

PROVINCIAL SYLLABUS

2022 • 2023 • 2024

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REGULATIONS ON PAGE 7

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2022 – 2024 SYLLABUS

(v09.30.23)

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Established in 1908

Incorporated under the Non-Profit Corporations Act and Canadian Registered Charity

SMFA programs and services reach lands covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Nakota and Saulteaux peoples, as well as homeland of the Métis.

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HISTORY

The Association, envisaged and organized as a provincial body in 1908, was highly successful in achieving its objective: to unite musical societies, individual musicians or groups in Saskatchewan, into one organization for the purpose of holding annual music festivals. But the size of Saskatchewan (about that of Texas), along with its expanding population and transportation system, made District Festivals inevitable, with Unity being the first in 1926.

The SMFA is very proud of its place in history as one of the province's oldest cultural organizations. Its structures and programs have been followed throughout Canada. Inspired by Governor General Earl Grey's vision of a Dominion-wide festival, with support from Fred Chisholm and Frank Laubach, all Saskatchewan musical groups were invited to the first Provincial Festival in 1909, in Regina. The annual festival moved to Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Moose Jaw, and then continued the rotation. Excellent railway service allowed participants, including large ensembles, to come from all parts of the province. Expansion of District Festivals continued until there were fifty-one in 2002, including one fully bilingual event at Gravelbourg. Today, there are 47 affiliated District Festivals.

The Concerto Competition (1979) and the Gordon Wallis Opera Competition (2000), administered by the SMFA, are held in alternating years. In addition to cash prizes, the winners are featured as guest soloists with the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras. With the increased popularity of Musical Theatre, SMFA established a biennial Competition in 2020, held in parallel with the Opera Competition.

In 2009, the SMFA celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the first Provincial Festival with a Centennial Re-enactment Concert held in Regina. In addition, special Centennial classes were heard at the SMFA Provincial Finals, and the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals AGM/Conference and National Music Festival Competitions were held in Saskatoon. SMFA also hosted the FCMF National Convention in 2019 at the University of Saskatchewan. It was a moment of great pride when Saskatchewan soprano, Emma Johnson, was chosen as the Grand Award winner.

At the annual Fall Conference in 2019, SMFA celebrated 110 years! Delegates at this conference were unaware of what was to come with the cancellation of most festivals in the 2020 season due to the threat of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic. The past 18 months (since March 2020) have been very challenging. The 2021 festival season is now history and we can proudly report that the organization worked together to deliver safe and successful District Festivals and a virtual Provincial Finals. We have survived, adapted and are stronger as a result of this challenge.

To summarize we will again look to the wise words of Ms. Hancock: We give thanks for the vision and the effort of all of those who brought us this far in the service of music. We believe that the firm foundation on which the Association has been built will support the vision and effort of our present leaders and those of the future.

*italicized text from Music for One Music for All by Mossie Hancock



EDITOR'S NOTE



The mission statement of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is: '*Promoting excellence in music and speech through competitions, performance, and educational opportunities for all of the people of Saskatchewan'*.

We take this statement seriously. How can we ensure that this unique opportunity is available to all the people of Saskatchewan? The answer is simple and complex. Produce a syllabus that supports this mission. We know that the SMFA Syllabus is an important tool for delivery of our major programs (47 District Festivals, Provincial Finals and also the new Canada West Performing Arts Competition).

For the 2022-2024 Syllabus our committee has focused on the following:

- Regulations Clear and concise rules that support a fair playing field for all participants.
- Inclusivity:
 - Gender specific titles have been replaced with musical and ageappropriate ones
 - Increased number of age categories in several class groupings
 - Added more Grade-level Classes
 - Re-vamped Choral Classes.
- Removal of test piece classes Usage of test pieces had drastically dropped, and we could no longer justify the work involved in providing them. Previous SMFA Syllabi will be made available on the SMFA website as reference for teachers who may require guidance in choosing repertoire for their students.
- Removal of references to Senior, Intermediate, Junior, Elementary and Primary Divisions. References are now by specific age groups (Open, 28 & under, 17 & under, etc.).
- Addition of a "Non-Competitive" group of classes for students who prefer a performance opportunity only.
- Addition of Workshop Classes which are available for all students under the Non-Competitive tab.
- Addition of a "Provincial" tab All Provincial classes are now listed in one location. District level Provincial classes are listed under the Provincial Scholarship Classes into which they feed.
- Addition of Spoken Word Classes for classroom students to encourage participation in this discipline, particularly in school classrooms.

