



Festival 2027

PERFORMANCE EVENT & MUSIC COMPETITION
April 16-24

Event Syllabus

Long & McQuade Richmond Hill, North York, Stouffville, & Chorus Music

Hosted By
Long & McQuade
Richmond Hill

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>What is Festival 2027?</u>	3
<u>About L&M Richmond Hill</u>	4
<u>Masterclasses</u>	5
<u>Adjudication and Grading</u>	6
<u>Awards/Prizes</u>	7
<u>Rules and Guidelines</u>	8-9
<u>Festival Schedule (Piano)</u>	10
<u>Festival Schedule (Voice, Guitar, Bass)</u>	11
<u>Festival Schedule (Drums, Strings, Woodwinds)</u>	12
<u>How to Register and Fees</u>	13
<u>Repertoire Appendix (Piano)</u>	14
<u>Repertoire Appendix (Piano con't, Voice)</u>	15
<u>Repertoire Appendix (All Other Instruments)</u>	16
<u>Grading Scheme</u>	17
<u>Registration Link</u>	18

WHAT IS FESTIVAL 2027?

Festival 2027 is a music performance event and competition hosted by Long & McQuade Richmond Hill, welcoming students from participating Long & McQuade locations across the Greater Toronto Area.

Open to students of all ages and skill levels, the festival provides a unique platform to perform, learn, and be inspired.

What to Expect:

The festival will run from April 16th – April 24th. Festival sessions are organized by instrument, age, and skill level. Sessions are approximately an 60-90 mins in length depending on the category. Each session begins with a masterclass led by a highly-skilled and qualified performer who will then watch each student perform and provide professional and constructive feedback. At the end of each session, students receive their adjudication results and certificates. The top three performers receive placement recognition, while outstanding performances also have the opportunity to earn prizes.

Highlights:

- **Professional Adjudication:** Students receive written and verbal feedback from expert adjudicators, helping them set goals and grow as musicians.
- **Masterclasses:** Each session includes a short masterclass, offering students an opportunity to refine skills and learn in a group setting.
- **Prizes & Awards:** Various values of Long & McQuade Gift Cards will be awarded as achievements are recognized and celebrated.

Benefits of Participating:

- Showcase your talent on stage.
- Build artistry, technical skill, and stage presence.
- Learn from experienced professionals in the music industry.
- Connect with fellow performers who share your passion and love for music.

Our Vision:

At Long & McQuade, we believe music education has the power to build confidence, foster creativity, and inspire life-long passion in students. Festival 2027 reflects that mission by encouraging all participants—beginner or advanced—to work towards new milestones and celebrate musical achievements.

Good luck to all participants! We can't wait to celebrate your talent!



ABOUT L&M RICHMOND HILL

Formerly known as Cosmo School of Music, our Richmond Hill location has been a cornerstone of music education in the Greater Toronto Area for decades. In May 2025, we proudly joined the **Long & McQuade** family, seamlessly transitioning our programs, teachers, and camps to fall under the Long & McQuade umbrella.

With over 50 experienced instructors and more than 1,200 students attending weekly lessons, Long & McQuade Richmond Hill remains a vibrant hub for music education, offering instruction in piano, guitar, voice, strings, percussion, and more. Our commitment to personalized, high-quality learning experiences continues to thrive, now supported by the extensive resources and reach of Long & McQuade.

We are proud to host our second annual music festival—Festival 2027—now as Long & McQuade Richmond Hill. With our expanded reach, we are inviting participation from other Long & McQuade locations across the GTA, providing students with even more opportunities to perform, learn, and showcase their skills.

From innovative programs like Music Discovery, Group Piano, Rock Band, and Musical Theatre, to performance opportunities in our 240-seat Music Hall, our focus has always been on inspiring growth through music. Festival 2027 builds on this legacy while connecting even more students, families, and communities through the power of performance.



MASTER CLASSES

At the beginning of each session, the adjudicator will offer a brief masterclass, providing 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 perform confidently on stage.
- **Musical Expression:** Exploring how dynamics, phrasing, and articulation can elevate the performance.

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 students a fresh perspective, 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 get in the zone and gain inspiration before stepping on stage.



ADJUDICATION AND GRADING

At **Festival 2027**, 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 **five key categories**:

1. **Tone** - How balanced and beautiful the participant sounds playing their instrument.
2. **Expression** - How well the participant uses dynamics and phrasing to enhance their playing.
3. **Fundamentals** - How precisely the participant plays or sings the correct notes and rhythms.
4. **Interpretation** (Stylistic Accuracy) - How well the participant understands and conveys the style, character, and mood of the piece.
5. **Stage Presence** - How the participant presents themselves on stage, including confidence, posture, and engagement with the audience.

Each category will be graded, providing a total score out of 100. A copy of a sample rubric is available on the festival website.

