival Participants,

It is with some sadness that I have to report that, at the 2018 AMFA Annual General Meeting (AGM), **Alberta voted to leave the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals (FCMF) immediately**. The vote was unanimous with one abstention. Each year, it costs our Festivals about \$40,000 to send participants and delegates to the National Festival. There are usually 6-10 participants and 4 delegates who attend.

As you recognize this is a lot of money; and, it is money from your Local Festivals and participants. Over the past two years, the FCMF has displayed a significant lack of fiscal responsibility, questionable governance, and has clearly shown a lack of transparency. We felt it best to leave. Although we have tried, we don't seem to be able to change things.

The week before our AGM, British Columbia voted to leave as well, and for the same reasons.

The result of this is that there are no longer any Provincial National Classes in Alberta. However, in their place for this year, we have instituted **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASSES** in Voice, Piano, Guitar, Musical Theatre, Percussion, Strings, Brass, Woodwinds, Chamber Music, **AND** Speech. Speech was never a part of the FCMF, and we are very happy to add it. Each Alberta Festival can have one person in each class, and the prize for each **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASS** is \$1,000.00. These competitions will take place at the Alberta Provincial Music Festival — the criteria for each class are outlined under **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASSES** in the **PROVINCIAL SYLLABUS**.

Choirs will also have **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASSES** that reflect the same classes that were in the National Syllabus (i.e. 19 & Under). The criteria for those classes remain the same as in the past. These will continue to be recorded competitions, at least for this year. The prize for each **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CHOIR CLASS** is \$1,000.00.

Following this Festival, we hope to be able to join with BC and any other province who has chosen to leave FCMF and form either a Western Festival, or a new Canadian Festival.

This was a hard decision to make, but we felt that the money currently being sent to the FCMF could be better used to support our young artists and choirs in Alberta.

Most sincerely,

E. (Beth) Cook  
President AMFA

# **Appendix IV: Alberta Excellence Classes**

# REQUIREMENTS FOR ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASSES

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE VOCAL SOLO, Any Voice

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum

1. In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:
  - **Enter Class 93000 and perform the following repertoire:**
    - One (1) advanced selection from an Opera, with recitative where applicable, original key, original language.
    - One (1) advanced Sacred Aria (Aria from an Oratorio, a work of J.S. Bach, or other major sacred work), with recitative where applicable, original key, language optional.
    - One (1) advanced Canadian Art Song or arranged Canadian Folk Song.
2. Enter at least two (2) other Minimum Associate Standard classes or a specified class in your Local Festival addendum so that will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes inclusive.

English plus two (2) or more languages to be used.

Competitors must perform **five (5) selections** consisting of:

1. One (1) selection from an Opera, with recitative where applicable; from advanced repertoire, original key, original language **as recommended from the Local Festival.**
2. One (1) Sacred Aria (Aria from an Oratorio, a work of J.S. Bach, or other major sacred work), with recitative where applicable, **as recommended from the Local Festival.**
3. One (1) advanced Canadian Art Song or arranged Canadian Folk Song **as recommended from the Local Festival.**
4. Own choice selection from advanced repertoire **performed at the Local Festival.**
5. Own choice selection from advanced repertoire **performed at the Local Festival.**

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE PIANO SOLO

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum.

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 70000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from an advanced Sonata, Concerto, or a complete Concerted Work.
2. Enter at least one (1) other Minimum Associate Standard class or a specified in your local Festival addendum so that you will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Maximum time limit: 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **two (2) selections** consisting of:

1. Complete advanced Sonata, Concerto, or Concerted Work **as recommended from the Local Festival;**
2. Own choice selection from advanced repertoire **performed at the Local Festival** (may not be another Concerto). If this selection is from a multi-movement work, additional movements or the complete work may be performed depending on time.

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE STRING SOLO

Instrument must be stated on entry form.

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum.

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 30000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from an advanced Concerto, or a complete Concerted Work.
2. Enter at least one (1) other Minimum Associate Standard class or as specified in your local Festival addendum so that you will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Maximum time limit: 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **two (2) selections** consisting of:

1. Complete advanced Concerto or Concerted Work **as recommended from the Local Festival**;
2. Own choice selection from advanced repertoire **performed at the Local Festival** (may not be another Concerto). If this selection is from a multi-movement work, additional movements or the complete work may be performed depending on time.

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CLASSICAL GUITAR SOLO

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Piano accompaniment is permitted, where appropriate.

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum.

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 39000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from a senior or advanced multi-movement work
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from a senior or advanced work (may not be another Concerto or another movement from the above).
2. Enter at least one (1) other Minimum Associate Standard classes or a specified in your local Festival addendum so that you will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **three (3) selections from advanced repertoire** consisting of:

1. Two (2) complete own choice selections **as recommended from the Local Festival**.
2. One (1) own choice selection **performed at the Local Festival** (may not be another Concerto or another movement from the above).

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE WOODWIND SOLO

Instrument must be stated on the entry form.