Countless hours have been devoted to making this document organized, comprehensive and easy to read. Thank you to the entire SMFA Board of Directors for your commitment to and passion for this project. Special thanks to our Executive Director, Carol Donhauser, for co-editing this project with me and to our Administrative Assistant, Nancy Toppings, for her expert proofreading.

Our hope is that you find this document has a welcoming tone and that it encourages more students to try the music festival experience. This syllabus will serve as a guide for the unique learning opportunity that builds a community of confident students, engages audiences and connects passionate volunteers. It also directs SMFA's role in the cultural landscape of our vast province, embracing the challenges before us as we endeavour to remain a vibrant and relevant organization.

Sherry Sproule, Co-editor & Syllabus Committee Chair

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) acknowledges the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, which provides substantial funding to the Provincial Association in support of our many community and provincial programs.



SMFA is a recipient of funding through Business / Arts artsvest Saskatchewan.





BA Baskatchewan

The SMFA gratefully acknowledges the generous financial assistance provided annually by our sponsors, donors, and friends throughout the province.

We are thankful for the countless number of volunteers who so willingly donate their time and talents to make our festivals successful.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

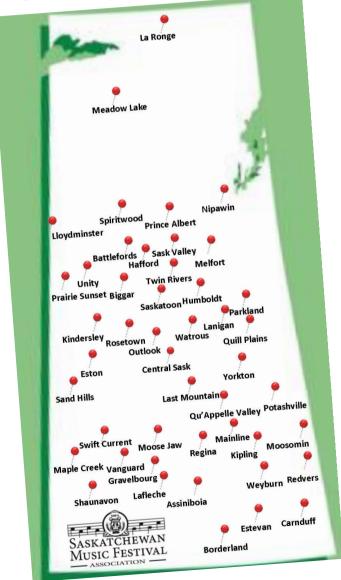
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AFFILIATED MEMBERS OF THE SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

Held annually in 47 communities, the SMFA affiliated District Festivals are organized by local volunteers and judged by qualified adjudicators, following the guidelines in the Provincial Syllabus. District Festivals often provide one of the first opportunities for a child to perform before an audience and be evaluated by a professional musician. These festivals play an important role supporting and supplementing the existing music education network in Saskatchewan. Over \$200,000 in award money is available for students through this community of festivals.



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Event Press Release

Canada West Performing Arts Festival to Premier in Saskatchewan in the Summer of 2022

The provincial performing arts festival associations of Western Canada (BC, AB, and SK) have partnered to present the Canada West Performing Arts Festival (CWPAF)!

The CWPAF will be held in rotation with Saskatchewan hosting in 2022, Alberta hosting in 2023, and British Columbia hosting in 2024.

The CWPAF will feature the top amateur music and speech arts competitors from each partnering province's provincial performing arts festival. Competitors in three different age categories (12 & under, 17 & under, and 24 & under) will compete in a variety of solo disciplines, including Brass, Classical Vocal, Classical Guitar, Musical Theatre, Piano, Speech, Strings, and Woodwinds, as well as the group disciplines of Chamber and Choral (both Community and School Choral).

Participation at the Canada West Performing Arts Festivals, is gained through an affiliated local festival in a participating province (currently this includes BC, AB, and SK). Competitors who fulfill the eligibility requirements, as set forth by each province, may receive recommendation to their provincial festival. From the provincial level, competitors may be recommended to perform at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival.

To learn more about the Canada West Performing Arts Festival, please contact the administrator in your participating province. If you would like to volunteer or sponsor a scholarship at the CWPAF, please contact the hosting province for the coming year (contact information is below).