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 System:

Each participant is evaluated individually using a **standardized rubric**, with emphasis on musical development, performance quality, and musicianship. At the conclusion of each session, the three highest-scoring participants receive first, second, and third place recognition.

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 2027 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 the participating Long & McQuade locations. This impartiality guarantees that participants are evaluated objectively, with the focus solely on their performance.



AWARDS AND PRIZES

Festival 2027 offers a variety of Long & McQuade Gift Cards to reward 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:

Outstanding performers across Festival 2027 will have the opportunity to earn Long & McQuade gift card prizes. To qualify, participants must achieve a performance score of 90% or higher.

- 10 x \$100 gift cards
- 2 x \$200 gift cards
- 1 x \$300 gift cards

Notification Process:

Winners will be notified via email with details of their awards 1-2 weeks after the conclusion of Festival 2027.



RULES AND GUIDELINES

To ensure that Festival 2027 runs smoothly and maintains a fair, professional atmosphere, all participants are expected to follow these rules and guidelines. Please read carefully.

Registration and Deadlines:

- All festival registrations must be submitted online by March 15th, 2027.
- The registration fee is \$35 per session. All fees are non-refundable.
- Participants may enter multiple categories if eligible. However, they must perform a different piece in each category.
- Any participant who enters into an incorrect category, or with the same piece twice, will be disqualified.

Arrival and Attendance:

- Participants must arrive at least 15 minutes before their scheduled performance to check in and prepare.
- Participants must remain for the full duration of their session to receive adjudication and be considered for awards or placement.
- Late arrivals may still perform if time permits, but feedback, ranking, and awards eligibility may not be guaranteed.

Performance Requirements:

- Memorization is recommended for Graded Piano and all Voice categories.
- Pop/Contemporary Piano and Orchestra/Band categories do not require memorization, though it is encouraged.
- Repeats are allowed for short pieces (one minute or less). Performers are limited to one repeat per piece. For classical repertoire, observe only Da Capo or Da Capo al fine repeats.
- Transpositions are not allowed, with the exception of Voice categories, where transpositions of one tone or semitone up or down will be accepted.
- Repertoire for Voice categories must be performed in the language(s) given in the printed copy.
- Absolutely no gum during performances.

Sheet Music:

- Participants must bring original, published sheet music for adjudicators.
- Photocopies are prohibited except as a backup copy for adjudication purposes only. These will be destroyed after use.

Instruments and Equipment:

- Long & McQuade will supply standard equipment including a grand piano, music stands, amplifiers, footstools, and sound systems.
- Instruments must be provided by participants, except in piano and percussion kit categories.
- Any additional instruments or accessories are the responsibility of the participant.



RULES AND GUIDELINES

Accompaniment and Backing Tracks

- Either live accompaniment or a backing track is required for Classical Voice and Orchestra/Band categories. Participants are responsible for arranging their accompanist.
- Backing tracks are also permitted, but not required, in the Pop/Contemporary Voice and Guitar/Bass categories.

Instructions for uploading/sending backing tracks will be sent as part of the repertoire submission process.

Interaction with Adjudicators

- Participants, teachers, and parents must not approach adjudicators during or after performances.
- All questions or concerns should be directed to the festival committee via email.

Judging and Awards

- Prize winners will be notified within 1–2 weeks after the festival concludes.
- Any disputes or concerns must be submitted in writing to the participant's Long & McQuade location.

Dress Code

- Formal dress is not required, but participants are encouraged to wear attire appropriate for a professional performance setting.

Conduct and Fair Play

- Participants, parents, and teachers are expected to maintain a respectful and supportive environment.
- Inappropriate or disruptive behaviour toward adjudicators, staff, or participants may result in disqualification.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Piano Categories

The Piano Category at Festival 2027 welcomes students from classical or contemporary repertoire. Participants will demonstrate their technical ability, interpretation, and artistry before professional adjudicators. Each performance will be assessed with a focus on individual progress and musical expression. Students will receive constructive feedback to support their growth and celebrate their achievements. Please see the appendix for suggested repertoire sources.

Sunday April 18, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Preparatory Piano (RCM or Conservatory)	PP1	Open
1:30 - 3:00 pm	Preparatory Piano (Other)	PP2	Open

Saturday April 24, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
9:30 am - 11:00 am	Graded Piano (Grades 1-3)	PGD1	Open
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Graded Piano (Grades 4-6)	PGD2	Open
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Graded Piano (Grades 7+)	PGD3	Open
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Pop/Contemporary Piano (Session 1)	PPC1	8-12
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Pop/Contemporary Piano (Session 2)	PPC2	13+

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Voice Categories

The Voice Category at Festival 2027 welcomes students performing classical or contemporary repertoire. Adjudicators will evaluate vocal technique, stage presence, and emotional connection, with a focus on individual growth over comparison. Each vocalist will receive constructive feedback to support their development and artistry. Please see the appendix for suggested repertoire sources.

