



CANADA MUSIC WEEK FESTIVAL 2026

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

KEY DATES

Festival Dates:	November 21-22,2026
Registration Deadline:	October 15, 2026 at 10:00pm PST
Festival Program:	The Program will be posted on the website by November 02, 2026. Spelling corrections will be accepted until November 09, 2026

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ELIGIBILITY

1. Participating teachers must be members of the British Columbia Registered Music Teachers' Association (BCRMTA) in good standing from:
 - a. the BCRMTA Vancouver/Burnaby Branch, or
 - b. the BCRMTA Vancouver/Burnaby Student Teacher Auxiliary.
2. The Festival is open to piano students 18 years or younger as of December 31, 2026 who are studying with an eligible teacher.
3. Participants who register for the Festival but who are studying with an ineligible teacher will forfeit their entry fee and will be disqualified from the Festival.

FESTIVAL ENTRIES

1. Registration
 - a. Registration is open from September 15, 2026 to October 15, 2026 at 10:00PM PST.
 - b. **No changes** to repertoire will be allowed once entries have been submitted.
 - c. **No refunds** will be given after the entry deadline.
 - d. Refunds before the entry deadline: As the Festival is charged for each online transaction, a fee of \$5 of the total to be refunded (whichever is greater) will be subtracted from each request.
 - e. It is the responsibility of the teacher/participant to ensure all entry information is correct. While the festival committee makes every effort to ensure all entries are in the correct class, we accept no responsibility if an entry has been made incorrectly. **Teachers are expected to check the confirmation emails sent to them by the CMW Festival once their student has registered.** If a piece is entered in the wrong level, the performance will be heard and adjudicated but no rank will be awarded.
 - f. **Adjudicator Assistants Requirement:** The SPG festival is a collaborative effort that relies on the support of branch members. The participation of teachers is essential and greatly appreciated.

- After the deadline, participating teachers will receive an email notification and a link to the assistant sign-up sheet when the festival schedule is posted.
 - Each teacher must assist an adjudicator during one festival session. If a teacher is unavailable for any session in the sign-up schedule, they may arrange for a responsible substitute (such as a parent) to sign up to assist on their behalf. However, teachers may not ask students who are participating in the festival to serve as substitutes unless the students are non-competitive adult participants.
 - Students of teachers who fail to assist or provide a substitute as required, or whose substitutes are absent, will **not be eligible** for scholarships or awards.
- g. Teachers should ensure their students' entries are correct including that teacher's email is correct. Teachers are reminded to look out for confirmation emails from the CMW Festival registration system.

2. Program

- a. The Program will be posted on the website by November 02, 2026.
- b. Spelling corrections will be accepted until November 09, 2026. Please email corrections to cmw.bcrmta.vanbby@gmail.com
- c. There is no rescheduling of classes for any reason.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

1. Repertoire Requirements

- a. Pieces may be chosen from any recognized Canadian examination syllabus, however, the CMW Festival will use the current RCM Syllabus (2022 edition) as a guide to grading. Where a piece is graded at a different level by another syllabus, the RCM Syllabus will take precedence.
- b. Participants may choose music from past RCM syllabi (2015 edition and prior), but if the level of the chosen piece has since changed, the current syllabus will take precedence.
- c. Pieces may be chosen from any other source, in this case teachers must use their discretion to place the piece in the appropriate level.

2. Participant Levels

- a. Participants are allowed to enter one entry.
- b. Participants who have passed the practical examination of the Royal Conservatory of Music (or equivalent) by August 31 of the previous year must proceed to the next grade or higher.
- c. Scholarship winners from the previous CMW Festival are not eligible to compete again in a class in which they have obtained first place standing.
- d. Students who have obtained a first place standing in a class from a previous CMW Festival are not eligible to compete again in the same class.
- e. Level 11 is for participants who have passed their Level 10 Practical Examination and are working towards their ARCT Examination. Level 12 is for participants who have passed their ARCT Examination and wish to participate in a post ARCT level.

PROGRAM PROCEDURE

1. It is the responsibility of the teacher/participant to ensure all entry information is correct. If a piece is entered in the wrong level or category, the performance will be heard and adjudicated but no mark or rank will be awarded.
2. There are no try outs and/or warm ups on the pianos at the Festival venue.
3. Music Requirements:
 - a. Memory is compulsory.
 - b. Measure/bar numbers must be written on the score if they are not already printed on it.
 - c. Original music must be presented to the adjudicator. Alternatively, an authorized copy of the score from the publisher with proof of authorization would also be accepted.
 - d. Photocopied music will **not** be permitted. Please note the following exceptions:
 - i. **Out of print music:** Written notice of permission to copy from the publisher, must be provided at the time of performance.
 - ii. **Downloaded sheet music** from internet sources will only be permissible when accompanied by a receipt indicating proof of purchase or proof of public domain status. Music downloaded from imslp.org is permitted. Please include the full URL of the work being performed on the first page of all parts and copies being used.
 - e. Participants who bring either no music or unauthorized photocopied music will receive no marks but will receive a verbal and written adjudication and participation certificate.
 - f. Suitable dress and stage deportment are expected and required.
 - g. Participants, teachers and parents are not permitted to contact the adjudicators anytime during the Festival.
 - h. Photography and videography are strictly prohibited during the Festival.

MARKING PROCEDURES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Certificates

- a. All Level 1 to 12 students will receive certificates with bronze, silver or gold seals along with a verbal adjudication at the end of each class.
- b. First, second, and third ranking will be awarded in levels 1 to 12 classes. First place winners will be announced at the end of each class. There will be no ties for first place.
 - i. Gold - 88 and higher
 - ii. Silver - 84 to 87
 - iii. Bronze - 80 to 83
- c. All Preparatory students will receive a certificate with a red participation seal and a verbal adjudication at the end of each class.

2. Scholarships

- a. First and second place scholarships will be awarded as follows:
 - i. Elementary
 1. 1st place - \$25.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 2. 2nd place - \$15.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 - ii. Junior
 1. 1st place: \$50.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 2. 2nd place: \$25.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 - iii. Intermediate
 1. 1st place: \$100.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 2. 2nd place: \$50.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 - iv. Senior
 1. 1st place: \$150.00 plus gift card from sponsor
 2. 2nd place: \$100.00 plus gift card from sponsor
- b. Scholarships and gift card winners will be posted online at the end of the Festival.

EMAIL ENQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS

1. All festival enquiries must be made **by the teacher by email** to cmw.bcrmta.vanbby@gmail.com. Emails from participants and/or parents will not be acknowledged.
2. Every attempt will be made to return emails within 2 business days.
3. Complaints and protests must be made to the Festival by email to cmw.bcrmta.vanbby@gmail.com within 7 days of the Festival's end. A \$30 fee may be required should investigation be necessary. Any complaints or protests made by telephone will not be entertained. All fees will be returned in full should the protest be sustained. Decisions made by the Committee will be final.
4. If a Festival class is cancelled for any reason, all entry fees will be fully refunded.
5. In the unlikely event the Festival is cancelled, the Festival committee accepts no responsibility for any costs incurred by participants, parents, or teachers aside from the original entry fee.
6. The BCRMTA Vancouver/Burnaby Branch assumes no responsibility for any injury to, or damage caused by, the participants or their musical instruments during the Festival.
7. By clicking "Agree" on the entry form, the applicant has acknowledged that (a) they have read the complete Rules and Regulations and (b) that they agree to comply with the above.