Provincial Festival Contact Information:

- BC: *Performing Arts BC* www.bcprovincials.com
 - Provincial Administrator: Antonia Mahon 250-493-7279; festival@bcprovincials.com
 - President: Margaret May
- AB: Alberta Music Festival Association www.albertamusicfestival.org
 - Provincial Administrator: Wendy Durieux 403-556-3038; info@albertamusicfestival.org
 - President: RJ Chambers
 - SK: Saskatchewan Music Festival Association www.smfa.ca
 - Provincial Administrator: Carol Donhauser 306-757-1722; sask.music.festival@sasktel.net
 - President: Tammy Villeneuve



DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL FESTIVAL REGULATIONS

GENERAL

- 1. It is the responsibility of all participants to read, understand, and adhere to the regulations. Any breach of regulations may result in disqualification from the competition.
- 2. At no time may a teacher, parent, or competitor engage the adjudicator in conversation prior to or during the competition.
- 3. Adjudicators' decisions regarding performances, marks, placings, and scholarships are final.
- 4. The District Festival President and one other committee member, along with the President of the Provincial Association, constitute a Grievance Committee to act at any festival, should the need arise. Unresolved protests may be submitted in writing to the Provincial Office c/o the SMFA President along with a \$50 fee.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 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)

*A non-professional musician is defined as a person whose principal means of livelihood is not obtained by the performance of music in the particular discipline in which he or she is competing.

- Eligible competitors may enter any District Festival. District Scholarship restrictions may apply. A competitor may represent only one province at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival.
- 3. A competitor may enter any class provided their age does not exceed the maximum age stated. The age of a competitor shall be considered as at December 31 of the year preceding the current festival year. In order to proceed to Provincial Finals, the age of competitor shall not exceed 28 years nor 22 years for Canada West Competition. Exception: Provincial Choral Classes.
- 4. Competing bands and choirs are allowed to use only bona fide members of at least two months consecutive standing up to the time of performing at any one festival, with the exception of Band Class 80201.
- District Festivals reserve the right to refuse entries due to local conditions, facilities, or equipment limitations (e.g. Piano Concertos require two pianos). Please make your requests at least one month prior to the closing date of entries and preferably by December 31.
- 6. Entry forms and fees must be submitted by the closing date. Late entries may be subject to a late fee or rejected entirely. Refunds will not be considered after the closing date.
- Once an entry has been accepted, no changes will be permitted after the entry close date without authorization of the District Festival committee. Changes are to be announced before the commencement of the class involved. Selections marked "TBA" (to be announced) will be rejected.

ENTRY FEES

1. Entry fees, as listed below are maximum fees that may be charged per class.

District Festival Maximum Entry Fees:

Solo: \$50/entry

Small Ensemble (6 or less): \$75 Bands, Choirs, and Large Ensembles: \$150

Note: Entry fees are determined by each District Festival and are published on the SMFA website (www.smfa.ca).

SYLLABUS INFORMATION

The SMFA Syllabus is the official guide for competition in Saskatchewan Music Festivals as set out by the Provincial Board of Directors of SMFA. As the Syllabus is three-year document, users should be aware of all pertinent information (e.g. rules and regulations, syllabus changes and updates). The following can be found on the SMFA website at www.smfa.ca:

- General Competition and Scholarship Regulations
- ⊳ Syllabus Revisions/Updates and Glossary of Terms
- Concerto, Wallis Opera & Musical Theatre Competition Information
- **Provincial Finals Information**
- ⊳ Canada West Performing Arts Festival Information
- District Festival Information including: locations, contacts, festival dates, entry closing dates, entry forms, entry fees, scholarship restrictions, and regulations.
- 1. Following is the division of disciplines as used by SMFA:

Choral	String	Percussion
Vocal	Guitar	Ensembles/Band
Piano	Woodwind	Musical Theatre
Organ	Brass	Spoken Word

