

General Information, Rules & Guidelines

NORTH ISLAND FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS

Feb 13 - Feb 26, 2026

(schedule to be confirmed in December 2025)

Finale Show Day: February 28, 2026

Piano and Dance Sections Venue:
Sid Williams Theatre
Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay, BC

Voice Sections Venue:
TBD

Dance Section Registration: November 1 - 15, 2025
Music Section Registration: November 1 - 30, 2025

Website: www.nifpa.org
Email: info.nifpa@gmail.com

The North Island Festival of Performing Arts is put on by a non-profit Society run by a volunteer Board. Our goal is to provide a Festival that is fun, educational and friendly. At NIFPA we strive to provide an opportunity for participants of all ages and levels to express their creativity, display their talents and expand their knowledge, skill and self-confidence. We ask all participating individuals in our Festival, including teachers, parents and volunteers, to respect, support and be kind to one another.

Please be sure to read all the rules. It is the responsibility of the studios/teachers to comply with all Festival rules and regulations. Registration in the Festival is an acknowledgement by the studios/teachers to comply with these rules.

Registration in NIFPA is an acknowledgement and agreement that the studios/teachers have parent/guardian authorization for their participant's entry into North Island Festival of Performing Arts.

General Information

Participants

- Please do not arrive more than 45 minutes before your scheduled session time.
- We ask that participants not attend if having symptoms of illness.

Studios/Teachers

- Studios/teachers must have a studio/teacher representative at the venue while any participants are at the venue.
- Children under 12 may not be left unsupervised in the Theatre Green room/dressing rooms or at other festival venues.
- Studio representatives/teachers will be provided a lanyard that is to be worn in the venue during festival days allowing NIFPA volunteers, venue staff and participants to identify you.
- For the theatre venue, please enter through the lower parking lot in the back of the building and check in each day with the NIFPA volunteer at the door.
- For non-theatre venues, please check in with the NIFPA volunteer at the venue to receive your lanyard.
- Theatre Green room and dressing room access will be open 45 minutes before the start of each session.
- For dance only, Studios/teachers will receive marks via email at the end of each day and at the end of festival, studios will receive a password to share with their dancers for access to adjudication videos.

Venue

- Admission to watch festival sessions will be by donation via cash or a tap pay system. NIFPA relies on donations to cover festival costs and appreciates all donations.
- Festival participants are not required to pay admission.
- Admission to venue seating will commence 15 minutes prior to the start of all sessions.
- Digital devices such as mobile devices and watches must be silenced in the venue. Please dim the brightness to avoid distracting the performers.
- No food or drinks (except water) are allowed in the venues.
- Please remember this is an adjudicated performance. Please refrain from calling out or whistling; only use clapping to show appreciation after the performance. The exception to this rule is for the Hip Hop routines, where we encourage all to support the performers on stage.

Lost, Stolen Items

- Please do not leave valuables unattended anywhere.
- Please report any lost or stolen items to a NIFPA volunteer or a venue staff member.

Liability Waiver

- The North Island Festival of Performing Arts Society (the 'Society') is not responsible for any claims, demands or damages concerning injury to any participant/competitor that may occur during the North Island Festival (the 'Festival')
- The Society is not responsible for any claims, demands or damages to musical instruments, props or any other personal property.
- The Society's acceptance of a participant/competitor's application for entry into the North Island festival will release any responsibility of the Society or volunteers of the Society from claims, demands, damages, actions or causes of action arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage to any participant/competitor or any participant/competitor's personal property incurred while attending or participating in the Festival. This clause shall also apply to all members of the public attending any and all events.
- NIFPA accepts no responsibility for any participant/competitor contracting communicable diseases during the Festival and related events which will be conducted in keeping with all Public Health orders in effect at the time.

Rules and Regulations

- The NIFPA Board of Directors reserves the right to alter the time for any competition if special circumstances warrant with due notification of such change being given and reserves the right to cancel any of the arrangements detailed in the Rules or Program as it deems necessary.
- NIFPA reserves the right to split or combine categories or age groups. If any class has 10 or more entries, the class will be split according to age. Split classes will be adjudicated separately.

Photography and Video

- By registering in NIFPA, participant(s) acknowledge and agree that they are giving consent to photographs/video, taken by a person acting on behalf of the Society, of participants/students/dancers and such photographs/video may be used by the Society for promotional and fund-raising purposes, may be released to the media and remain the property of the Society.
- Any videos, photography or tape recording by audience members is strictly prohibited during sessions.
- Photographs of participants on stage are not permitted at any time.

Copyright

- The North Island Festival of Performing Arts Society complies with the Canadian Copyright Act.
- Registration in NIFPA is an acknowledgment of agreement to abide by the Copyright Act of Canada with regard to material being performed for NIFPA festival and associated events.
- All copyrights regarding music and printed text must be observed. Unauthorized copies of copyrighted material is strictly prohibited.
- Please see copyright requirements for each division.

Adjudication

- Each performance will receive a percentage mark, unless the entry is for adjudication only.
- All marks are confidential.

