



## 2022-2024 SMFA SYLLABUS – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I get a print copy of the syllabus?

The link to the entry form is on the SMFA website. The cost is \$20 plus \$5 for shipping.

<https://form.jotform.com/80365050458253>

2. How are other groups updating the syllabus for their online entry site? Have or will the entry programmers be copying and downloading the new syllabus to our systems? Any idea how much they will charge us for it?

Solarislive and Music Festival Suite have both been provided with data that they will need for the new syllabus. Contact your provider for information on upgrading fees. JotForm is a viable, inexpensive option for festivals with fewer entries.

3. I live outside the Saskatchewan border but I study with a teacher in Saskatchewan. Am I eligible to enter Saskatchewan Music Festivals?

*Page 7, Regulation #1:*

The Saskatchewan Music Festival is open to any \*non-professional musician who:

- i. lives or principally studies in the province of Saskatchewan, with the inclusion of Lloydminster, Alberta, OR
- ii. studies outside of the province and has competed in a Saskatchewan Music Festival within the preceding 5 years OR
- iii. lives within 100 km of any Saskatchewan border (District Festival entry only, not eligible for Provincial competitions)

4. How do I know which class to enter if I want to advance to Provincial Finals?


Provincial Classes for all disciplines and age divisions are now found under the Provincial Classes tab (pages 27-43). Each class is listed under the Provincial Scholarship Class into which it feeds and is designated with a **(P)**. Those not wishing to compete for advancement to Provincial Finals can enter similar classes listed under the specific discipline.

5. My students are excited about the new Canada West Performing Arts Festival! How do they qualify to participate?

Competitors wishing to represent Saskatchewan at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival (CWPAF) must first enter these classes at the District level. First and second place District Festival winners, receiving a mark of 88 or higher, are eligible to enter the Canada West/Excellence Provincial level. **Each District Festival is allowed two District Winners to the Provincial Finals for each of the Canada West/Excellence Classes.** Alternates will be contacted by the Provincial Office. More information is found under the Canada West Excellence Classes tab, pages 13 and 45-49.


6. According to regulations on CWPAF, does the adjudicator need to recommend the student in order for them to qualify or do they just need to have a mark of 88 or higher?

See answer to No. 5. There is no “recommendation” from the adjudicator. A competitor who earns a mark of 88 or higher AND places first or second in the class automatically advances to Provincial Finals in that scholarship class. In the event of a tie, the adjudicator will be required to choose two competitors.



I also understand that the adjudicator does not recommend students to provincials. They need to enter the class marked with a 'P' and have a mark of 88 or higher. Do I have this right?  
See above regarding CWPAF, which also applies to Provincial classes in 2022.

7. Will District Festivals still have to submit the District Winner Charts for their competitors advancing to provincials, if there are no “recommendations” by adjudicators?  
Yes. A fillable form will be provided, posted on the SMFA website and must be submitted to the Provincial Office immediately after completion of the discipline. You will need to submit names of first and second place winners and alternates with marks of 88 and higher, as well as their marks, email addresses and phone numbers. It is imperative that we receive this information completely and in a timely manner, especially in the event where alternates may need to be contacted.
8. If I enter a Provincial Class, for example, Class 10317 - Piano Solo, Recital Piece (17 years & under) **(P)**, may I enter a different selection in Class 20302 - Piano Solo, Recital Piece (17 years & under)?  
No; page 9, regulation #5 states:  
Solo competitors are **not eligible to enter more than one class bearing the same title in any one District Festival**. For example:
  - i. A competitor entering “Class 20053 - Piano Solo, Baroque (16 years & under)” cannot enter “Class 20054 - Piano Solo, Baroque (15 years & under)”, and
  - ii. A competitor entering “Class 10321 - Piano Solo, Recital Piece (12 years & under) (P)” cannot enter “Class 20307 - Piano Solo, Recital Piece (12 years & under)”.
9. Can a participant enter the same selection in a Provincial Class as well as in the Canada West Excellence class? Example: Class 10321P - Provincial Class Piano Solo 12 years and under, and Class 10910 - Canada West Excellence Class 12 years and under  
Yes. The Canada West Excellence Classes are a separate competition. Repertoire entered in Canada West Excellence Classes is allowed in other classes. (page 9, regulation #2)
10. “Only sanctioned audio/video recording, live streaming or photography may be allowed.” I’m confused about what is and isn’t allowed. Can you explain?  
The District Festival committee may designate an official photographer or audio/visual recorder. No other person(s) may record or take photographs without permission of the committee.
11. What is the qualifying mark for a competitor to advance from the District Festival to Provincial Finals?  
Competitors must obtain a mark of **88 or higher** and place first in the class. In classes where two selections are performed, the combined mark must average 88 or higher.  
**For the 2022 festival year, the Board of Directors has made the following exception to ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY TO PROVINCIAL FINALS: TWO (2) qualified entries (first and second place, with mark of 88 or higher) will be eligible to advance to Provincial Finals from each District Festival in every Provincial Scholarship Class.** Refer to **Syllabus Changes & Corrections** at <https://smfa.ca/syllabus-regulations/>
12. My student entered in one Provincial Class playing the flute and one Provincial Class playing the piccolo. Is she eligible to advance to Provincial Finals?  
No; page 9, regulation #1-ii states:  
Competitors must enter and compete in at least two solo classes in the same discipline at their District Festival. **Instrumentalists must compete on the same instrument**, with the exception of percussion,



