



Festival

PERFORMANCE EVENT & MUSIC COMPETITION

Event Syllabus

March 20 – 30

Hosted By
Cosmo School of Music &
Chorus Music

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| <u>Festival Overview</u> | 3 |
| <u>What is Festival 2025?</u> | 4 |
| <u>About Chorus Music</u> | 5 |
| <u>About Cosmo School of Music</u> | 6 |
| <u>Masterclasses</u> | 7 |
| <u>Adjudication and Grading</u> | 8 |
| <u>Scholarships and Prizes</u> | 9 |
| <u>Rules and Regulations</u> | 10 |
| <u>Festival Schedule (Piano)</u> | 11 |
| <u>Festival Schedule (Voice, Guitar, Bass)</u> | 12 |
| <u>Festival Schedule (Drums, Orchestra, Band)</u> | 13 |
| <u>How to Register and Fees</u> | 14 |
| <u>Competition Guidelines</u> | 15 |
| <u>FAQ 1</u> | 16 |
| <u>FAQ 2</u> | 17 |
| <u>Repertoire Appendix (Piano Classical)</u> | 18 |
| <u>Repertoire Appendix (Piano, Voice, Strings)</u> | 19 |
| <u>Repertoire Appendix (Woodwinds, Brass)</u> | 20 |
| <u>Repertoire Appendix (Guitar)</u> | 21 |
| <u>Repertoire Appendix (Guitar)</u> | 22 |
| <u>Grading Scheme</u> | 23 |
| <u>Sample Rubric</u> | 24 |
| <u>Festival Web Page</u> | 25 |
| <u>Contact</u> | 26 |

FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

Welcome to Festival 2025!

We're thrilled to launch our first-ever music festival at Cosmo Music, in collaboration with Chorus Music. This prestigious event is a fantastic opportunity for our students to showcase their talents in a competitive and supportive environment.

About Festival 2025:

- **Celebration of Musical Growth and Excellence:** This week-long event spans multiple instrument categories, including piano, voice, guitar, and percussion.
- **Professional Adjudicators:** Participants will receive invaluable feedback, helping them gain insights and strive for personal bests.
- **Exciting Prizes:** Beyond feedback, students have the chance to win incredible prizes, scholarships, and other take-home awards.

Our Vision

This festival isn't just about recognizing musical excellence; it's about inspiring a love for performance and encouraging growth. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced musician, the event is designed to support your journey and help you reach new milestones.

Good Luck to All Participants!

We look forward to celebrating the exceptional talent in the Cosmo School of Music and Chorus Music communities. Thank you for being part of our inaugural Festival 2025 – a milestone we hope will continue as an annual tradition!

WHAT IS FESTIVAL 2025?

Festival 2025 invites students across various instruments to perform, achieve personal bests, and compete for exciting prizes and scholarships.

What to Expect

- Professional Adjudication: Each student receives detailed feedback from expert adjudicators.
- Masterclasses: Every session includes a masterclass to deepen skills.
- Incredible Prizes: Awards and scholarships recognize dedication and talent.

Festival 2025 offers students:

- A platform to showcase their skills and gain valuable critiques.
- An environment that fosters goal-setting and confidence-building.
- Opportunities to learn from peers, preparing thoroughly and performing confidently.

The Festival Experience

More than a competition, Festival 2025 is a celebration. Students will:

- Build stage presence and technical skills.
- Engage with the music community in a supportive setting.
- Connect, learn, and share their passion for music.

Cosmo School of Music and Chorus Music are dedicated to nurturing each student's musical and personal growth—Festival 2025 is a reflection of that commitment, inspiring musicians at every level.



ABOUT CHORUS MUSIC

Founded in 2013, **Chorus Music** is a leading music academy in Vaughan, Ontario, dedicated to delivering exceptional music education to students of all ages and skill levels. As Vaughan's Authorized Yamaha Music Education Center, Chorus Music offers exclusive programs from certified instructors. The academy seamlessly blends the timeless traditions of music education with modern, innovative teaching practices. Chorus Music fosters an environment that encourages student growth and creativity, preparing students for everything from examinations and post-secondary music programs, to diverse roles within the modern music industry. Humbled to be selected as one of Vaughan's "Three Best Rated" music schools since 2016, Chorus Music's commitment to a standard of excellence is reflected in its team, many of whom are former students.