- The Adjudicator's decision will be final.
- Communication with the adjudicator throughout the festival is not allowed. It is, however, understood that necessary training and discussion may take place between the performer and adjudicator during adjudications or workshops. A friendly 'hello' or 'compliment of service' is always welcome.
- If an adjudicator decides an entry is in the wrong class, at the adjudicator's discretion, the performance will receive 'adjudication only' in the class the adjudicator deems correct.

Provincial Recommendations

- Provincial nominations are at the sole discretion of the adjudicator(s). The adjudicator(s) is not compelled to select a Provincial recommendation in each section.
- To be considered for recommendation by the adjudicator to attend the PABC Provincial Festival, a participant must have received a mark of 85% or over on recommended entries and fulfill each disciplines' eligibility requirements.
- Any participant receiving a Provincial nomination from another Festival that they have not declined is ineligible for a nomination to the PABC Provincial Festival from NIFPA.

Complaints and Protests

- Complaints or protests must be made in writing to the North Island Festival of Performing Arts Board and accompanied by a protest fee of \$20.00. A committee will be formed of three members of the Festival Board, who will adjudicate the claim and arrive at a final decision. The protest fee will be returned should the protest be sustained.
- The complaints can be emailed to info.nifpa@gmail.com or mailed to:

North Island Festival of Performing Arts
PO Box 3193
Courtenay, BC V9N 5N3

Awards and Concerts

- Awards will be given to encourage and assist entrants in their pursuit of artistic studies. The number of awards may vary from year to year.
- Any entrant may be chosen to perform in the Finale Shows and must be prepared to appear if requested. Provincial Reps will be invited to perform in the Provincial Showcase (if held). All Reps, Alternates, Merited Participants and all other awards and

scholarship winners will be acknowledged at the Finale Shows. More information will be provided closer to the event.

- Registration fees to Provincials for all Representatives (including groups), Alternates and Merited Participants will be paid for by NIFPA. Additionally, if funds are available, a travel stipend will be awarded to Representatives, Alternates and Merited Participants who will be attending the PABC Provincials.

Boundaries

The boundaries for the North Island Festival of Performing Arts are:

- S.D. 47 Powell River
 - S.D. 68 Nanaimo Ladysmith
 - S.D. 69 Qualicum-Parksville
 - S.D. 70 Alberni
 - S.D. 71 Comox Valley
 - S.D. 72 Campbell River
 - S.D. 84 Vancouver Island West
 - S.D. 85 Vancouver Island North
- To qualify for any NIFPA Awards or to be eligible for Provincial Recommendations participants must study/train within these boundaries and, for dance, be entered under a studio within these boundaries.
 - All dance entries to NIFPA must be registered under a performing arts organization/ business or educational institution with a business licence and adequate insurance coverage. Independent dance entries into NIFPA are not permitted; please speak with your studio for information.

Registration

Registration

- All competitions are open to amateurs only. The term “amateur” shall mean one who is studying under a qualified teacher and whose principal income is not derived from services or from solo performances in the particular category in which one is competing.
- Registration is based on the participant’s age as of December 31 of the year preceding Festival.
- **Dance Section: Registration will be open November 1 to November 15 at 10pm.**

- Music Section: Registration will be open November 1 to November 30 at 10pm.
- Registration is online via: <https://nifpa.signup.dance/> or through the link on the nifpa.org homepage.
- Studios/teachers, please see the Guideline for Registration (Appendix A) for further technical details on how to register.
- All participants must sign the online waiver through the online registration system. A link to the waiver will be provided by the studio or teacher.
- All music for dance must be submitted via the online registration system no later than January 15th.
- All registered selections must have a title at registration.
- A registered selection can be performed only once in a competition during the festival. A registered selection can be repeated from a previous year provided it is presented by a different person or persons.
- Where definite age groups are specified (ex. under 11 or under 14, etc.) or where definite stages of musical progressions are specified, participants may enter only once in one classification within any one section.

Registration Fees

Dance

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| • Solo | \$ 70 per entry |
| • Duets/Trios | \$ 80 per entry |
| • Small Group (4-7 dancers) | \$ 110 per entry |
| • Large Group (8+ dancers) | \$ 150 per entry |
| • Production Groups | \$ 250 per entry |

Music

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| • Solo | \$ 28 per entry |
| • Duets/Trios | \$ 50 per entry |
| • Recital Class | \$ 60 per entry |
| • Quartet | \$ 55 per entry |
| • Choir | \$ 10 per member |

- Payment for registration may be completed through the online registration system via [STRIPE.com](https://stripe.com). A 2% credit card fee will be applied for payment through STRIPE.

- Payment for registration maybe completed via e-transfer to finance.nifpa@gmail.com or by cheque mailed to :

North Island Festival of Performing Arts

PO Box 3193

Courtenay, BC V9N 5N3

- No additional fee will be applied for payment through e-transfer or cheque.
- Please notify us by email if payment is being made by cheque.
- No refunds are permissible, except for accident or illness. Requests for refunds are to be in writing (emails are accepted) and accompanied by an explanation of withdrawal.
- Please notify NIFPA asap with any withdrawals.

ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING DANCE

Divisions and Age

- Age: 20 and under
- **Solos, Duets and Trios** : Age is as of December 31 of the year preceding the Festival. All dancers must be within the age limit of the class. The age of the oldest dancer will determine the age category.
- **Small (4-7 dancers) and Large (8+ dancers) Groups**: Age is as of December 31 of the year preceding the Festival. The ages of the dancers will be averaged to determine the age category. No dancer can be more than two (2) years older than the age category group. Please contact NIFPA by email if the age of your oldest dancer is more than the 2 years allowed.

Participants

- All participants will enter through the lower parking lot in the back of the building and will check in with the NIFPA volunteer at the door and proceed to their assigned dressing room.

Green Room and Dressing Rooms

- No parents are allowed in the backstage/dressing room areas of the theatre.
- Please do not use the public washrooms for hair and makeup, use the dressing rooms.
- Studios will be pre-assigned an area in dressing rooms for their dancers.
- There will be a designated area of the Green room for warmup. This is a warmup area ONLY; NO dance rehearsals are allowed, NO music allowed.
- No warmup or rehearsal is permitted in the theatre lobby.

Stage

- Stage flooring for dance at the theatre is Rosco Adagio; dimensions 26' 3" x 26' 3".
- Please lift and carry props on and off stage minimizing marking or damaging the dance floor.
- Solo dancers ONLY may warm up on stage prior to session starts while the curtains are closed.
- Dance studios are not permitted to mark the stage for any dance number. Stage marking will be done by the theatre technician (back-left, centre, right; centre stage; front-left, centre, right).

Music, Choreography and Costumes

- Studios/teachers should ensure that the music lyrics, movement, and costumes are age appropriate and not provocative or offensive. Entries must be appropriate for a family audience, regardless of the age of the performer.
- Costume includes accessories such as shoes, hats, gloves, corsets, handkerchiefs, fans, umbrellas, canes, and jewellery.
- Props include any object placed on the stage that gives the performance specific period, place or character including but not limited to set pieces such as chairs, stairs, boxes and smaller objects referred to as “hand props”.
- Instrumental or percussive use of voice is to be considered as music.
- No more than two (2) acrobatic tricks where the hips pass over the head are allowed in all disciplines (ex. back and front walk-overs, flips, tumbling passes, etc.), **excluding Acro and Hip Hop**. Acceptable movement not counted as acrobatic tricks are handstands, cartwheels, front/back rolls, dolphin rolls, and technical movements within the discipline.
- Lip synchronization is permitted in Modern Stage and Hip Hop only.

Re-dances

- Re-dances for technical difficulties will not be penalized.
- If a competitor who is 11 or under leaves the stage prior to their performance being completed, they may re-dance without penalty.
- If a competitor 12 years or older leaves the stage prior to their performance being completed, they may re-dance with a deduction at the discretion of the adjudicators.

Time Limits

- Performances will be timed from the beginning of the performance to the end.
- Presets/bows will not be timed.
- The following time limits will be strictly enforced.
 - **Solos:** 3 minutes maximum
 - **Groups:** 6 minutes maximum
 - **Song & Dance Solos:** 4 minutes maximum
 - **Production Groups (Song & Dance and Hip Hop):** 12 minutes maximum
- Overtime performances will be subject to adjudication only.

Adjudication

- Two adjudicators will provide video adjudication for each performance.
- The Adjudicator's decision will be final with the Discipline Specialist having the final say within their discipline.
- If an adjudicator decides that an entry is in the wrong class, the performance will receive 'adjudication only' in the class the adjudicator deems is correct.
- Adjudicators will talk to the dancers after each session and placements and standings will be presented on stage.
- The entire adjudication is to be treated as a performance and attendance by participants is expected.

Adjudicator Workshops

- Adjudicator workshops will be scheduled for each discipline and will be open to all festival participants once registration is complete and if space warrants.
- Attendance is **mandatory for provincial solo representative eligibility**. Written feedback from adjudicators will not be provided; however, participation, technique, and ability will be considered by the adjudicator for provincial recommendations.
- Studios must either register their provincial rep candidates into the workshop section of Dancesync by November 15th OR email info.nifpa@gmail.com by November 15th with a list of provincial rep candidates with the dancer's name, discipline and age. Payment for the workshop is paid directly to NIFPA via etransfer to finance.nifpa@gmail.com .
- Where space warrants, the workshops will be opened up to all other festival registrants. Registration will be done via email to NIFPA by the dancers and paid for via etransfer prior to the start of Festival.
- Workshop fee: \$35 per workshop

Scoring and Placements

- Standings and 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements will be announced onstage.
- Ties for 1st place are not permitted.

