



39th Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival
31 May & 1 June, 2024

Venue, Live Festival

Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB

Host, Recorded Stream

FMFNS

**Official
Regulations 2024**

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IMPORTANT

Local and provincial festival administrators should advise teachers and students to check the local, provincial, and national syllabi carefully when choosing music for festival entries. Administrators should also ensure their adjudicators are aware of class requirements when recommending students to the next level of competition.

NEW 2024

refer to - <https://www.fmfns.ca> for the following:

- suggested guidelines for cultural appropriation;
- changes for chamber ensemble;
- increase for NCES recommendations

NOTE:

At the National Music Festival -

Junior becomes **NON-COMPETITIVE EDUCATIONAL STREAM (NCES)**;
Intermediate becomes **DEVELOPING ARTIST STREAM (DAS)**;
Senior/Advanced becomes **EMERGING ARTIST STREAM (EAS)**.

1. FORMAT

The 2024 Provincial Music Festival will be held in a dual format: live festival and recorded stream.

The live festival will take place at Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB.

Live classes:

- Piano
- Strings
- Voice
- Woodwind
- Brass
- Musical Theatre
- Chamber

The recorded stream host - FMFNS. See also pp. 8 - 9.

Recorded submissions:

- Junior, Intermediate and Senior/Advanced Composition;
- Choir

NOTE: *Other classes, e.g. Guitar, may be added to the Recorded Stream list as deemed necessary.*

NOTE: *The FMFNS reserves the right to change the format of any Provincial Music Festival Intermediate and Senior/Advanced Solo class from a live to a virtual format if registration numbers of a particular class are deemed low enough. These decisions will be made after close of registration. If a change is necessary, students and teachers will be notified.*

Not offered at 2024 Provincial Music Festival:

- Band/Orchestra
- Percussion

2. TERMINOLOGY FOR CLASS LEVELS AT NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 2024 FMFNS syllabus has **two** levels of Provincial Music Festival competition: Intermediate and Senior/Advanced. When the winners of these Provincial levels advance to the National Music Festival competition, they enter one of the following streams:

- (1) **Developing Artist Stream (DAS)** = Intermediate Level, Provincial Music Festival;
- (2) **Emerging Artist Stream (EAS)** = Senior/Advanced Level, Provincial Music Festival. Junior Level students may be recommended by their local music festival to advance **directly** to the National Music Festival in the **Non-Competitive Education Stream (NCES)**, bypassing the Provincial Music Festival.

Refer to charts below for the overall framework of the National Music Festival streams. For Nationals specification by discipline, you are advised to go to <https://fcmf.org/syllabus/>

| Non-Competitive Educational Stream (NCES), National Music Festival | |
|--|---|
| AGE | As outlined in class descriptions by discipline https://fcmf.org/syllabus/ |
| REPERTOIRE | Junior level repertoire comparable to RCM/CC levels 4-7, unless otherwise exempted https://fcmf.org/syllabus/ |
| PROVINCIALS | No. Participants go directly from their local festival to National Music Festival. All recommendations and paperwork are the responsibility of the local festivals. |
| NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECOMMENDED TO NATIONALS | Maximum 2 per local festival discipline, plus 1 Alternate per discipline if deemed appropriate. |
| NATIONALS | Participants receive performance opportunity, adjudication, and Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze Certificate to indicate standard of performance reached. NCES classes at the National level are virtual. |

| Developing Artist Stream (DAS), National Music Festival | |
|---|---|
| AGE | As outlined in class descriptions by discipline https://fcmf.org/syllabus/ |
| REPERTOIRE | Intermediate level repertoire comparable to RCM/CC levels 8-10, unless otherwise exempted https://fcmf.org/syllabus/ |
| PROVINCIALS: Intermediate Level | Participants at Provincials get live performance opportunity and adjudication/workshop. |
| NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECOMMENDED TO NATIONALS | Maximum 2 from each Provincial Music Festival solo discipline, plus 1 Alternate per discipline if deemed appropriate. |
| NATIONALS: Developing Artist Stream | All DAS competitions at the National level are virtual. |

| Emerging Artist Stream (EAS) National Music Festival | |
|--|---|
| AGE | 30 yrs. and under |
| REPERTOIRE | Senior/Advanced repertoire |
| PROVINCIALS: Senior/Advanced Level | Participants at Provincials get live performance opportunity and adjudication/workshop. |
| NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECOMMENDED TO NATIONALS | Maximum 2 from each Provincial Music Festival solo discipline, plus 1 Alternate per discipline if deemed appropriate. |
| NATIONALS: Emerging Artist Stream | EAS competitions at the National level may be live or virtual. To be confirmed by late spring, 2024 |