Chorus Music offers lessons across a broad range of instruments, including piano, guitar, voice, and drums, alongside specialized courses in music production, theory and more. The academy also provides numerous opportunities for students to showcase their talents through recitals, open mics, and community events. With acoustically treated, state-of-the-art facilities, including a professional recording studio, Chorus Music creates an inspiring environment that nurtures creativity. At the heart of their philosophy is the belief that music education should be fun, engaging, and enriching. By fostering a positive and supportive atmosphere, Chorus Music encourages students to explore their creativity, build confidence, and develop discipline. Furthering its mission to cultivate a lifelong love of music, Chorus Music has partnered with **Cosmo School of Music** to host **Festival 2025**—an exciting competitive platform where students can perform, grow, and connect with the broader music community.



ABOUT COSMO SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Cosmo School of Music, a premier destination for music education in the Greater Toronto Area, is dedicated to nurturing musical talent through a diverse array of programs and exceptional facilities. With over 50 experienced instructors and more than 1,200 students attending weekly lessons, we offer personalized instruction across various instruments, including piano, guitar, voice, and strings.

Our innovative programs cater to all ages and skill levels. The Music Discovery Program introduces young learners to ten different instruments over 20 weeks, fostering a broad appreciation for music. Group Piano Lessons provide beginners with a collaborative learning environment, while our Musical Theatre Program offers students the chance to perform in fully realized productions at the state-of-the-art Cosmopolitan Music Hall. For those inclined towards contemporary music, the Rock Band Program enables students to experience the dynamics of ensemble performance.

We believe in holistic musical development, offering monthly performance opportunities in our 240-seat Cosmopolitan Music Hall, year-end recitals, and a variety of workshops to enhance music literacy and technique. Students benefit from free access to well-equipped practice rooms, ensuring ample space for individual growth. Additionally, exclusive student discounts and offers make quality music education accessible.

Our partnership with **Chorus Music Academy** reflects a shared commitment to excellence in music education. Chorus Music's dedication to high standards and innovative teaching methods aligns seamlessly with our mission to inspire and cultivate musical talent. Together, we aim to provide unparalleled learning experiences that empower students to achieve their full potential.



MASTER CLASSES

At Festival 2025, each performance session will begin with a short **masterclass** led by our esteemed adjudicators. These masterclasses are designed to provide participants with valuable insights and techniques that can enhance their musical understanding and performance skills.

What to Expect in a Masterclass

Before each competition session, the adjudicator will spend approximately 10-15 minutes offering expert guidance on various aspects of musical performance.

Topics may include:

- **Technical Mastery:** Tips on improving technique for specific instruments or voice types.
- **Interpretation:** How to bring emotional depth and personality to a musical piece.
- **Stage Presence:** Advice on how to handle nerves and present confidently on stage.
- **Musical Expression:** Exploring dynamics, phrasing, and articulation to elevate the performance.

Why Are Masterclasses Important?

Masterclasses offer a rare opportunity for participants to learn directly from highly experienced musicians and educators.

These sessions provide:

- **Immediate Learning:** Participants can apply the tips and techniques from the masterclass to their own performance, even within the same session.
- **Broader Perspective:** Listening to expert advice tailored to specific instruments or styles offers fresh perspectives, helping participants think critically about their own musical approach.
- **Collaborative Environment:** Masterclasses create a supportive space where participants and audience members can learn together, reinforcing a sense of community and shared musical growth.

Who Can Attend?

All participants and audience members are encouraged to attend the masterclass before their session. It's a fantastic way to warm up, focus, and gain inspiration right before stepping onto the stage.

We believe that masterclasses are a key component of the festival experience, allowing musicians to deepen their knowledge and hone their craft. By fostering a culture of continuous learning, Festival 2025 aims to enrich each participant's musical journey.



ADJUDICATION AND GRADING

At **Festival 2025**, the adjudication process is designed to evaluate students based on how well they perform their own chosen pieces, rather than competing directly against other participants. The focus is on celebrating individual progress, performance quality, and musicianship.