Standings Levels:

95% and over:	Diamond
90% - 94.99%:	Platinum
85% - 89.99%:	Gold

80% - 84.99%:	Silver
75% - 79.99%:	Bronze

Provincial Recommendations

- Please refer to the current provincial syllabus at www.bcprovincials.com

Solos

- To be eligible, a dancer must have participated with **two (2) contrasting solo classes** in the dance discipline for which they are being recommended (ballet, stage or modern); attend the appropriate adjudicator's workshop; study within our boundaries; and achieve an 85% on each solo entry in the particular class.
- Registration in adjudicator workshops for provincial eligibility must be completed no later than **November 15th** via Dancesync workshop registration or by email to info.nifpa@gmail.com by the studios. No late entries will be accepted.
- Provincial eligibility for stage requires two (2) contrasting solos in two of: jazz or lyrical jazz , tap, song & dance, modern stage, acro and hip hop.
- Any competitor receiving a Provincial nomination from another Festival that has not been declined is ineligible for a nomination to the PABC Provincial Festival from NIFPA.
- Provincial Solo Dance Class Levels:
 - Level I (Junior) - age 10-12
 - Level II (Intermediate) - age 15 years and under
 - Level III (Senior) - age 18 and under
 - Provincial Excellence - age 20 and under

Virtual Dance Groups

- Adjudicators may recommend up to two (2) groups in each provincial dance class that are felt to be at an exceedingly high standard
- To be eligible, the group must participate in one of the dance classes listed below, achieve a mark of 85% or higher, have a group average age between 10 through 20 with no dancer older than 20, have a total time limit of **5 minutes** and study within our boundaries.
- Provincial Virtual Group Dance Classes:
 - Class 200 - Grace: duo/trio, small group or large group: classical ballet, contemporary ballet, Demi-character, interpretive ballet, neo-classical
 - Class 300 - Essence : duo/trio, small group or large group: modern, contemporary or lyrical

- Class 400 - Power: duo/trio, small group or large group: jazz, hip hop/street or acro
- Class 500 - Performance: duo/trio, small group or large group: tap, musical theatre or song and dance

Dance Classes

- In most disciplines, the rules for soloists are written with provincial eligibility in mind to avoid disqualifications at that level. It is noted where groups are given more leeway to allow exploration and expressions of choreography. If numbers are sufficient, soft shoe and pointe will be separated.

BALLET CLASSES

Provincial Eligibility requires 2 CONTRASTING solos.

Classical Ballet

No props. This category is for all classical ballet - soft shoe **or** pointe. No vocals allowed in music for solos. Choreography is original and does not contain any set work. Group entries may use music with vocals.

Ballet Repertoire Variation

No props. Soft shoe or pointe. No vocals allowed in music.

Open Ballet

No props. Ballet combined with other dance elements and components pushing its limitations. This class replaces previous year's interpretive, contemporary, and lyrical ballet classes. Soft shoe or pointe. No vocals allowed in music for solos with the exception of a contemporary ballet entry, aligning with the provincial rules. Group numbers may use music with vocals and are not required to wear shoes.

Demi-Character

Props show characterization of story. Dancer must perform ballet technique from the waist down and the character from the waist up. Clear characterization must be present in choreography. Costume and title is **not** enough to qualify a routine as Demi Character. Props can be used as an integral part of the characterization or story. Soft shoe **or** pointe. No vocals allowed in music for solos. Group numbers may use music with vocals.

National

A routine of national origin, authentic in the style and costume of any country (ie: Ukrainian, Polynesian, Southeast Asian, Spanish, Russian, First Nations etc.). No set competitive dance.

MODERN CLASSES

Provincial Eligibility requires 2 CONTRASTING solos.

Modern

A stylized Dance with foundations on a technically based discipline such as Graham, Limon, Cunningham, Humphrey and Horton, etc. A style that rejects the limitations of classical ballet, was formulated from natural rhythms, and for which favours movement derived from contraction and release, breathe, suspension, fall and recovery, weightlessness and dynamism.

Interpretive Modern

Dance that uses a recognized modern technique to tell a story, express a feeling, interpret a character, behaviour, or emotional state. Movement should be related to the intent of the music. Vocals allowed in music.

Contemporary

Free movement of dance encompassing various dance disciplines with modern technique as its underlying base. A constantly evolving style of movement that gives physicality to human ideologies and concepts with emphasis on engaging the whole body. Vocals allowed in music.

Interpretive Contemporary

Dance that uses contemporary movement vocabulary from stylized to pedestrian (with modern technique as its basis) to tell a story, express a feeling, interpret a character, behaviour, or emotional state. Movement should be related to the intent of the music while the choreography must engage the whole body.

STAGE CLASSES

Provincial eligibility requires 2 solos; one solo in jazz or lyrical and one from another category.

Jazz

Use of isolated movements, combined with recognized jazz technique showing strong sense of rhythm and coordination. Must be pure dance. No more than two acrobatic tricks are permitted in this category.

Lyrical

A dance that is generally performed to music in slower tempos and interprets the lyrics or intent of that piece of music. This genre uses a soft jazz-based technique with facial and body emotion to portray an idea, story, or mood.

Acro

Free movement, improvised and usually characterized by syncopated rhythm and use of isolated movements and acrobatic tricks.

Tap

Entries will be adjudicated on foot work, rhythm, style and presentation. Pieces must not show an interpretation of a story line and music must not contain tap sounds.

Modern Stage

Live voice is not permitted; lip synchronization is permitted. Dance must be suited to stage or music production. Routine must be entertaining and diversified (no straight-line work) with a character base to it.

Song and Dance

A routine suited to stage production with minimal use of props. Equal effort in dancing, singing, and acting will be an integral part of the overall performance. Routines must comprise **voice** and **dance** and will be adjudicated on both.