Saturday April 17, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
10:00 - 11:30 am	Pop/Contemporary Voice (Session 1)	PCV1	6-10
12:30 - 2:00 pm	Pop/Contemporary Voice (Session 2)	PCV2	11-13
2:00 - 3:30 pm	Pop/Contemporary Voice (Session 3)	PCV3	14+

Sunday, April 18, 2027

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Classical Voice	CV1	Open
-------------------	-----------------	-----	------

Guitar/Bass Categories

The Guitar/Bass Category at Festival 2027 features both rock, pop and contemporary styles. Students will be assessed on technique, interpretation, and expression, with emphasis on individual progress. Each performer will receive constructive feedback and guidance to support their growth. Please see the appendix for suggested repertoire sources.

Friday April 16, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
4:30 - 6:00 pm	Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass (Session 1)	GPC1	6-10
6:00 - 7:30 pm	Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass (Session 2)	GPC2	11-13
7:30 - 9:00 pm	Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass (Session 3)	GPC3	14+

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Drum Kit

The Percussion Category at Festival 2027 highlights rhythmic precision and dynamic performance. Students will perform pieces that demonstrate tempo control, dynamic expression, rhythmic groove, and stage presence. Adjudicators will provide feedback focused on growth and artistic development. Please see the appendix for suggested repertoire sources.

Tuesday April 20, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Pop/Contemporary Percussion (Session 1)	DK1	8-13
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Pop/Contemporary Percussion (Session 2)	DK2	14+

Strings & Woodwinds Categories

The Strings & Woodwinds Category at Festival 2027 welcomes students performing on woodwinds or strings. Performers will be evaluated on technique, interpretation, and presentation, with a focus on individual progress. Adjudicators will provide tailored feedback to support both musicality and technical growth. Please see the appendix for suggested repertoire sources.

Wednesday April 21, 2027

Time	Category	Code	Ages
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Woodwinds	WD1	Open
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Strings	ST1	Open



HOW TO REGISTER & FEES

To participate in **Festival 2027**, follow these steps to complete your registration:

STEP ONE – REGISTER

Visit <https://long-mcquaderichmondhill.opus1.io/w/festival2027> and fill out the online registration form. Select your desired category and pay the \$35 registration fee to secure your spot.

STEP TWO – REPERTOIRE SELECTION

Once registration has been closed, 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 Deadline: March 15th, 2027

Late Registration: Late registrations will be accepted up to one week after the deadline, provided space is available. Additional late fees may apply.

All registration fees are non-refundable.

For any inquiries regarding the registration process, please contact your lesson centre associate.

REPERTOIRE APPENDIX

Please read the repertoire requirements for your category carefully, as any participants not meeting these requirements will be **disqualified**. If you have any questions regarding repertoire selections, please contact the festival committee.

[All RCM Syllabi](#)

[All Conservatory Canada Syllabi](#)

PREPARATORY AND GRADED PIANO

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Preparatory Piano - RCM or Conservatory	Own choice of one piece from either RCM or Conservatory Canada (Classical) preparatory-level repertoire.	PP1
Preparatory Piano - Other	Own choice of one piece from non-RCM or Conservatory Canada preparatory-level repertoire.	PP2
Graded Piano (Grades 1-3)	Own choice of one piece from either the current RCM or Conservatory Canada (Classical) Grades 1-3 syllabi.	PGD1
Graded Piano (Grades 4-6)	Own choice of one piece from either the current RCM or Conservatory Canada (Classical) Grades 4-6 syllabi.	PGD2

Graded Piano (Grades 7+)	Own choice of one piece from either the current RCM or Conservatory Canada (Classical) Grades 7+ syllabi.	PGD3
--------------------------	---	------

POP/CONTEMPORARY PIANO

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Pop/Contemporary Piano	Own choice of one piece.	PPC 1, PPC 2

CLASSICAL VOICE

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Classical Voice	Own choice of one piece from either the current RCM or Conservatory Canada (Classical) Graded syllabi.	CV1

POP/CONTEMPORARY VOICE

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Pop/Contemporary Voice	Own choice of one piece.	PCV 1, PCV 2, PCV 3

GUITAR/BASS

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Pop/Contemporary Guitar/Bass	Own choice of one piece.	GPC 1, GPC 2, GPC3

DRUMS

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Pop/Contemporary Percussion	Own choice of one piece.	DK1, DK2

STRINGS

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Strings	Own choice of one piece.	ST1

WOODWINDS

Category	Repertoire Requirements	Codes
Woodwinds	Own choice of one piece.	WD1

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– the performer recovers quickly 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.

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

[Click Here To Register](#)