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 40000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from an advanced Concerto, or a complete Concerted Work.
2. Enter at least one (1) other Minimum Associate Standard class or a specified in your local Festival addendum so that you will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Maximum time limit: 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **two (2) selections from advanced repertoire** consisting of:

1. Complete advanced Concerto or Concerted Work **as recommended from the Local Festival**;
2. Own choice selection **performed at the Local Festival** (may not be another Concerto). If this selection is from a multi-movement work, additional movements or the complete work may be performed depending on time.

*Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.*

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE BRASS SOLO

Instrument must be stated on entry form.

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum.

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 50000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - Perform **one (1) own choice selection** from an advanced Concerto, or a complete Concerted Work.
2. Enter at least one (1) other Minimum Associate Standard class or a specified in your local Festival addendum so that you will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Maximum time limit: 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **two (2) selections from advanced repertoire** consisting of:

1. Complete advanced Concerto or Concerted Work **as recommended from the Local Festival**;
2. Own choice selection **performed at the Local Festival** (may not be another Concerto). If this selection is from a multi-movement work, additional movements or the complete work may be performed depending on time.

***Please contact your Local Festival for details before entering any Alberta Excellence Class.***

## **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CHAMBER GROUP**

Voice category and/or instruments must be stated on entry form.

A combination of any recognized orchestral instruments including harp, guitar, recorder and/or percussion with or without piano and/or one voice, with a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 6 performers, each having their own part. When piano is included, the piano part must be original and not an orchestral reduction. Instrumentation and amplification may be used only as indicated in the original score.

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum.

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 17000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - At least two (2) consecutive movements of an advanced work;
  - One (1) own choice selection from advanced repertoire (may not be another movement of the above).
2. Additional classes may be entered at the Local Level.

### Provincial Festival

Maximum time limit of 60 minutes including set up, tuning, pauses, and striking (removal of equipment).

Competitors must perform **two (2) selections** consisting of:

1. Complete own choice selection from advanced repertoire **as recommended from the Local Level**;
2. Own choice selection from advanced repertoire **as recommended from the Local Festival**. If this selection is from a multi-movement work, additional movements or the complete work may be performed depending on time.

***Please contact your Local Festival for details before entering any Alberta Excellence Class.***

## **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE PERCUSSION SOLO**

### **MEMORIZATION AS STATED**

Instruments must be stated on the entry form. Piano accompaniment is permitted, where appropriate. **All works for single percussion instruments MUST be MEMORIZED.** For multi-instrument works and snare drum, **MEMORIZATION** is encouraged, but **NOT REQUIRED.**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 60001 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - One (1) work for Keyboard Percussion (e.g. marimba, vibraphone, xylophone) from advanced repertoire
  - One (1) work for Timpani **OR** Multi-percussion **OR** Snare Drum from advanced repertoire
  - One (1) own choice from advanced repertoire
2. At the discretion of the Local Festival, the competitor may perform live **OR** via recording.

### Provincial Festival (Live Competition)

Time Limit: Maximum of 60 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **the same three (3) selections as recommended from the Local Level** consisting of:

1. One (1) work for Keyboard Percussion (e.g. marimba, vibraphone, xylophone) from advanced repertoire;
2. One (1) work for Timpani **OR** Multi-percussion **OR** Snare Drum from advanced repertoire;
3. One (1) own choice from advanced repertoire.



Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.

## **\*\*NEW IN 2019\*\* ALBERTA EXCELLENCE SPEECH SOLO**

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 20 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum

1. In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:
  - **Enter Class 8000 and perform the following repertoire:**
    - One (1) Solo Scene – any period.
    - One (1) Lyric Poetry Solo.
    - One (1) Narrative Dramatic or excerpt from Prose Reading.
2. Enter at least two (2) other Minimum Associate Standard classes or a specified class in your Local Festival addendum so that will have sufficient repertoire should you be recommended to the Provincial Festival.

### Provincial Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 30 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **five (5) selections** consisting of:

1. One (1) Solo Scene from the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century **performed at the Local Festival.\***
2. One (1) Solo Scene from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and earlier, OR Shakespeare **performed at the Local Festival.\***
3. One (1) Lyric Poetry Solo **as recommended from the Local Festival.**
4. One (1) Narrative Dramatic or excerpt from Prose Reading **as recommended from the Local Festival.**
5. One (1) short Mime (up to 5 minutes) **performed at the Local Festival** – an outline providing the theme must be provided to the adjudicator.

**\*One Solo Scene MUST have been performed in Class 8000 at the recommending Local Festival.**

Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.

## **ALBERTA EXCELLENCE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO, Any Voice**

**ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED AT ALL LEVELS (LOCAL & PROVINCIAL)**

Competitors proceeding to the Provincial Level of competition must perform the selection(s) on which they were recommended by at the adjudicator at the Local Level. The recommended selections must include a Ballad and Up-Tempo work.

The term "Up-Tempo" is used to describe music with a lively tempo, often comedy, e.g. – "One Hundred Easy Ways" (from *Wonderful Town*). The term "Ballad" is used to describe music with a slower tempo, often of a serious or introspective nature, e.g. – "On My Own" (from *Les Misérables*).