How Adjudication Works

Each performance is assessed using a rubric that grades students in four key categories:

- Pitch and Rhythm Accuracy: How precise the participant is in playing the correct notes and rhythms.
- Interpretation (Stylistic Accuracy): How well the participant understands and conveys the style and mood of the piece.
- Performance Skills (Stage Presence): How the participant presents themselves on stage, including confidence, posture, and interaction with the audience.

Each category is graded out of 10, providing a total score out of 30. A copy of the rubric is available in the appendix.

Feedback and Scoring

After each performance, the adjudicator provides both written and verbal feedback using the "2 Stars and a Wish" format:

- 2 Stars: Two elements of the performance that were done well.
- 1 Wish: One area for improvement that the participant can focus on in future performances.

Grading and Awards

At the end of each session, participants will receive their adjudication notes and scores. The top three performers with the highest scores will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, as indicated on their certificates. All other participants will receive their performance feedback and a certificate acknowledging their participation.

This process ensures that every student receives constructive feedback and has the opportunity to grow from their performance, regardless of placement.

Who are the Adjudicators?

The adjudicators for Festival 2025 are professional musicians and specialists in their respective fields, bringing a wealth of experience to the evaluation process. Each adjudicator is carefully selected for their expertise in the categories they will be judging. To ensure complete fairness, none of the adjudicators teach at Cosmo School of Music or Chorus Music. This impartiality guarantees that every participant is evaluated objectively, with the focus solely on their performance and growth.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

Festival 2025 offers a variety of exciting prizes and scholarships, rewarding excellence, effort, and musical growth. These prizes are designed to encourage participants to strive for their best while providing unique opportunities for continued learning and development.

Prizes

Top performers in each category will have the chance to win one of the following prizes. To qualify, recipients must achieve a performance score of 90% or higher.

- Cosmo Music Gift Cards
- Nintendo Switch Lite
- Wonderland Season Passes
- Music Studio Sessions
- Orange Amps
- Toca Hand Drums
- Cosmo Music Scholarships*
 - 1-month scholarship: Covering one month of lessons at Cosmo Music.
 - 3-month scholarship: Covering three months of lessons at Cosmo Music.
- Chorus Music Scholarships*
 - 1-month scholarship: Covering one month of lessons at Chorus Music.
 - 3-month scholarship: Covering three months of lessons at Chorus Music.

*Scholarships Allocation Protocol

Participants who demonstrate exceptional musical skill and dedication may be eligible for one of our scholarship awards. These scholarships are designed to support continued music education at Cosmo Music and Chorus Music. Adjudicators will nominate candidates based on overall performance quality, and winners will be selected by a scholarship panel.

Certificates and Awards

All participants will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation in Festival 2025, along with their adjudicated mark.

Prizes and Awards Notification

After the conclusion of Festival 2025, participants will be notified of their prize winnings the following week.

Notification Process

Winners will be notified via email with details of their awards, including scholarships, gift cards, or special prizes, shortly after the conclusion of Festival 2025.

All participants will receive their Festival Certificate at the end of their session along with their marks.

Prize Distribution

All physical prizes will be available for pick-up at the student's respective school. Scholarship winners will receive instructions on how to claim their Cosmo Music or Chorus Music lessons.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

To ensure that Festival 2025 runs smoothly and maintains a fair, professional atmosphere, all participants are expected to follow these guidelines. Please read carefully to understand the festival requirements.

1. Registration and Deadlines

- All festival registrations must be submitted online by **February 4, 2025**.
- The registration fee is \$45 per session, and all fees are non-refundable.

2. Scheduling

- The festival will run from March 20-30, 2025.
- Schedules will be organized to ensure that each day focuses on one type of instrument to avoid setup changes in the music hall.
- All schedules will be communicated via email by February 15, 2025.

3. Adjudication

- Each category will have a designated adjudicator who will provide both written and verbal feedback immediately after each performance.
- Participants will receive a certificate and their performance mark at the end of their session.

