

**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). See Page 2 for a letter from AMFA President Beth Cook.
Local Rules	There have been a few updates to <i>Rules Governing the Local Festivals</i> . Changes are clearly noted and highlighted.
Local Classes – String	String Solo – Contemporary/Modern Composers has been split into two (2) groups: String Solo – 20th Century Composers 1900-1954 and String Solo – 20th/21st Century Composers 1955-Present with class numbers changed as required.
Local Classes – Percussion	A number of new Local Percussion Classes have been added and numbering adjusted to accommodate the new classes.
Local Classes – Piano	In both Piano Plan I and Piano Plan II , 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 – Piano	In both Piano Plan I and Piano Plan II , Piano Solo – Contemporary/Modern Composers has been changed to Piano Solo – 20th Century Composers 1900-1970 , and Piano Solo – Contemporary Idiom has been changed to Piano Solo – 20th/21st Century Composers 1971-Present .
Local Classes – Speech	Class 80000 Alberta Excellence Speech has been <i>added</i> and Twentieth/Twenty-First Century Poetry Solo has been <i>renamed</i> 20th/21st Century Poetry Solo .
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 – Additions	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 Provincial National are <i>now called</i> Alberta Excellence – including a new Alberta Excellence Speech Class .
Provincial Class Time Limits	There have been changes to the time limits of some of the String Solo classes.
Appendix IV – Alberta Excellence Classes	Appendix IV contains information regarding the requirements for the new Alberta Excellence Classes.
Appendix V – Guidance RE: Recording of Performances and Adjudications	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 V: Guidance RE: Recording of Performances and Adjudications

GUIDANCE RE: RECORDING OF PERFORMANCES AND ADJUDICATIONS

KEEPING YOUNG PERFORMERS SAFE

The Alberta Music Festival Association recognizes that participation in music festivals can help children grow in confidence, increase their self-esteem, and provide a basis on which to learn a range of new skills, as well as give some the chance to build a career in the creative sector. We want to make sure that children can take advantage of these opportunities wherever possible so that they can make the most of these benefits and enjoy the opportunity to perform in public.

Guidance provides a framework to ensure that the welfare of performing children is safeguarded effectively, that they receive proper care, and that their education and rights are protected. Promoting the welfare of our children must always be the driving principle when we consider arrangements, which enable them to participate in these activities.

Recording of children's performances and their adjudications falls under the Performers' Rights and Copyright Acts of Canada. These rights and acts which include covering matters as consent, exploitation, intent, harm, creative content, and moral implications, are constantly changing in our laws. It is very easy to find oneself violating a performer's rights or copyright acts should you choose to record them.

In the name of child safety, common decency and in respect for others, the Alberta Music Festival Association asks that you do not record the performances of any child except your own, and that you do not record any performer's adjudication — including your own child's adjudication.

Should you choose to ignore the Alberta Music Festival Association request, a common sense approach to keeping you and our children safe might be to:

1. Always obtain permission from those directly involved in the creation of a performance video. This includes the performer, the accompanist, and the adjudicator.
2. Never place on a public repository (e.g.: Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube) anything that includes a public performance of a child, unless explicit permission has been obtained. It makes no difference how small a piece it is.

The Alberta Music Festival Association has a Freedom of Information and Privacy Waiver which, if signed and submitted, gives permission for the Official Photographer to take photos and/or recordings, and post them on behalf of the Alberta Music Festival Association on a public repository.

This waiver does not apply to a member of the general public recording someone other than his/her own child/performer.

Please help us keep all our children safe and prospering in the creative arts!

Thank you.

With thanks to the Lacombe Music Festival Committee for the legal research on this matter.