- Provincial classes are identified with the letter (P) and can be found under the "Provincial" 2. tab. Before entering, be sure to read the "Provincial Scholarship Regulations" on Page 11.
- 3. Canada West/Excellence Classes can be found starting on page 46. This is a three level competition (District, Provincial, and Canada West). Students wanting the opportunity to participate in this competition must first enter these classes at their District Festival. More information can be found on page 13 and pages 46-48.
- District Festivals may add additional classes and will assign these classes a competition 4. number, followed with the letter (D) for District Festival after the class title. The addendum must be published at least 30 days in advance of the entry close date and posted on the SMFA website. The intent of such classes is to supplement, not duplicate, those already found in the Syllabus.
- 5. Written requests for additional classes may be sent to the District Festival well in advance of festival dates. Such requests will be given consideration and the person making the request will be informed of the decision.
- 6. When an entry does not conform to the class entered in the Syllabus or District Festival addenda, it shall be marked with an "A" to signify 'for adjudication only' and no mark or scholarship will be awarded.
- 7. Syllabus suggestions for the upcoming year must be sent in writing to the SMFA Board of Directors, c/o Provincial Office, before May 31.

SELECTIONS AND PERFORMANCE

- 1. Competitors may not perform the same selection(s) for any festival performance/competition two years in a row, with the exception of the Piano and Violin Senior Performance Classes 20200 & 30090 and the Non-Competitive Workshop Classes.
- The same selection may not be used in more than one class in the same festival, with the exception of the Canada West Performing Arts Festival Classes and the Non-Competitive Workshops Classes.
- 3. Unless otherwise stated in the Syllabus, the term "own choice, one selection" implies a work or portion(s) of a work, not exceeding the specified time limit. Where time limits are not indicated, the term indicates a composition written as a single movement, or one or more movements of a multi-movement composition. A song cycle is considered a multi-movement work. All long repeats (over sixteen measures) may be omitted. The repetition of very short sections may be observed to preserve the structure of the composition. All *da capos* and *dal segnos* should be observed.
- 4. Competitors may perform vocal selections in any suitable key while adhering to copyright regulations.
- 5. 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)"
 - A competitor may enter a Provincial class and a non-Provincial class with the same or similar class titles "Class 10321 Piano Solo, Recital Piece (12 years & under) (P) and Class 20307, Piano Solo, Recital Piece (12 years & under). The competitor may not enter the same repertoire in both classes.

The exception to this rule is lieder classes, where competitors may enter once as a pianist and once as vocalist.

- 6. Memory work is encouraged in District Festivals and is mandatory at the Provincial level, with the exception of the pianist in Lieder Class 10267. Memory work is mandatory in all levels of Canada West/Excellence competitions, with the exception of Chamber and Choral classes.
- 7. Visual or verbal prompting of competitors is not allowed except for Choral and Chamber Music.
- The piano is the instrument to be used for accompaniment. Exceptions are listed in the rubric for each class. Use of a digital piano for accompanying is acceptable using the piano setting and transpose feature, if required. Copyright regulations apply.
- 9. Recorded digital audio, for percussion, is acceptable when published in the score.
- 10. No amplification equipment is to be used, except for digital audio in percussion classes or in specified local addenda classes.
- 11. An original or authorized copy of competitor's music must be provided to the festival committee prior to the beginning of the class. Music downloaded from <u>www.imslp.org</u> is permitted. Please write the full URL of the work being performed on the first page of all parts and copies being used. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure copyright laws are being followed. Please number the first bar of each line. For band/ensembles, full scores are preferred; cued conductor or miniature scores are acceptable. Please number each fifth line in Spoken Word selections.
- 12. Only sanctioned audio/video recording, live streaming or photography may be allowed. SMFA strictly prohibits unsanctioned audio/video recording, live streaming or photography during competitive performance, in order to prevent distractions, respect privacy, and adhere to copyright laws.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

- Copyright infringement is a serious breach of the law. The Copyright Act provides that the owner of the copyright may pursue all civil remedies including damages and an accounting against an individual for infringement of copyright. The individual may also be subject to criminal prosecution and fines. It is also an offence to distribute infringing copies (those photocopied without permission) whether or not it is done for profit.
- Copyright laws will be strictly observed. Anyone using unauthorized altered or photocopied copyright music will be disqualified; no adjudication, mark, or scholarship will be considered for the competitor. Music and literature downloaded from the internet must show authorization from the publisher or proof of purchase. See additional copyright Information on pages 14.