3. NUMBER OF NOMINEES PER LEVEL FROM LOCAL TO PROVINCIAL

- **JUNIOR LEVEL - Please note:** Junior Level is not included at the Provincial Music Festival. Junior Level students go directly from their local festival to the National Music Festival in the **Non-Competitive Education Stream (NCES)**, bypassing the Provincial Music Festival. Each local Festival may send **maximum of 2** students per discipline to the National Music Festival (plus 1 Alternate, if deemed appropriate. See #4).
- **INTERMEDIATE LEVEL - maximum of 2** nominees (plus 1 Alternate per discipline, if deemed appropriate. See #4.) from the local Festival to the Provincial Music Festival solo and recorded stream classes. This includes Solo and Ensemble Composition classes;
- **SENIOR/ADVANCED LEVEL - maximum of 2** nominees (plus 1 Alternate per discipline, if deemed appropriate. See #4.) from the local Festival to the Provincial Music Festival solo and recorded stream classes. This includes Solo and Ensemble Composition classes.

NOTE: *At the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, if an adjudicator recommends that two (2) performers proceed to competitions at the National Music Festival, then they must both be first place winners in their class, i.e. tied for first place. Also, it is possible for an adjudicator to award a first place in a class but not recommend that the performer proceed to National competitions.*

4. ALTERNATES

Adjudicators may recommend one alternate per class if the standard of performance is met. If a registered competitor is unable to participate, the named alternate can replace the competitor. Registration fees (with an administrative deduction) will be returned to the original person and a new registration fee must be paid for the alternate.

5. DEADLINE FOR CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION - 48 HOURS:

Competitors at Local Levels nominated to proceed to Provincial Competitions have 48 hours in which to confirm their intention to proceed to this level of competition. This is also true for competitors nominated from the Provincial Music Festival to proceed to National competitions. Should one of the competitors nominated to proceed to the next level of competitions withdraw from that competition and an Alternate has been nominated by the adjudicator then that person may be offered the opportunity to join the competition and will have 48 hours in which to confirm their intention to do so.

6. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

FCMF has changed **class requirements** and **time limits** for each level, with mandatory repertoire requirements (including required RCM levels) and - within that - more freedom in repertoire choice. There is the expectation that a well-rounded recital will be presented. Refer to FMFNS and FCMF syllabi: both should be checked very carefully for details as they relate to each level of competition and discipline.

<https://fmfns.ca>

<https://www.fcmf.org/syllabus/>

- **Brief Introductory Remarks:** Competitors are allowed to make brief introductory remarks for some/all of their pieces. These comments are included in their overall performance time, but are not considered by the adjudicator in making his/her decisions re: music performance.

7. MUSICAL THEATRE

Junior, Senior, and Senior-National Musical Theatre classes that have been traditionally offered at the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival no longer exist. There are new requirements, and it is important to check the Provincial Music Festival Syllabus for details as it may require syllabus adaptations at the local festival level. <https://fmfns.ca>
There will now be two levels in Musical Theatre at the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, both of which may advance to the National Music Festival*:

- Intermediate;
- Senior/ Advanced.

NOTE: *Local festival Junior Level nominees for Musical Theatre now go directly from their local Festival to the National Music Festival, bypassing the Provincial Music Festival. At the National level, all Junior Levels are titled **Non-Competitive Education Stream (NCES)**. Each local Festival may nominate a maximum of 2 students in the NCES Stream plus 1 Alternate. See p. 3 and p. 4, #4.*

8. IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR COMPETITORS AND TEACHERS

8.1 **Expectations of Competitors and Participants [competitors, accompanists, and teachers] at a Provincial Music Festival:** Please note: This information is provided to assist all participants in having a positive experience at the NS Provincial Music Festival.