HIP HOP

A constantly evolving form of dance that relies on individualism and personal style and emphasizes the expressive power of movement. Pieces should include but not be limited to choreography that incorporates a blend of contemporary funk and street style with jazz techniques. May include moves such as gliding, popping, locking, waving and utilize house, old-school and new school genres. May also include gymnastics, power moves or any series of tricks or stunts. Minimal use of props.

No reference to violence or derogatory sexual content or language is permitted in music or moves or deductions will be made.

YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS

- Ages 11 and older
- This category will be divided by style and, if required, by the number of performers (not choreographers) and by the choreographer's age grouping.
- Adjudication will be on the choreographer (not on the dancer(s)).
- Young Choreographer categories will receive standings only.
- Props depending on class.

Further Direction for Young Choreographer:

Student chooses their own music, theme, and style (discipline must be noted); and has the option to perform their own piece or set it onto another dancer(s). Performers must be listed on entry. Comprehensive notes must be submitted for the adjudicator to review.

Choreographers should think of the following when creating and include as much of the process as possible in their notes.

- Theme/story
- Use of space and levels (highs, lows, close, far).
- Relationships within a piece. Dancer/music or in group pieces with one another.
- Staging/Movement - visual impact using positions/formations onstage.
- Costume(s).
- Discipline - breakdown the routine in counts and/or steps in written form using technical terms as appropriate. **Video recording is acceptable, but this must include the above not just be a run through of the dance.**
- Choreographer biography is not required but is an added touch.
- These notes/video are comprehensive providing a tool that could be used to set the piece upon a dancer(s).

Teachers/Studios, please encourage your young choreographers with :

- Use of studio to practice.
- Mentoring - helping with structure of creative process/choreography.
- Correction of technique to ensure safety and health of dancer(s).

Student must submit written/video choreography to the NIFPA Board by **February 1st** prior to Festival via email info.nifpa@gmail.com .

ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING MUSIC

Copyright

- All copyrights regarding music must be observed.
- Photocopies or manual copies of copyrighted material will not be accepted unless
 - A letter from the publisher, giving permission for copying, is provided.
 - The selection is generally considered to be in the public domain, in which case, a letter is required from the publisher confirming this fact and providing permission to copy.
- Downloaded music: The use of music downloaded from the internet is permissible if it is accompanied by receipts for the number of copies downloaded.
 - If membership in a site provides free use of the material downloaded, proof of membership must be provided.
 - Music from the free website www.imslp.org is permitted. The full URL of the work being performed must be written on the first page of all parts and copies being used.
- Adjudicator copy: The adjudicator must be given a complete original score of music under copyright or approved copy as outlined above for the duration of the performance.
- Accompanist copy: An original copy or approved copy as outlined above must be provided to an accompanist.
- Page Turn Copy: Photocopies for the purposes of page turns are permitted. The full score must be present at the performance venue, in addition to an original copy for the adjudicator as outlined above.
- Participants attempting to use unauthorized copies of copyrighted material will be disqualified.

Performance Check-In

- For each performance, one original copy or approved copy as outlined above of the selection must be submitted to the Adjudicator Secretary for the use of the Adjudicator when the participant's name is called. The adjudicator copy must be clearly marked with the participant's name and class and the music must be numbered at the beginning of each line to assist the Adjudicator in making specific remarks.
- Checkin must be at least 15 minutes prior to the session start time.

Adjudication

- The Adjudicator will give the signal for the participant to begin the performance. The participant must then introduce their piece from the stage either before they begin or before each piece they perform.
- The Adjudicator may terminate the performance at will.
- Adjudication will be written for each participant.
- Each performance will receive a percentage mark unless the entry is for adjudication only.
- All marks are confidential and will be provided to the participant with their certificates.
- Adjudicators will give verbal adjudication on stage at the end of each session.

Scoring and Placements:

- Certificates for standings will be provided to the participants.

Standings Levels:

85% and over:	Gold
80% - 84.99%:	Silver
75% - 79.99%:	Bronze

ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING PIANO

Eligibility

- Students who have passed the Practical examination of the Royal Conservatory (or equivalent) by the summer of the year immediately preceding the Festival must enter a higher grade in the Festival.
- Students who have just completed the Practical Examination in the mid-winter session of the same year as the Festival may enter the same grade that year.
- There are no limits to the number of entries a piano participant may enter, however, all entries are considered for Provincial and Award eligibility.
- In all classes, students must select one grade level/age level for entry, and then enter ALL classes at the same level. In the next year of entry, students **MUST PROCEED TO THE NEXT LEVEL OR HIGHER**, with the following exceptions:
 - Members of an ensemble group may be at different grade levels (including Pre-Grade 1) and entered based on the average grade of the group.
 - Grades 9 and 10 students may enter the same grade for two (2) years only, provided they have not passed the Practical Exam by the preceding summer. Students who choose to enter the same grade and class for the second year must not repeat the selection.