4. Performance Requirements

- Memorization is mandatory for all competitive categories except Pop/Contemporary and Orchestra/Band categories.
- Original sheet music must be provided for the adjudicators at the time of performance.
 - Exceptions for pop vocals and drums categories
- Photocopies are strictly prohibited unless used as a backup for adjudication purposes only and will be destroyed afterward.
- Students cannot enter the same piece into more than one category.

5. Attendance

- Participants must be present for the full duration of their session to receive adjudication and be considered for awards.
- Late arrivals may still have the opportunity to perform, depending on the availability of time. However, feedback and rankings may not be guaranteed.”

6. Accompaniment and Equipment

- Students are responsible for providing their own accompanist for categories that require one.
- Cosmo Music will supply standard equipment, including a grand piano, music stands, amplifiers, footstools, and sound systems. Any additional instruments or accessories must be provided by the student.

7. Judging and Awards

- Adjudicators' decisions are final.
- Any disputes or concerns regarding the festival can be submitted in writing to the festival committee.
- Prizes and awards will be presented immediately after the session concludes.

8. Conduct and Fair Play

- Participants, parents, and teachers are expected to maintain a respectful atmosphere.
- Any inappropriate behavior toward adjudicators, staff, or other participants may result in disqualification.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Piano Categories

The Piano Category at Festival 2025 welcomes students of all levels, from preparatory to advanced. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase their technical skills, interpretation, and artistry in front of professional adjudicators. Each performer will be evaluated on their individual progress, with a focus on how well they interpret their chosen piece. The piano category allows students to receive constructive feedback while celebrating their unique musical journey. Please see the appendix for suggested sources for repertoire selection.

Thursday March 27, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|
| 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Preparatory Piano (Session 1) | PP1 | Open |
| 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Preparatory Piano (Session 2) | PP2 | Open |
| 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Preparatory Piano (Session 3) | PP3 | Open |

Saturday March 29, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|---------------------|----------------|---------|------|
| 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | Level 1-2 | PRCM12 | Open |
| 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm | Level 3-4 | PRCM34 | Open |
| 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Level 5-6 | PRCM56 | Open |
| 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm | Level 7-8 | PRCM78 | Open |
| 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm | Level 9 and up | PRCM910 | Open |

Sunday March 30, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | Pop/Contemporary Piano (Session 1) | PPC1 | 5-9 |
| 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm | Pop/Contemporary Piano (Session 2) | PPC2 | 10-13 |
| 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Pop Contemporary Piano (Session 3) | PPC3 | 14+ |
| 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm | Level 7-8 | PRCM782 | Open |

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Voice Categories

In the Voice Category, students will perform pieces from either the classical or contemporary repertoire, reflecting their vocal development and artistic expression. This category emphasizes vocal technique, stage presence, and emotional connection to the music. Participants will be evaluated on how well they interpret their chosen piece, with a focus on individual growth rather than comparison to others. Adjudicators will provide valuable feedback to help each vocalist enhance their performance skills. Please see the appendix for suggested sources for repertoire selection.

Sunday March 23, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | Classical Voice | CV1 | Open |
| 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm | Pop/Contemporary Voice (Session 1) | PCV1 | 6-10 |
| 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm | Pop/Contemporary Voice (Session 2) | PCV2 | 11-15 |
| 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Pop Contemporary Voice (Session 3) | PVC3 | 16+ |

Guitar/Bass Categories

The Guitar Category showcases participants' skills across both classical and contemporary styles. Whether performing a traditional piece or a modern composition, students will be assessed on their technique, interpretation, and musical expression. This category is designed to nurture the student's individual progress, with feedback tailored to help each guitarist refine their unique sound. Performers will receive expert guidance in both their session and the masterclass. Please see the appendix for suggested sources for repertoire selection.

