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June 7, 2026

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA), now in its 119th year, presented the annual Provincial Finals Competitions and the Provincial Level of Canada West Competition at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon from June 4 to 7, 2026. Adjudicators for the competitions were: **Senior Voice:** Monica Huisman, MB; **Senior Musical Theatre:** Maura Sharkey-Pryma (AB); **Junior Voice/Musical Theatre:** Gwenna Fairchild-Taylor (ON); **Piano:** Younggun Kim, ON; **Strings:** Minna Rose Chung (MB); **Brass/Woodwind/Percussion:** Wendy Zander, MB; **Spoken Word:** Arlene Irwin, AB; **Choral:** Andrea Ciona, AB.

From Thursday to Sunday, over 700 performances by winners from 37 of 44 District Music Festivals across Saskatchewan were heard. Choral entries were adjudicated by recording and were announced prior to the weekend competitions.

Prizes of nearly \$28,000 were awarded during the weekend's competitions, the most prestigious being the Garth Beckett/Gustin House Senior Piano Scholarship of \$1,500 for the most promising pianist under age 21 performing senior level repertoire, the Sister Geraldine Boyle Memorial Award of \$1,500 for the best overall pianist in the competition for 17 years & under, and the Joanne Messer Senior Vocal Scholarship of \$800 for the best overall vocalist in the competition for 28 years & under. Additional bursaries will be awarded to competitors participating in the Canada West Performing Arts Festival in Edmonton in July.

The following were declared Provincial Winners and Runners-Up:

- Class 1 Saskatchewan Choral Federation Choral Scholarship - \$500**RJC Singers (Sask Valley)
- Class 2 Kiwanis Club of Regina-Wascana Gallagher Mem. Scholarship - \$500** Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Regina)
- Class 87 Saskatchewan Choral Federation School Music Scholarship - \$500** Sylvia Fedoruk Grade 4/5 Choir (Saskatoon)
- Class 5 Doris Bircham Memorial Spoken Word Concert Group (17 & under) Scholarship - \$300**..... Isabella Theoret (Outlook)
- Class 6 Alfredo S. Uy Memorial Spoken Word Poetry/Prose (17 & under) Scholarship - \$300**.....Madison Rawson (Rosetown)
- Class 7 Challis Spoken Word Poetry (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200**..... Mattea Gabrielson (Lloydminster)
- Class 9 Lolin Enterprises Spoken Word Poetry (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200** Clara Reiche (Unity)
- Class 10 Lolin Enterprises Spoken Word Prose (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200**..... Jasmine Bolt (Quill Plains)
- Class 11 Goodfellow Memorial Voice Oratorio (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
- Class 12 Goodfellow Memorial Voice Operatic (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Paulina Salisbury (Saskatoon)
- Class 13 Goodfellow Memorial Voice French Art Song (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Keara Van Olst (Saskatoon)
- Class 14 Henri Loiselle Memorial Voice Concert Group (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Paulina Salisbury (Saskatoon)
- Class 16 Goodfellow Memorial Voice Recital (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Paulina Salisbury (Saskatoon)
- Class 17 Emma Johnson Voice Concert Group (22 years & under) Scholarship - \$300**..... Sydney Kelln (Saskatoon)
- Class 18 Heather Laxdal Memorial Voice Recital (22 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Sydney Kelln (Saskatoon)
- Class 19 Heather Laxdal Memorial Voice Lieder (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$150** Keara Van Olst (Saskatoon)
- Class 19 Whelan Piano Lieder (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$150** Avery Guo (Saskatoon)
- Class 20 Regina Music Festival Voice Concert Group (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
- Class 21 A. L.'s Music Voice Folk Song/Ballad (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
- Class 22 Blanche Squires Voice Canadian/SK Music (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300**..... Keira Mahnke (Weyburn)
- Class 23 Covey Voice Recital Class (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** Keira Mahnke (Weyburn)
- Class 24 MYC Voice Folk Song/Ballad (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200** Vesper Stevenson (Saskatoon)
- Class 25 Marilyn Whitehead Voice Recital (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200** Kaia Pas (Saskatoon)
- Class 26 Music for Young Children Voice Folk Song/Ballad (13 & under) Scholarship - \$200** Kadence Trachuk (Lloydminster)
- Class 27 Dianne Gryba Voice Recital (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200**..... Liné Linde (Prairie Sunset)
- Joanne Messer Senior Vocal (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$800** Paulina Salisbury (Saskatoon)
- Class 28 Regan Grant Mem. MT Ballad Classic/Modern (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** .. Alexander Klassen (Saskatoon)
- Class 28 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150**..... John Cody (Saskatoon)
- Class 29 Ursan Family Musical Theatre Ballad Contemporary (28 & under) Scholarship - \$300**..... Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
- Class 29 Runner-up Scholarship - \$200**..... Rundle Ryba (Moose Jaw)
- Class 30 Katja Meszaros Mem. MT Up-tempo Classic/Modern (28 & under) Scholarship - \$500**... Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
- Class 30 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150**..... Forrest Hiebert (Saskatoon)
- Class 31 Margaret Caldwell Mem. MT Up-tempo Contemp. (28 & under) Scholarship - \$300** Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
- Class 31 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150**..... Izzy Adams (Moose Jaw)
- Class 32 Hughton Family Musical Theatre Ballad Classic/Modern (17 & under) Scholarship - \$300** Asher Brown (Moose Jaw)
- Class 32 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150**..... Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
- Class 33 Live Fully Productions MT Ballad Contemporary (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300** ... Natalie Warren (Moose Jaw)
- Class 33 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150**..... Simon Craig (Regina)