Selections and Time Limits

- We follow the RCM repertoire at all grade levels.
- Title of selections must be listed during registration.
- Time Limits (per selection) will be strictly enforced. Should a participant exceed the time limit, a bell will ring and the participant must stop immediately. No penalty will occur if the participant stops when the bell rings.
 - **Pre-Grade 1 Classes:** Pre-Grade 1 : 2 minutes
 - **Junior Classes:** Grades 1 – 5 : 3 Minutes
 - **Intermediate Classes:** Grades 6 – 8: 5 Minutes
 - **Senior Classes:** Grades 9 & 10 : 15 Minutes
 - **Open Class :** 20 Minutes
- Recital Class (3 pieces of contrasting style from different musical eras)
 - **Grades 1 – 5:** 9 Minutes
 - **Grades 6 – 8:** 15 Minutes

- **Grades 9 & 10 :** 45 Minutes
- **Open:** 50 minutes

Provincial Recommendations

- Please refer to the current provincial syllabus at www.bcprovincials.com
- To be considered eligible for provincial recommendation, a participant must have:
 - An entry in **two (2) separate** solo competitive classes, or
 - An entry in a competitive **recital class** (marks given for each selection)
 - Entries must be **contrasting** and receive a mark of 85% or higher in both entries.
 - Study/train within our boundaries.
- For Provincial recommendation, only marks received in the concert group or eligible solo classes will be considered. The Ensemble, Young Composer, and Accompanying classes are not eligible classes for Provincial recommendation.
- Piano Solo Provincial Classes:
 - Junior Piano A - age 14 years and under - Level/Grade 6-9
 - Junior Piano B - age 14 years and under - Level/Grade 10 and above
 - Intermediate Solo Piano - age 17 years and under - Level/Grade 8 minimum
 - Senior Solo Piano - age 22 years and under - Level/Grade 9 minimum
 - Provincial Excellence Piano - age 22 years and under

Piano Classes

Baroque

Music in the style of the Baroque Period (up to 1750) as represented by the music of J. S. Bach, Telemann, Scarlatti, Handel, Couperin, etc., or pieces written in a DEFINITE BAROQUE STYLE by later composers.

Classical

Music in the style of the Classical Period (about 1750 – 1825), including Sonatinas or Sonatas and other forms as represented by the music of Haydn, Mozart, Clementi, Beethoven, etc. Pieces written in a DEFINITE CLASSICAL STYLE by later composers may also be included.

Romantic

Music in the style of the Romantic composers (1800 – 1900), for example, Schumann, Greig, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, etc.

Post Romantic/ Impressionist

Music in the romantic style written after 1900, including Kabalevsky, Sibelius, Turina, Rachmaninoff, Grechaninov, Khachaturian, Debussy, Ravel, Poulenc, Ibert, etc.

20th/21st Century

Music written specifically for piano, during the twentieth or twenty-first centuries, in a style other than those listed in the preceding categories. The piece must be played as it was originally written. Any alternate arrangements would fall under the popular category.

Canadian

Music of Canadian composers such as Coulthard, Archer, Kenins, Fleming, Poole, etc., regardless of period or style. Music by any Canadian composer **MUST** be in this class.

Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary

RCM Popular Selection List, Hal Leonard, Alfred, Lee Evans, Martha Pier, Christopher Norton and CC Contemporary Syllabus publications music would be appropriate for this class, as would most other pieces found in collections of "songs", movie themes, etc.

Recital Class

Three pieces of contrasting style from different musical eras. This class gives participants an opportunity to perform their solos back to back. Each solo will be adjudicated and marked separately.

PRE-GRADE 1 CLASS - ADJUDICATION ONLY

- There are two Pre-Grade 1 classes, Canadian class and Non-Canadian class. Students may enter either one or both classes. There is no limit to the length of time of study. Pre-Grade 1 classes will be for adjudication only.

6 years and under – Canadian

6 years and under – Non-Canadian

8 years and under – Canadian

8 years and under – Non-Canadian

10 years and under – Canadian

10 years and under – Non - Canadian

11 years and over – Canadian

11 years and over – Non-Canadian

JUNIOR CLASSES (GRADES 1-5)

Baroque

Classical

Romantic

Post-Romantic/ Impressionists

20th/21st Century

Canadian

Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary

Recital Class : Own choice of three pieces of contrasting styles

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES (GRADES 6-8)

Baroque

Classical

Romantic

Post-Romantic/ Impressionist

20th/21st Century

Canadian

Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary

Recital Class : Own choice of three pieces of contrasting styles.

SENIOR CLASSES (GRADES 9 AND 10)

Grade 9

Baroque

Classical

Romantic

Post Romantic/ Impressionist

20th/21st Century

Canadian

Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary

Recital Class : Own choice of three pieces of contrasting styles

Grade 10

Baroque

Classical: One movement only of a sonata

Romantic

Post Romantic/ Impressionist

20th/21st Century

Canadian

Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary

Recital Class : Own choice of three pieces of contrasting styles

OPEN CLASSES

Students must perform at a Diploma Level or above as an Amateur only. Open Class competitors will be given adjudication, marks and certificates if eligible.

Baroque
Classical: Any Sonata – Minimum of two consecutive movements
Romantic
Post-Romantic/ Impressionist
20th/21st Century
Canadian
Popular, Broadway, Jazz, Contemporary
Recital Class : Own choice of three pieces of contrasting style

ENSEMBLE CLASSES (DUETS)

Pre-Grade 1
Junior Classes (Grades 1-5)
Intermediate Classes (Grades 6-8)
Senior Classes (Grades 9-10)
Open

ACCOMPANYING CLASS

Entrants to provide soloist, any instruments or voice.
The adjudicator will be discussing the accompanist not the soloist.