MARKING

Rating	Mark	Performance Standard
A ⁺	or 90 & above	signifies superior performance
А	or 85 to <mark>89</mark>	signifies distinction
A-	or 80 to 84	signifies definite merit

1. The following table indicates the method of evaluation:

Marks/ratings below 80/A⁻ (minus) will no longer be assigned.

- The winner and runner-up of each class will receive numeric marks which may be announced. While marks may be used for administrative purposes, other performers will be given a letter rating on the adjudication sheets and public postings.
- 3. Two types of certificates will be issued. An 'Honour' certificate will be awarded to all winners receiving a mark of 80 or more. A 'Merit' certificate will be awarded to the runner-up in each class. In the case of a tie, a certificate will be presented to the both entrants.

DISTRICT FESTIVAL SCHOLARSHIP REGULATIONS

- 1. District Festivals are responsible for setting their own criteria for scholarships and awards.
- SMFA recommends that, in order to qualify for a district festival scholarship or award, each individual named on the entry form will have entered and competed in at least two classes in the same discipline.
- 3. The District Festival's Scholarship/Award restrictions must be published, at least 30 days prior to the entry close date, on the festival page found on the SMFA website.
- 4. It is the responsibility of the adjudicator to choose District Festival scholarship winners.
- Members of District Festival committees, whose family members or students are eligible for scholarships, must not attend the final scholarship meeting of the adjudicator and scholarship committee.

PROVINCIAL SCHOLARSHIP CLASS REGULATIONS

An annual Provincial Competition will be held for District Winners. Scholarship winners are selected by the adjudicator. If the standard attained is not of sufficient merit, the scholarship will not be given.

INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT FESTIVALS

- 1. Qualified District Winners will be notified within 24 hours following the scholarship meeting.
- 2. A list of District Winners, signed by the Adjudicator, must be sent to the Provincial Office immediately following each scholarship meeting.
- 3. An accurate record of all competitors entered in Provincial Classes, including name, contact information, and marks, must be maintained.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY TO PROVINCIAL FINALS

- 1. Competitors must:
 - i. fully comply with the regulations.
 - ii. 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.
 - iii. obtain a mark of 87 or higher and place first or second in the class. TWO (2) qualified entries will be eligible to advance to Provincial Finals <u>from each District Festival</u> in every Provincial Scholarship Class. In classes where two selections are performed, the combined mark must average 87 or higher. A mark of 87 or higher is also required in the Canada West Excellence Classes to be eligible to advance to the Provincial level. Alternates with qualifying marks will be contacted by Provincial Office.
 - iv. not exceed 28 years of age (except for Adult Choral Classes) or 22 years of age in Canada West Excellence Classes.
 - v. provide their own piano accompanist, page-turner, and instrument (piano being the exception).
- 2. Competitors are:
 - i. eligible to be a District Winner from one or more District Festivals, providing they are not in the same Provincial scholarship class.
 - ii. required to represent the festival where they first became eligible for Provincial Finals. Competitors must disclose previous recommendations to the festival committee as soon as they are notified. The committee will not disclose this information, to the adjudicator, until the scholarship meeting.
 - not eligible to compete in more than one age category in the same discipline nor in Grade A and Grade B Voice. Canada West Excellence Classes are exempt from this regulation.

PROVINCIAL PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS

- 1. Memory work is mandatory at the Provincial level with the exception of the pianist in Lieder Class 10267 and in the Canada West Excellence Chamber Classes 10980 & 10981.
- Competitors and accompanists must provide an original score or authorized copy of their music before performing. Number the first bar of each line in the scores and each fifth line of the Spoken Word selections.
- 3. The maximum performance time is 30 minutes, and all movements must have been performed in the same Provincial Class at the District Festival. Some exceptions may apply (e.g. time limits in Canada West Excellence Classes on pages 46 to 48).