Monday March 24, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|-------------------|--|------|-------|
| 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm | RCM Classical Guitar | GPC1 | Open |
| 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Pop/Contemporary Guitar (Session 2) | GPC2 | 6-10 |
| 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass (Session 3) | GPC3 | 11-15 |

Thursday March 20, 2025

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|------|-----|
| 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass (Session 4) | PGC4 | 16+ |
|-------------------|--|------|-----|

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Drum Kit

The Percussion Category highlights rhythmic precision and dynamic performance skills. Students will perform contemporary pieces that showcase their mastery of tempo, rhythm, and stage presence. The focus in this category is on how well participants interpret their chosen piece, with adjudicators offering feedback to support further development. Through this process, percussionists will gain valuable insights into their technical and expressive abilities. Please see the appendix for suggested sources for repertoire selection.

Thursday March 20, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|-------------------|----------------------|------|------|
| 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Drum Kit (Session 1) | DK1 | 8-13 |
| 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Drum Kit (Session 2) | DK2 | 14+ |

Orchestra/Band Categories

The Orchestra/Band Category gives students the opportunity to perform on woodwinds, brass, or strings, showcasing their ensemble and solo performance abilities. Participants will be evaluated on their technical skills, musical interpretation, and overall presentation. With a focus on individual progress, each musician will receive detailed feedback to help them grow as performers. The adjudicators' guidance will emphasize both musicality and technique, tailored to each participant's level. Please see the appendix for suggested sources for repertoire selection.

Wednesday March 26, 2025

| Time | Category | Code | Ages |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Woodwinds | WW1 | Open |
| 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Brass | BR1 | Open |
| 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Strings | ST1 | Open |



HOW TO REGISTER & FEES

To participate in Festival 2025, follow these steps to complete your registration:

STEP ONE – REGISTER

-Visit <https://cosmoschoolofmusic.opus1.io/w/festival2025> to fill out the online registration form.

Select your desired category and complete payment to secure your spot.

STEP TWO – REPERTOIRE SELECTION

-One month prior to the festival, all participants will receive an email requesting confirmation of the repertoire they will be performing. Please ensure that your repertoire selection is finalized and submitted by the specified deadline to allow for smooth scheduling and adjudication preparation. Changes to the repertoire after this deadline will not be accepted

Registration Fee: \$45 per session.

Late Registration: A \$10 late fee will be applied to registrations submitted after the February 4th, 2025 deadline. Late registrations will be accepted up to one week after the deadline, provided space is available. All registration fees are non-refundable.

Registration Deadline

All entries must be submitted no later than February 4th, 2025.

For any inquiries regarding the registration process, please contact us at festival@cosmo.ca

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

To ensure a smooth and professional experience for all participants, please follow these guidelines during Festival 2025:

- **Arrival Time** - Participants are required to arrive at least 15 minutes before their scheduled performance time to check in and prepare.
- **Late arrivals** may still perform but will not be eligible for ranking or awards if the adjudication has already begun.
- **What to Bring** - Original Sheet Music: Performers must bring original, published sheet music for the adjudicator. Photocopies are strictly prohibited unless used as a backup for the adjudicator's reference and will be destroyed afterward.
- **Instruments:** Participants must bring their own instruments (except for piano and percussion kit categories, where instruments will be provided).
- **Accompaniment** - Accompaniment is required for Classical Voice and Orchestra/Band categories. Participants are responsible for arranging their accompanist.
 - For categories where backing tracks are permitted (e.g., Pop/Contemporary Voice or Guitar), participants must submit their tracks to the festival committee 48 hours before their scheduled session.
- **Memorization** - Memorization is required for all Classical categories.
 - Pop/Contemporary and Orchestra/Band categories do not require memorization but it is encouraged for enhanced performance.
- **Dress Code**- While no formal dress code is required, participants are encouraged to wear appropriate performance attire that reflects the professional environment of the festival.
- **Performance Rules**
 - Performers must stay for the full duration of their session to receive feedback and be eligible for placement or prizes.
 - Repeats are allowed for shorter pieces (one minute or less), but performers are limited to one repeat per piece. For classical repertoire, only observe Da Capo or Da Capo al fine repeats.
 - Participants cannot enter the same piece into more than one category.
 - Absolutely NO GUM during performance.
- **Interaction with Adjudicators**
 - Participants, teachers, and parents must not approach the adjudicators during or after the performance. All questions or concerns can be addressed through the festival committee via email.
 - Adjudicator decisions are final and cannot be contested.
- **Respectful Conduct**
 - Participants, parents, and teachers are expected to maintain a respectful and supportive environment throughout the festival. Any disruptive or inappropriate behavior may result in disqualification.