Pre-Grade 1
Junior (Grades 1-5)
Intermediate (Grades 6-8)
Senior (Grades 9-10)
Open

YOUNG COMPOSER CLASS

- For adjudication only
- Each entry must be composed by, written out or computer-generated by the entrant. The work may be performed by the composer or by a performer of his/her choice who is within the appropriate grade(s).
- The composer must be present for the adjudication.
- Entries must be neat and legible in ink, computer print, or photocopy. The measure number starting each line, tempo and dynamic markings and other appropriate details should be included.
- Student must submit a copy of the composition to the NIFPA Board by **February 1st** prior to Festival via email [**info.nifpa@gmail.com**](mailto:info.nifpa@gmail.com) .

ADULT CLASS - 18 YEARS AND OVER - ADJUDICATION ONLY

Junior (Grades 1-5)

Intermediate (Grades 6-8)

Senior (Grades 9-10)

Open

ADULT CLASS – CONCERT GROUP – ADJUDICATION ONLY

Junior (Grades 1-5)

Intermediate (Grades 6-8)

Senior (Grades 9-10)

Open

ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES

Eligibility

- All Musical Theatre selections are accompanied by live music. The term “accompanied” shall be held to mean the use of one piano only.

Selections and Time Limits

- Routines will be timed from the beginning of the performance to the end. Presets/ bows will not be timed.
- Time limits are strictly enforced. Overtime performances will be “adjudication only”.
 - **Solos:** 5 minutes maximum
 - **Groups:** 6 minutes maximum
 - **Productions:** 10 minutes maximum
 - **Quartets and Choirs:** 10 minutes maximum

Provincial Recommendations

- Please refer to the current provincial syllabus at www.bcprovincials.com .
- To be considered eligible for Provincial recommendation in Musical Theatre, a participant must have:
 - An entry in **two (2) solo classes**, one of which must be a Musical Theatre class.
 - Entries must be contrasting and receive a mark of 85% or higher in both entries.
 - Study/train within our boundaries.
 - Upon receiving a recommendation to Provincials, representative must have **two (2) contrasting Musical Theatre pieces** prepared to perform ‘back to back’ at the Provincial Festival.
- For Provincial recommendation, only marks received in the concert group or eligible solo classes will be considered. The Ensemble, Production, and Choir/Quartet classes are not eligible classes for Provincial recommendation.
- Musical Theatre Solo Provincial Classes:
 - Junior Musical Theatre - age 14 years and under
 - Intermediate Musical Theatre - age 17 years and under
 - Senior Musical Theatre - age 22 years and under
 - Provincial Excellence Musical Theatre - age 22 years and under

Musical Theatre Classes

MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO CLASSES

- 11 and under
- 14 and under
- 17 and under
- 22 and under
- 23 and over

Selection may be chosen from any musical, Broadway musical, or motion picture musical including animated musicals, Disney Movies, etc. Costumes and movement are permitted, but not necessary, as is stage movement and dancing if appropriate. One stage prop and one hand-held prop may be used. All classes must be accompanied by live music (piano).

Pre 1970 Comedy Class - All Age Groups

A Musical Theatre song from any of the genres as listed above. This selection must be of a comedic nature.

Post 1970 Comedy Class - All Age Groups

A Musical Theatre song from any of the genres as listed above. This selection must be of a comedic nature.

Pre 1970 Ballad Class - All Age Groups

A Musical Theatre song from any of the genres as listed above. This selection must be one that is serious and of an introspective nature. No comedy selections permitted.

Post 1970 Ballad Class - All Age Groups

A Musical Theatre song from any of the genres as listed above. This selection must be one that is serious and of an introspective nature. No comedy selections permitted.

Additional Repertoire - All Age Groups

One own choice selection of Musical Theatre Comedy or Musical Theatre Ballad.

Motion Picture Theme/ Disney Song - All Age Groups

Title selection taken from a motion picture (Non-musical Theatre)

MUSICAL THEATRE ENSEMBLE CLASSES – All Age Groups

Duets, Trios, or Larger groups will be subdivided when number of entries allows. See Musical Theatre Solo Classes for descriptions of classes. All classes must be accompanied by live music (piano).

PRODUCTION CLASS

The performers are to present a program of 2 selections taken from different or the same musical – in any of the genres listed above. The adjudication will be based on the total entertainment quality of the performance (vocal and character portrayal).

CHURCH, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY CHOIRS & BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

All choirs and Barbershop Quartets are recommended to perform two selections in contrasting styles. Musical theatre pieces may be taken from any Standard Operetta or Musical.

Costuming and choreography are optional.

- Junior – 19 years and under
- Adult – 20 years and over

ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING VOCAL SOLO CLASSES

- In competitive classes, participants must select one age level for entry, and enter ALL competitive classes at the same level
- All selections accompanied by live music. The term “accompanied” shall be held to mean the use of one piano only. A possible exception would be the use of a guitar accompaniment in the Folksong Classes. This class may be sung unaccompanied as in the true traditional style.