All selections are to be sung from a published score, in any published key of a staged musical. Competitors may use: costumes, one (1) hand prop per selection and up to three (3) of the provided stage props: a table, chair, rehearsal block, and hat rack. No other stage props are allowed. The piano and/or accompanist cannot be used as a prop. Spoken passages are allowed only if published in the script/score provided. The original copy can be the Broadway score, from an Anthology, or purchased online. Proof of purchase must be shown for all online purchases.

**Selections are not to include operetta/light opera (e.g. Romberg, Johann Strauss, Lehár, Gilbert & Sullivan, and Offenbach).**

### Local Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 30 minutes, or as specified in your Local Addendum

In order to be eligible for recommendation to the Provincial Festival:

1. **Enter Class 97000 and perform the following repertoire:**
  - One (1) Musical Theatre Ballad
  - One (1) Musical Theatre Up-Tempo
  - One (1) Own choice

### Provincial Festival

Time Limit: Maximum of 30 minutes inclusive.

Competitors must perform **three (3) selections as recommended from the Local Festival** consisting of:

1. One (1) Musical Theatre Ballad
2. One (1) Musical Theatre Up-Tempo
3. One (1) Own choice

Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CHORAL – COMMUNITY

### Local Festival – Community Choirs

Only those Community choirs interested in competing at the Alberta Excellence level should enter classes 90000-90090.

All Alberta Excellence choirs who are recommended to the Provincial Festival classes will be recorded and submitted in MP3 format – travel to the Provincial Festival in Edmonton is not required.

- Choirs must perform **two (2) contrasting own choice selections**, as specified in the classes listed below.
- Only **ONE (1) original complete copy of each music score is to be submitted** (please note: any downloaded music **MUST include the front cover of the music** – no reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival from which it was recommended should be on the MP3, or the front cover of music submitted electronically).
- Memorization is not mandatory.
- Brief solo passages are allowed only in one of the selections and those passages must not exceed 10% of the length of the selections. Choreography is not allowed in choral classes.

#### **90000 – 19 YEARS AND OVER** – 13 or more singers

- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

#### **90010 – MALE** – 13 or more singers, no age restriction

- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

#### **90020 – 19 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

#### **90040 – ENSEMBLE** – 6–12 singers, no age restriction (*only one [1] ensemble [Community OR School] from each Local Festival is allowed*)

- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts** and one (1) of which must be a madrigal (may be a contemporary madrigal).

#### **90050 – 16 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

#### **90070 – 12 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one selection must be sung in **two (2) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

#### **90090 – 25 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

### Provincial Festival

Adjudicators at the Provincial Festival may choose, in each category submitted, one choir that is felt to be of an Alberta Excellence standard.

- The recommended Choir will have submitted an original complete copy of each score (including the front cover) when they entered the Local Festival. No reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival from which it was recommended should be on submitted the MP3 or music score.

Please contact your Local Festival for details **before** entering any Alberta Excellence Class.

## ALBERTA EXCELLENCE CHORAL – SCHOOL

### Local Festival – School Choirs

Only those School choirs interested in competing at the Alberta Excellence level should enter classes 90000-90090.

All Alberta Excellence choirs who are recommended to the Provincial Festival classes will be recorded and submitted in MP3 format – travel to the Provincial Festival in Edmonton is not required.

- Choirs must perform **two contrasting own choice selections**, as specified in the classes listed below.
- **Only ONE (1) original complete copy of each music score is to be submitted** (please note: any downloaded music **MUST include the front cover of the music** – no reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival from which it was recommended should be on the MP3, or the front cover of music submitted electronically).
- Memorization is not mandatory.
- Brief solo passages are allowed only in one of the selections and those passages must not exceed 10% of the length of the selections. Choreography is not allowed in choral classes.

**90010 – MALE CHOIR** – no age restriction – 13 or more singers

- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

**90030 – 19 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers from a single school

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

**90040 – ENSEMBLE** – no age restriction – 6–12 singers (*only one [1] ensemble [Community OR School] from each Local Festival is allowed*)

- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one of which must be sung in **three (3) or more parts** and one (1) of which must be a madrigal (may be a contemporary madrigal).

**90060 – 16 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers from a single school

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one selection must be sung in **two (2) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

**90080 – 12 YEARS AND UNDER** – 13 or more singers from a single school

- Five percent (5%) of the choir membership may exceed the specified age limit by no more than two (2) years.
- **Two (2) contrasting selections**, at least one selection must be sung in **two (2) or more parts**.
- Only one (1) folk song is permitted.

### Provincial Festival

Adjudicators at the Provincial Festival may choose, in each category submitted, one choir that is felt to be of an Alberta Excellence standard.

- The recommended Choir will have submitted an original complete copy of each score (including the front cover) when they entered the Local Festival. No reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival from which it was recommended should be on submitted the MP3 or music score.