Class 34 Sandra Ryba Memorial MT Up-tempo Classic/Modern (17 years & under) - \$300 Asher Brown (Moose Jaw)
 Class 34 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150 Jordan Roy (Saskatoon)
Class 35 Hughton Family MT Up-tempo Contemporary (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Natalie Warren (Moose Jaw)
 Class 35 Runner-up Scholarship - \$150 Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
Class 36 Center Stage Studios MT Ballad Classic/Modern (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Reid Silvernagle (Biggar)
 Class 36 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Ruby Hickman (Lloydminster)
Class 37 Center Stage Studios MT Ballad Contemporary (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 ...Heidi van der Merwe (Regina)
 Class 37 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Jake Loshack (Saskatoon)
Class 38 Strutt & Seibold Mem. MT Up-tempo Classic/Modern (15 & under) Scholarship - \$300 Jake Loshack (Saskatoon)
 Class 38 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 London Wiebe (Saskatoon)
Class 39 Center Stage Studios MT Up-tempo Contemporary (15 & under) Scholarship - \$200 London Wiebe (Saskatoon)
 Class 39 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Jake Loshack (Saskatoon)
Class 40 Krista Brost MT Ballad Classic/Modern (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Elsie Lapointe (Saskatoon)
 Class 40 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Iylah Brown (Regina)
Class 41 Doris Covey Lazecki Mem. MT Ballad Cont. (13 & under) Scholarship - \$200 Kadence Trachuk (Lloydminster)
 Class 41 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Alice Han (Saskatoon)
Class 42 Rosetown Festival MT Up-tempo Classic/Modern (13 & under) Scholarship - \$200 Isabel Neovard (Regina)
 Class 42 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Kadence Trachuk (Lloydminster)
Class 43 Centre Stage Studios Musical Theatre Up-tempo Contemporary - \$400 Elsie Lapointe (Saskatoon)
 Class 43 Runner-up Scholarship - \$100 Kadence Trachuk (Lloydminster)
Class 44 Arlene Stuart Memorial Piano Bach (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Xavier Russell-MacLean (Regina)
Class 45 SMFA Adjudicating Excellence Piano Sonata (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Esther Zhu (Saskatoon)
Class 46 SRMTA Piano Romantic Music (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 April Shi (Saskatoon)
Class 47 Blanche Squires Piano French Music (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Felicia Deal (Weyburn)
Class 48 M. Junice Headley Memorial Piano Concerto (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 April Shi (Saskatoon)
Class 49 Helen Davidson Memorial Piano 20th/21st C Music (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Esther Zhu (Saskatoon)
Class 50 Kathleen Keple Piano Cdn/SK Music (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 April Shi (Saskatoon)
Class 51 Toppings Family Piano Bach (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Michael Xia (Regina)
Class 52 MacKinnon Family Piano Sonata (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Andrew Liu (Regina)
Class 53 England & Ferguson Memorial Piano Romantic (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Boaman Liu (Saskatoon)
Class 54 Perspective Festival Piano French Music (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Andrew Liu (Regina)
Class 55 Verna Veikle Memorial Piano Concerto (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Boaman Liu (Saskatoon)
Class 56 Piano 20th/21st Century (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Andrew Liu (Regina)
Class 57 Hancock Piano Canadian/SK Music (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Boaman Liu (Saskatoon)
Class 58 Dr. Thomas Yu Piano Recital (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Chen Ni Liang (Saskatoon)
Class 59 Borderland Festival Piano Canadian/SK Music (15 & under) Piano Scholarship - \$200 Byeolha Seo (Gravelbourg)
Class 60 Dianne Gryba Piano Recital (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Judy Zhu (Regina)
Class 61 Kathleen Keple Piano Canadian/SK Music (13 & under) Piano Scholarship - \$200 Clara Zhang (Saskatoon)
Class 62 Anna Klassen Piano Conservatory (Grade 9/10) Scholarship - \$300 Chen Ni Liang (Saskatoon)
Class 63 Anna Klassen Piano Conservatory (Grade 8) Scholarship - \$300 Gloria Zhou (Saskatoon)
Class 64 Anna Klassen Piano Conservatory (Grade 6) Scholarship - \$200 Margot Osicki (Regina)
Garth Beckett/Gustin House Senior Piano Scholarship - \$1,500 April Shi (Saskatoon)
Sister Boyle Piano (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$1,500 Boaman Liu (Saskatoon)
Class 65 Fred S. Mendel Memorial Strings Concerto & Sonata (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Zihan Xu (Regina)
Class 66 Mrs. Clare K. Mendel Memorial Strings Recital (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Denys Karnaukh (Saskatoon)
Class 67 Johanna Mitchell Memorial Strings Concerto & Sonata (17 & under) Scholarship - \$300 Tully Shantz (Saskatoon)
Class 68 Robert C. Mitchell Memorial Strings Recital (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Mehtab Bath (Saskatoon)
Class 69 Blanche Squires Strings Concerto & Sonata (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Caleb Samuel (Saskatoon)
Class 70 Regina Music Festival Strings Recital (15 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Alejandro Gahite (Regina)
Class 71 Strings Concerto & Sonata (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Sage Grey (Saskatoon)
Class 72 Lolin Enterprises Strings Recital (13 years & under) Scholarship - \$200 Aiden Seok Wang (Regina)
Class 77 Sandra Senga Woodwind Concerto & Sonata (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Abigail Bowles (Saskatoon)
Class 78 Saskatchewan Band Association Woodwind Recital (28 & under) Scholarship - \$300 Gabby Atkinson (Saskatoon)
Class 79 Sandra Senga Woodwind Concerto & Sonata (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Maia Essien (Regina)
Class 80 Brost Family Woodwind Recital (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Yi Gao (Regina)
Class 81 Brass Concerto & Sonata (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Dongxu Zhang (Saskatoon)
Class 82 Saskatchewan Band Association Brass Recital (28 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Mathis Chu (Regina)
Class 83 Sandra Senga Brass Concerto & Sonata (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Christopher Karjala (Saskatoon)
Class 84 Brass Recital (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Daniel Karjala (Saskatoon)
Class 87 Percussion Concerto & Sonata (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Kayella Robertson (Saskatoon)
Class 88 Maple Creek Festival Percussion Recital (17 years & under) Scholarship - \$300 Kayella Robertson (Saskatoon)