where performers play more than one percussion instrument. This rule does not apply to the pianist in the lieder class. Musical Theatre and Voice are considered separate disciplines.

13. A competitor from our festival performed in one solo vocal class earning a mark of 90, and one solo musical theatre class earning a mark of 91. Is he eligible to advance to Provincial Finals?

No; see rule quoted in No. 8 above. **Musical Theatre and Voice are considered separate disciplines.**

14. Can a student advance to the Provincial level of the Canada West Excellence Class if he/she has entered no other classes at the District level?

Yes; the Canada West Excellence Classes are a separate competition, therefore competitors are not required to enter and compete in other Provincial classes.

15. In the Canada West Excellence Classes, does the competitor receive a mark for each selection, or one composite mark? Do competitors receive an adjudication at the District level?

One mark; yes, competitors receive a written and verbal adjudication at the District level.

16. What are the memory work requirements for Saskatchewan Music Festivals?

Memory work is encouraged at the District level, and is **mandatory at the District level of Canada West Excellence Classes**. Memory work is **mandatory at the Provincial level**. Exceptions: the pianist in Lieder Class 10267, choral classes, and Canada West Excellence Chamber Classes 10980 & 10981.

17. Can a participant enter both a non-competitive class and a competitive class in the same discipline? In separate disciplines?

Yes to both questions.

18. What is the difference between a Non-Competitive Recital Class and a Workshop/Masterclass? Can a student enter both classes?

Participants in the recital class would receive a standard length of adjudication, while participants in a workshop/masterclass would receive a more in-depth adjudication. Yes a student may enter both classes.

19. How much time do you suggest we allow in our scheduling for each entrant in the non competitive masterclasses?

There is no prescribed time for the masterclasses. Performance times are indicated in the syllabus by class. Total time allowed in scheduling will depend upon local conditions (i.e. time available, number of entries, finances). The board welcomes feedback on masterclasses in your festival, following your 2022 festival.

20. Are there any parameters to Non-Competitive classes or is it open-ended? Also the World music and Indigenous music classes. How do adjudicators approach this when it is not their specialty or out of the normal range of expertise?

All classes, competitive and non-competitive, are governed by SMFA regulations. The rubric, for example in non-competitive recital classes, is intentionally non-specific to promote and encourage a wide variety of musical interests. Classes are designed to promote diversity and give participants an opportunity for some feedback and to have a safe place to perform. District Festivals will assist adjudicators by providing



them with the draft of their program, including repertoire, in a timely manner.

21. How can we get more involvement in Spoken Word classes?

Talk to your teachers and ask them to learn a poem as part of their language arts program. Most curricula have a public speaking component. Participants can enter non-competitively, if they prefer. Refer teachers and students to the [SMFA Speech Arts Resource](#) found on the SMFA website.

Consider hiring Heather Macnab to do a Zoom session for teachers, to provide them with the necessary information and support to encourage their students to enter in festival.

Find the person, locally, with the interest and passion and approach them personally. Personal contact usually generates the best results.

Consider applying creative problem-solving, such as taking the adjudicator to the school (depending on COVID restrictions, accepting video submissions from classroom entries that would need to travel, waiving the entry fee for school entries where fees aren't covered by the school or school division).

22. I would like to hear other festival's thoughts on giving awards and scholarships for the non-competitive classes. Are scholarships promoting the competitive aspect (winning a scholarship) or are they there to recognize accomplishments (celebrating achievement)?

This is the purview of the District Festival. Adjudicators must be clearly briefed on the local philosophy, guidelines and scholarship regulations. Comments from meeting attendees included:

- Waiting to see what the response is to entering non-competitive classes
- Specific wording of a scholarship, such as *First-time Participant in a Non-Competitive Class*
- Non-competitive classes with no scholarship attached may appeal to a different demographic, which could be important in making the festival experience accessible to all children.
- Classes for young/first-time performers (i.e. 7 years & under) can be designated as non-competitive classes, with certificates/medals being given to all participants. Students wishing to enter competitively would enter 8 & under classes.