Provincial Recommendations

- Please refer to the current provincial syllabus at www.bcprovincials.com .
- To be considered eligible for Provincial recommendation in Musical Theatre, a participant must have:
 - An entry in **three (3) solo** classes, or
 - An entry in a competitive **recital class** (marks given for each selection);
 - Entries must be **contrasting** and receive a mark of 85% or higher in all entries.
 - Study/train within our boundaries.
- For Provincial recommendation, only marks received in the concert group or eligible solo classes will be considered. The Ensemble, Choir/Quartets and Young Songwriter classes are not eligible classes for Provincial recommendation.
- Vocal Solo Provincial Classes:
 - Junior Voice - Classical - age 14 years and under
 - Intermediate Voice - Classical - age 17 years and under
 - Senior Voice - Classical - age 22 years and under
 - Provincial Excellence Voice - Classical - age 22 years and under

Vocal Classes

VOICE SOLO CLASSES

- 11 and under
- 14 and under
- 17 and under

- 22 and under
- 23 and over

Art Song - All languages

Contemporary Solo

Your choice of a contemporary song in the Pop idiom

Sacred Song

One selection, Own choice (excludes Oratorio and Cantata)

Jazz Song

One selection, Own choice

Folk Song

A folk song of any nationality whose author and composer are unknown. Many of the folk songs have numerous verses, 3 or 4 well-chosen ones will be sufficient for performance at the Festival. If language other than English is used, an English translation must be given to the Adjudicator. Folksongs may be sung unaccompanied or accompanied. Any voice

Own Choice

One selection, Own choice

RECITAL CLASS

Three (3) contrasting selections performed back to back. Competitors will be adjudicated and marked for each solo.

Time Limits:

- 14 and under : 17 minutes
- 17 and under : 22 minutes
- 22 and under: 25 minutes

VOCAL ENSEMBLE CLASSES

Duets, Trios, or Larger groups will be subdivided when number of entries allows. See Musical Theatre Solo Classes for descriptions of classes. All classes must be accompanied by live music (piano).

CHURCH, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY CHOIRS & BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

- All choirs and Barbershop Quartets are recommended to perform two selections in contrasting styles.
- Costuming and choreography are optional.

- Time limit: 10 minutes
 - Junior – 19 years and under
 - Adult – 20 years and over

YOUNG SONGWRITER CLASS

- Adjudication only
- Each entry must be composed by, written out or computer-generated by the entrant. The work may be performed by the composer or by a performer of his/her choice who is within the same age category/grouping.
- The composer must be present for the adjudication.
- Entries must be neat and legible in ink, computer print, or photocopy. The measure number starting each line, tempo and dynamic markings and other appropriate details should be included.
- Students must submit a copy of the composition to the NIFPA Board by **February 1st** prior to Festival via email at [**info.nifpa@gmail.com**](mailto:info.nifpa@gmail.com) .

Studio/Teacher Guidelines for Registration

Registration opens November 1st and ends November 15th at 10 p.m for the dance section and ends November 30 at 10 p.m. for the music section.

The registration system is DanceSync hosted by TMMDance.

- The link for online registration is <https://nifpa.signup.dance/> . It will be posted on the nifpa.org homepage.
- Set up an new account or login with your previous account login and password.
- Be sure to **select the correct competition (dance or piano or voice) and year.**
- Teachers/Studios - to prepare and make registration easier, a worksheet can be created listing all your participants; **first and last name**, (these can be in separate or same column), **birthdate**, and **gender**. This document must be saved as a CSV (comma separated value) file. Upload it to your account and it will be the last time you enter student data. Note: this information may be added with each entry as well.
- Enter the **Title** for each selection. Titles can be edited later; TBA is not permitted.
- Enter the **time/length** and the **choreographer/composer** for each entry.
- Select a **discipline** and **class** for each entry.
- For music, for MT and vocal ensemble, production, quartet and choir classes, please make a note in the note field when registering for multiple selections. An email may also be sent noting the registration.
- For dance, designate if the entry starts the dance **Onstage; Offstage Right; Offstage Left; or both.**
- Select if an entry is Non-competitive, and use the note field if it is to be separated in the program.
- For dance, if prompted and applicable, select **En Pointe.**
- For the dance and the music section; Please select **Provincial Rep for those soloists who meet the eligibility requirements and for all eligible solos in the applicable classes.**
- **Please note: For dance, studios must also register the provincial candidates in the workshop section of Dancesync OR email info.nifpa@gmail.com with their Provincial rep lists by November 15th for registration in adjudicator workshops.**
- Connect the participant to the entry from the list of participants inputed previously. The participant list can be sorted by age to aid in finding participants in a large list.
- Payment may be made using [STRIPE.com](https://stripe.com) (credit card), e-transfer or cheque. Payment is necessary to complete registration. A 2% credit card fee will be added when using STRIPE. Please notify us if paying by cheque.
- **Online waiver links** are to be sent to participant families/participants by the studios/ teachers for completion through DanceSync. Studios/teachers can monitor completion through their DanceSync accounts.