Participants in the Canada West Classes competed at the Provincial Level for the opportunity to represent Saskatchewan at the Canada West Performing Arts Festival in Edmonton, AB, July 24 & 25. The following competitors were chosen to advance to Canada West:

Canada West Classical Voice (13 years & under)	Grace Hall (Estevan)
.....	Alice Han (Saskatoon)
.....	Palmer Tastad (Saskatoon)
Canada West Classical Voice (17 years & under)	Mia Gillingham (Sask Valley)
.....	Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
.....	Keira Mahnke (Weyburn)
Canada West Classical Voice (22 years & under)	Annelise Balzer (Saskatoon)
.....	Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
Canada West Piano (13 years & under)	Boacus Liu (Saskatoon)
.....	Nathan Wilhelm (Mainline)
.....	Judy Zhu (Regina)
Canada West Piano (17 years & under)	Boaman Liu (Saskatoon)
.....	Byeolha Seo (Assiniboia)
.....	April Shi (Saskatoon)
Canada West Strings (13 years & under)	Mariah Bakanec (Prairie Sunset)
.....	Sage Grey (Saskatoon)
Canada West Strings (17 years & under)	Mehtab Bath (Saskatoon)
.....	Vesper Stevenson (Saskatoon)
Canada West Woodwind (17 years & under)	Maia Essien (Regina)
.....	Arthur Glitz (Potashville)
.....	Valerie Rollheiser (Lloydminster)
Canada West Brass (17 years & under)	Daniel Karjala (Saskatoon)
Canada West Brass (22 years & under)	Mathis Chu (Regina)
Canada West Speech Arts & Drama (13 years & under)	Lola Hickman (Lloydminster)
.....	Liné Linde (Prairie Sunset)
.....	Clara Reiche (Unity)
Canada West Speech Arts & Drama (17 years & under)	Julia Miles (Mainline)
Canada West Musical Theatre (13 years & under)	Rachel Glines (Twin Rivers)
.....	Elsie Lapointe (Saskatoon)
.....	Kadence Trachuk (Lloydminster)
Canada West Musical Theatre (17 years & under)	Mia Gillingham (Sask Valley)
.....	Sadie Gryba (Saskatoon)
.....	Jake Loshack (Saskatoon)
Canada West Musical Theatre (22 years & under)	Max Eyre-Wilkins (Saskatoon)
.....	Jocelyn Heroux (Regina)
.....	Alara Lutz (Saskatoon)
Canada West Community/School Choral (16 years & under)	Luther College High School Treble Choir (Regina)
Canada West Community/School Choral (20 years & under)	Cantate Senior Choir (Regina)



Since 1908, the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association has played a major role in the development of a competitive music festival system of the highest standard. SMFA gratefully acknowledges sponsorship from **SaskTel**, continuing support of **individual donors** and global funding through the **SaskLotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation**.

For more information, please contact sask.music.festival@sasktel.net or visit our website at www.smfa.ca.