FAQ 1

- **When is the deadline to register for Festival 2025?**
 - The registration deadline is February 4, 2025. A \$10 late fee will apply for registrations submitted after this date, up to one week later.
- **How do I register my child for the festival?**
 - You can register online at www.cosmomusic.com/festival by filling out the registration form and completing the payment.
- **Can I sign my child up for more than one category?**
 - Yes, participants are welcome to enter multiple categories, provided they meet the criteria for each.
- **Will there be an awards ceremony?**
 - No, there will not be an awards ceremony. Prize winners will be notified via email the week following the festival, by March 22, 2025.
- **How will my child be judged during their performance?**
 - Adjudicators will evaluate performances based on several factors including technical skill, musicality, stage presence, and interpretation of the piece. Each category may have specific judging criteria.
- **What happens if my child arrives late to their performance?**
 - Late arrivals may still perform but will only receive feedback and will not be eligible for ranking or awards if the adjudication has already begun.
- **Does my child need to memorize their music?**
 - Memorization is required for all Classical categories. For Pop/Contemporary and Orchestra/Band categories, memorization is encouraged but not mandatory.
- **Will my child receive feedback?**
 - Yes, all participants will receive both written and verbal feedback from the adjudicators immediately after their performance, along with a certificate and their mark.
- **Can I accompany my child during their performance?**
 - Parents may attend the performance but are not permitted to be on stage or interact with the adjudicators. An accompanist can be arranged for specific categories where required.
- **What should my child wear?**
 - While there is no strict dress code, we encourage participants to wear appropriate performance attire that reflects the professional nature of the festival.

FAQ 2

- **What equipment will be provided?**
 - Cosmo Music will provide equipment such as a grand piano, music stands, sound systems, and percussion kits. Participants must bring their own instruments for other categories.
- **Where can I park during the festival?**
 - Cosmo Music has ample parking available on-site. Detailed parking instructions will be provided closer to the event.
- **Can my child change their performance piece after registering?**
 - Unfortunately, once the registration is complete and the schedule is set, changes to the performance pieces cannot be made.
- **How long will each performance session last?**
 - Each session is scheduled to last 1 hour and 15 minutes, with a 15-minute transition time between sessions.
- **Can we bring guests to watch the performance?**
 - Yes, family members and guests are welcome to attend and watch the performances, but we ask that they remain respectful of the other participants.
- **Can my child use a backing track during their performance?**
 - Backing tracks are permitted in Pop/Contemporary Voice and Guitar categories. All backing tracks must be submitted to the festival committee at least 48 hours before the scheduled performance.
- **What if my child is feeling unwell on the day of their performance?**
 - If your child is unwell, please contact the festival committee as soon as possible. We will do our best to accommodate, but rescheduling may not be possible due to the tight schedule.
- **Will professional photography or videography be available?**
 - There will not be official photographers or videographers. Parents are welcome to take pictures, but we ask that this is done respectfully and without disturbing the performances.
- **How will my child receive their prizes if they win?**
 - Prize winners will be notified by email, and physical prizes will be available for pick-up at Cosmo Music or Chorus Music.

REPERTOIRE APPENDIX

PIANO (CLASSICAL)

These books are indicative of the performance level of each category. Students and teachers are encouraged to choose repertoire from these books or use them for reference to ensure the students enter at the correct level. For additional repertoire suggestions, please see the following lists:

[RCM Piano Syllabus 2022](#)

[RCM Popular Selections List 2022](#)

[All RCM Syllabi](#)