- You are the guests of the host music festival and the Federation of Music Festivals of Nova Scotia;
- After arriving at the Festival, contestants are encouraged to remain for the duration of the Festival and take part in all functions: e.g. competitions, adjudications/workshops, and attend the Stars of the Festival and Awards concert;
- Performance adjudications will be planned into each competition program;
- Contestants are encouraged to attend the Stars of the Festival and Awards Concert where winners at both the Intermediate and Senior/Advanced Level will perform, and at which time awards will be presented and Nova Scotia's teams to National competitions will be announced.
- It is expected that all Competitors will:
 - ▶ Respect the pianos by not moving them or placing anything other than music on them, without specific authorization;
 - ▶ Respect the venues by proper disposal of garbage and recycled items, and observance of posted signs;
 - ▶ Respect other competitors by observing the guidelines given for practice / rehearsal times and not leaving personal belongings at departure;
 - ▶ Dress appropriately in suitable semi-formal concert attire for competitions and workshops; and, more formal concert attire if performing in the Stars of the Festival and Awards Concert. Costumes are appropriate wear for Musical Theatre classes;
 - ▶ Behave appropriately and respectfully during performances or adjudication workshops. Alcoholic beverages and other illegal substances are not allowed on the Festival site. Any infringement of this rule will lead to disqualification;
 - ▶ Number the first bar of every line in their music scores (**required**);
 - ▶ Be available at least 15 minutes before the beginning of their class.
- Competitors are prohibited from being in contact with adjudicators until competitions are completed;
- The Federation of Music Festivals of Nova Scotia is not responsible for lost or damaged musical instruments.

8.2 Official rehearsals may be offered in all disciplines if and where time and facilities permit.

- 8.3 At a Live Provincial Music Festival, a festival piano is provided in all venues and is the accompanying instrument. Recorded accompaniments are **not** permitted at a Live Provincial Music Festival. Unless otherwise informed, each performer in need of an accompanist must arrange and pay for such a person.
- 8.4 Photography & Videography are permitted from a designated seating area of a performance venue. Flash photography is not permitted. Audience members may only photograph or video performances with the competitor's permission. Adjudicator's comments and workshop may not be recorded.
- 8.5 **Coaching from audience members of a performing student is not allowed, and will result in student's immediate class disqualification. Examples of coaching: gesturing, mouthing words to student while they are onstage, etc.**

9. ELIGIBILITY: Local festivals may determine who represents them at the NS Provincial Music Festival in one of two ways:

- 9.1 **Either:** The Local Festival can add provincial classes to their syllabus and students enter those classes if they are interested in being eligible for the Provincial Music Festival. The local adjudicator would determine which student(s) should represent the festival in each class. **OR:** The local festival adjudicator could choose a student or students from the appropriate grade and/or age levels for each class, making sure they have appropriate repertoire to meet the requirements of the class they are being recommended for;
- 9.2 A minimum mark of 85 is required at the local festival to be recommended to the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival;
- 9.3 To be eligible to advance to the FCMF National Music Festival from the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, the Competitor(s) must reside in Nova Scotia or study in Nova Scotia;
- 9.4 A local festival may send TWO competitors in each of the NS Provincial Music Festival Finals. Local festivals are encouraged to have the adjudicator for each eligible discipline name an alternate competitor and complete the necessary paperwork, in case a first choice competitor is unable to attend for any reason;
- 9.5 In disciplines with age requirements, the competitor's age will be determined as of December 31 prior to the Provincial Festival. Local festivals must offer proof of age, if requested;
- 9.6 Participation is limited to non-professional musicians. A non-professional musician is defined as a person whose principal means of livelihood is not obtained from the performance of music in the particular category in which he or she is competing. This stipulation does not, however, preclude such a person having occasionally received remuneration for musical services rendered, even in the area in which he or she is competing;
- 9.7 Competitors may only be recommended to the Provincial Music Festival Finals from ONE local festival per discipline. Each competitor must accept, or decline, a recommendation from a local festival within 48 hours;