CHORAL CLASSES REGULATIONS

- 1. Choirs advancing to Provincial Final Competitions must submit an audio recording in MP3/MP4 format for adjudication. Recordings may be done during the District Festival performance or any time before the entry deadline. Recordings must be done with the same choir, conductor, and accompanist as in the original performance. The first take must be used. A festival official must supervise and witness the recording. Recordings must be checked for completeness before being forwarded to the Provincial Office. Arrangements and costs for the recording of these classes are the responsibility of the participating Choral Directors and must be made in consultation with the District Festival committee.
- 2. High quality recordings (two selections per class) must be submitted as per instructions on the entry form. No acoustic or electronic compensation, filtering or other enhancement is to be used while recording. Recordings and scores should contain no reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival from which they have been sent. In the event that a recording made during the scheduled performance is blank or seriously compromised, a substitute recording may be made under the conditions outlined above.
- A complete original music score for each selection, containing choral parts and accompaniment, in the correct key, is required for the adjudicators. The first measure of each line in the score must be numbered. All copyrights must be observed.
- 4. Minimum number of singers constituting a choir is 8, except where specifically stated otherwise.
- 5. In classes limited by an upper age, the average age/grade must fall within the age/grade category entered.

PROVINCIAL LEVEL OF CANADA WEST PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL REGULATIONS

- Competitors wishing to represent Saskatchewan at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival (CWPAF) must first enter these classes at the District level. First place and second place District Festival winners, receiving a mark of 87 or higher, are eligible to enter the Provincial level. Each District Festival is allowed two District Winners to the Provincial Finals for each of the Saskatchewan Canada West Excellence Classes. Alternates will be contacted by the Provincial Office. Team Saskatchewan, chosen by the adjudicators at the Provincial Final Competition, will have the opportunity to compete at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival.
- The CWPAF Competition is a separate competition from Provincial Finals. Competitors may enter CWPAF Class without entering a Provincial Class. Repertoire performed in a Provincial Class may be repeated in CWPAF Classes.
- 3. Competition is open to *non-professional Saskatchewan musicians who are 22 years or younger as of December 31 preceding the festival.

*A non-professional musician is defined as a person whose principal means of livelihood is not obtained from the performance of music in the particular category in which he or she is competing.

- 4. Competition groups are as follows:
 - 13 & under
 - 17 & under
 - 22 & under

Age of competitors will be calculated as of December 31 of the previous year.

Competitors must:

- 1. read and comply fully with all CWPAF rules. Competitors are strongly encouraged to read the Canada West Performing Arts Festival Rules & Syllabus in its entirety. This document can be found at https://www.canadawestfestival.ca/festival-details.
- enter a CWPAF Class only in the province in which they live or principally study. If studying outside the province they must have competed in a Saskatchewan Music Festival within the preceding five years.
- 3. obtain a mark of 87 or higher
- 4. perform a well-rounded program, from memory, that comprises works by different composers/authors representing various styles and periods. Individual movements of multi-movement works may be included. Competitors advancing from the District level to Provincial level, or Provincial level to the Canada West Performing Arts Festival will be permitted to make the following changes to their program:
 - add unlimited repertoire (time limits must be strictly observed)
 - replace ONE selection only
- 5. be prepared to introduce themselves, their repertoire and their accompanist (if applicable).
- adhere to time limits, which include introductions, breaks between selections, applause, and any costume changes. The first tuning, before the program begins, is not included in the timing. Time limits are strictly enforced and going over time will result in disqualification.

Notwithstanding any other provision in these Regulations, the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association's Board of Directors shall be the final and binding decision-making authority on all matters pertaining to competitions administered by the SMFA.

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What does the statement above mean? Let's give some examples:

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Submitted in 2016 by the late Darren Schwartz, Saskatoon