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|-------------------|--|---------------|
| Preparatory Piano | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Preparatory A or B Piano Repertoire The ABC of Piano Playing Book 1, 2 or 3 (B. Berlin) Alfred's Premier Piano Course Books - Prep to Book 2 Christopher Norton Connections for Piano, Preparatory Piano Adventures (including Lesson and Performance Books) - Preparatory to 3A, My First Piano Adventure Books A, B, or C Suzuki Piano Book | PP1, PP2, PP3 |
| Level 1 - 2 | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Repertoire 1 or 2 Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Etudes 1 or 2 Christopher Norton Connections for Piano, 1 or 2 Suzuki Piano Book 2 | PRCM12 |
| Level 3 - 4 | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Repertoire 3 or 4 Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Etudes 3 or 4 Christopher Norton Connections for Piano, 3 or 4 Suzuki Piano Book 2, 3, or 4 | PRCM34 |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---------|
| Level 5 - 6 | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Repertoire 5 or 6 Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Etudes 5 or 6 Christopher Norton Connections for Piano, 5 or 6 Suzuki Piano Book 4 | PRCM56 |
| Level 7 - 8 | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Repertoire 7 or 8 Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Etudes 7 or 8 Christopher Norton Connections for Piano, 7 or 8 Suzuki Piano Book 5 or 6 | PRCM78 |
| Level 9 and higher | Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Repertoire 9 or 10 Celebration Series®, Sixth Edition: Piano Etudes 9 or 10 Suzuki Piano Book 7 | PRCM910 |

CLASSICAL VOICE

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Classical Voice | Voice Series, 2019 Edition: Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 10) Voice Series, 2019 Edition: Vocalises 5–8 Voice Series, 2019 Edition: Vocalises and Recitatives 9–10 (High Voice) Voice Series, 2019 Edition: Vocalises and Recitatives 9–10 (Low Voice) | PRCM78 |

STRINGS

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|----------|--|-------|
| Strings | Violin Series, 2021 Edition: Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8) Suzuki Violin School, International Edition, Book 1 - 8 Violin Series, 2021 Edition: Technique, Etudes, and Musicianship Preparatory–2 Violin Series, 2021 Edition: Violin Technique, Etudes, and Musicianship 3–4 Violin Series, 2021 Edition: Violin Technique, Etudes, and Musicianship 5–8 Cello Series, 2013 Edition: Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8) Suzuki Cello School, Revised Edition, Book 1 - 8 Cello Series, 2013 Edition: Cello Etudes (Preparatory–4) | ST1 |

WOODWINDS

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|-----------|---|-------|
| Woodwinds | <p>Standard of Excellence (Books 1-3) for any Woodwind Instrument</p> <p>Overtones: A Comprehensive Flute Series Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8)</p> <p>Suzuki Flute School, Book 1 - 8</p> <p>Overtones: A Comprehensive Flute Series Studies (Preparatory - 4)</p> <p>Overtones: A Comprehensive Flute Series Studies (5 - 8)</p> <p>Clarinet Series, 2014 Edition Clarinet Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8)</p> <p>Clarinet Series, 2014 Edition: Etudes (Preparatory - 4)</p> <p>Clarinet Series, 2014 Edition: Etudes (5 - 8)</p> <p>Saxophone Series, 2014 Edition Clarinet Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8)</p> <p>Saxophone Series, 2014 Edition: Etudes (Preparatory - 4)</p> <p>Saxophone Series, 2014 Edition: Etudes (5 - 8)</p> | WW1 |

BRASS

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|----------|--|-------|
| Brass | <p>Standard of Excellence (Books 1-3) for any Brass Instrument</p> <p>Trumpet Series, 2013 Edition: Repertoire (Preparatory - Level 8)</p> <p>Trumpet Series, 2013 Edition: Etudes (Preparatory - 4)</p> <p>Trumpet Series, 2013 Edition: Etudes (5 - 8)</p> <p>Solos Sound Spectacular (A. Ballent)</p> <p>Canadian Brass Book of Beginning Trombone Solos (E. Watts)</p> <p>The Really Easy Trombone Book (A. Gout)</p> <p>The Magic Trombone (N. Hare)</p> <p>A Tune a Day (P. Herfurth)</p> <p>Yamaha Trombone Student (J. O'Reilly & J. Kinyon)</p> | BR1 |