- 9.8 Competitors are eligible to play within the same discipline on different instruments and/or different levels;
- 9.9 At a live Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, recorded accompaniments are not permitted. Each competitor must arrange and pay for his/her own accompanist;
- 9.10 Accompaniments are restricted to the piano, unless otherwise indicated in the score;
- 9.11 Accompanists must abide by copyright rules and restrictions whether playing from a paper or a digital score;
- 9.12 A Registration fee is non-refundable unless the entry is declined by the FMFNS. Once an entry has been accepted, no changes to repertoire will be allowed;
- 9.13 Alternates: Adjudicators may recommend alternates in any class if the standard of performance is met. If a registered competitor is unable to participate, the named alternate can replace the competitor. The alternate will be required to pay the entry fee in full prior to participation;
- 9.14 For Chamber groups, if a recommended competitor from the Local Festival level is unable to participate at the Provincial level, they can be replaced by an alternate. There is a maximum of one substitution permitted for each Chamber group.

10. REPERTOIRE: The minimum repertoire requirements to be performed at the NS Provincial Music Festival, as outlined in the Provincial Syllabus, must have been heard by the recommending adjudicator at the Local Festival. This may be in a specifically designated Provincial Class or through a combination of performances in classes at the Local Festival.

IMPORTANT: Refer to FMFNS syllabus <https://fmfns.ca> and FCMF Syllabus <https://www.fcmf.org/syllabus/> for specific repertoire details.

- 10.1 Competitors may add additional movements of their multi-movement works, and/or additional selections within the maximum time;
- 10.2 A Concerto or Concerted Work is defined as any composition written for solo instrument with orchestral accompaniment;
- 10.3 Sonatinas, Sonatas and Concertos can be from any musical time period if they have been graded, as per syllabus requirements. A one-movement Sonatina or Sonata meets the requirements for the Junior level (Developing Artist Stream);
- 10.4 A **selection** is a composition or song cycle that is meant to be one body of work as indicated by the composer. Competitors may choose to perform partial or complete works based on syllabus requirements and time restrictions. A second selection cannot be another movement or song from the same work;
- 10.5 In disciplines with graded repertoire requirements, the level of difficulty of their repertoire will usually be that of the Royal Conservatory of Music [RCM]. Complete and accurate information on registration forms allows for checking the appropriateness of repertoire, and the resolving of any problems before competitions proceed;

- 10.6 Competitors are encouraged to reflect a variety of styles and periods in their choice of repertoire. They are also encouraged to use Canadian and Indigenous composers in their performances.

11. RECORDING REGULATIONS – *If the festival is held as a virtual competition*

- 11.1 Professional recordings are not required for the competition, but good audio and visual quality is very important. The quality on most cell phones is adequate.
- 11.2 Video recording can be done in home or studio or other location:
- Must include a clear picture of the student performing showing face or facial profile, hands (in the case of pianist and instrumentalist), and instrument;
 - Camera angle must remain consistent throughout the performance;
 - Editing or splicing in any form is strictly prohibited;
 - After checking for balance, video picture, etc., the submitted recording must be one take;
 - The complete performance of all pieces should be performed consecutively on one video without stopping the camera during breaks. Please be aware of time limits.
- 11.3 Video file is uploaded to a private YouTube channel as an 'unlisted' video. These videos can only be viewed by someone with the link.
- 11.4 A PDF file of the score for each selection performed is to be named with the same naming convention *Discipline_Level_LocalFestival_ClassNumber_CompetitorName_Selection_Composer* and uploaded to a cloud format [DropBox, Google Drive, iCloud etc.].
Example:Piano_Junior_QueensCounty_202_JaneSmith_PreludeNo.6_JohannSebastian Bach
- The PDF must include the cover and/or title page of the book and all pages of music performed in the competition;
 - The first bar of each line must be numbered;
 - If the selection score is a digital download, the receipt for digital purchase or proof of Public Domain must be included in the PDF file.
- 11.5 Recorded entries must be submitted on-line on or before the **deadline** announced on the FMFNS website fmfns.ca:
- The recording for the complete performance named as outlined in #3 above;
 - A clear, scanned copy of each score with the first bar in each line numbered, and named as outlined in #4 above;
 - A headshot photo of the competitor.