GUITAR

These books are indicative of the performance level of each category. Students and teachers are encouraged to choose repertoire from these books or use them for reference to ensure the students enter at the correct level. For additional repertoire suggestions, please see the following lists:

| Category | Suggested Books | Codes |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Preparatory Guitar | Alfred's Kid's Guitar Course: Books 1 - 3 Alfred's Basic Guitar Method: Books 1 - 4 A Modern Method for Guitar: Volume 1 (Berklee Press) Hal Leonard Guitar For Kids: Book 1, Book 2 or Songbook Hal Leonard Guitar Method: Books 1 -3 RCM Classical Guitar Series: Preparatory | Open, GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |
| Level 1 - 2 | Alfred's Basic Guitar Method: Book 5- 6 A Modern Method For Guitar: Volume 2 and 3 (Berklee Press) Mauro Giuliani's 120 Studies for Right Hand Development RCM Classical Guitar Series: Level 1- 2 Rockschoool Guitar Grade 1 - 2 | GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |
| Level 3 - 4 | A Modern Method For Guitar: Jazz Songbook (Berklee Press) RCM Classical Guitar Series: Level 3-4 Rockschoool Guitar: Grades 3 - 4 | GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |
| Level 5 - 6 | Jazz Guitar: Single Note Soloing - Book 1 (T. Greene) RCM Classical Guitar Series: Level 5- 6 Rockschoool Guitar Grades 5 - 6 | GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Level 7 - 8 | Jazz Guitar: Single Note Soling - Book 2 (T. Greene) RCM Classical Guitar Series: Level 7- 8 Rockschool Guitar: Grades 7 - 8 | GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |
| Level 9 or higher | Chord Chemistry (T. Greene) RCM Classical Guitar Series: Level 9- 10 | GPC1, GPC2, GPC3, PGC4 |

GRADING SCHEME

90 – 100%: An exceptional performance that is confident and communicative. It demonstrates technical flawlessness, insightful awareness of style and convincing musical interpretation. The performer is ready for Carnegie Hall!

80 – 89%: An engaging performance demonstrating thoughtful and careful preparation. It is technically secure and shows stylistic understanding and musical awareness—quick recovery from any MINOR slips or BRIEF lapses.

70 – 79%: A generally secure performance that demonstrates careful preparation. Reflects some awareness of style and musical understanding—occasional slips and lapses. Technical control and musical details can be improved.

60 – 69%: Demonstrates a basic level of preparation. There are slips or lapses, loss of continuity, unresolved technical issues, and a lack of attention to musical details.

50 – 59%: The performance is a work in progress, with many errors, slips, and stumbles significantly impacting continuity. Some aspects may show basic preparation, but a satisfactory performance requires more consistent fluency and attention to musical elements and markings in the score.

SAMPLE RUBRIC

| Category | Explanation |
|--|--|
| Pitch Accuracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mistakes – award 22.5 and higher. • Minor mistakes that are quickly fixed – award 20-22. • Occasional slips and lapses – award 17.5-19.5 • Several slips and lapses are present but not enough to completely – award 15-17 • Many slips, lapses, and stumbles that make the piece unrecognizable – award 12.5 – 14.5 |
| Rhythm Accuracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mistakes – award 22.5 and higher. • Minor mistakes that are quickly fixed – award 20-22. • Occasional slips and lapses – award 17.5-19.5 • Several slips and lapses are present but not enough to completely – award 15-17 • Many slips, lapses, and stumbles that make the piece unrecognizable – award 12.5 – 14.5 |
| Interpretation (including phrasing, voicing, articulation, dynamics, and tempo) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent awareness of style and musical interpretation – award 22.5 and higher. • Good stylistic and music awareness – award 20-22. • Some awareness of musical style and understanding – award 17.5-19.5 • Lack of musical awareness and understanding – award 15-17 • Insufficient musical awareness and understanding – award 12.5 – 14.5 |
| Performance Skills (including posture, stage presence, start and end of performance, bows) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident performance that demonstrates a masterful stage presence and ease of movement – award 22.5 and higher. • Good performance that demonstrates an engaging stage presence and bodily control – award 20-22. • Some awareness stage presence, few issues with body and movement control – award 17.5-19.5 • Lack of stage presence, some issues with body movement and control – award 15-17 • Insufficient demonstration of stage presence, many issues with movement – award 12.5 – 14.5 |



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