12. COPYRIGHTS / COMPETITIONS, PERFORMANCE ADJUDICATIONS / WORKSHOPS

COPYRIGHT: All copyrights must be observed.

- Junior & Intermediate competitors must provide original scores of music for the adjudicator;
- Senior/Advanced competitors must present an original score containing both solo and accompaniment;
- Chamber Ensembles must submit a full score;
- Legally downloaded music is permissible, but it shall be printed double sided and placed in a binder (not in sheet protectors) for the Adjudicator;
- Please indicate the source of the download by including payment receipt or proof of Public Domain;

- Competitors playing with a score [Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, and Chamber classes] must perform from original scores.

Failure to do so automatically disqualifies the competitor.

In Junior and Intermediate classes, transposition is permitted, unless otherwise noted, but the performance key must be indicated on the submitted score. In Senior/Advanced classes, the submitted score must be in the performance key.

The accompanist must have an original score on the piano. Accompanists are permitted to use digital scores on tablet computers such as iPads, provided they can clearly show upon registration that copyright laws have been observed. These scores are separate from the originals which must also be presented to the adjudicators.

Memorization of pieces is required in all levels of competition in all classes except Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, and Chamber Ensembles. **Failure to play from memory in required classes will result in disqualification.**

Time limits for classes listed in the syllabus must be adhered to. Timing shall be from first note or introductory remark to last note, including pauses between pieces and costume changes. Competitors are allowed to make brief introductory remarks for some/all of their pieces. These comments are included in their overall performance time, but are not considered by the adjudicator in making his/her decisions re: music performance. **Performances exceeding the time limit will be disqualified.** Over-time performances will not be interrupted, and official timekeepers will provide no warnings or signals.

Competitors disqualified from the competition for any reason including, but not limited to playing with music, use of photocopied music or being over time will:

- Be disqualified from award placement, even if the lone competitor in a class;
- Be disqualified from receipt of award monies;
- Be disqualified from advancing to the FCMF National Music Festival in the current year;
- Receive their adjudication comments and Participation Certificate;
- Be required to attend the adjudication workshop and announcement session.

All competitors must attend their adjudication/workshop and announcement session. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify the competitor from:

- Receiving a written adjudication;
- Receiving an award placement;
- Receiving award monies;
- Proceeding to the current FCMF National Music Festival;
- Future participation in the Provincial competition for a period of one year in the discipline in which they were disqualified. Participation in other disciplines will be permitted.

13. CLASS STANDINGS, PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

At the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, each adjudicator will award one (1) first-place winner in their class. Adjudicators also have the discretion to tie two (2) students for first place. There will be no second-place standing awarded.

14. FCMF NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Competitors entering classes eligible for advancement to the FCMF National Music Festival are STRONGLY encouraged to read the FCMF National Music Festival Syllabus to guide their selection of *repertoire at the Local and Provincial Music Festivals: <https://www.fcmf.org/syllabus/>

- 14.1 At the National level, the Non-Competitive Education Stream (Junior Level) and the Developing Artist Stream (Intermediate) will be held virtually. The Emerging Artist Stream (Senior/Advanced) will be live or virtual, with the final decision announced by late spring, 2024.
- 14.2 Previous FCMF National Music Festival 1st-place winners - except the Grand Award Competition Winner - are eligible to compete in the FCMF National Music Festival in subsequent years;
- 14.3 For up-to-date FCMF details on prize money, affiliation fees (for local/provincial festivals) and entry/registration fees, please check FCMF website. <https://fcmf.org/landing/>

NOTE: *At the Nova Scotia Provincial Music Festival, if an adjudicator recommends that two (2) performers proceed to competitions at the National Music Festival, then they must both be first place winners in their class, i.e. tied for first place. Also, it is possible for an adjudicator to award a first place in a class but not recommend that the performer proceed to National competitions.*