

General Rules and Regulations

1. The Richmond Music Festival Society is governed by a Board of Directors and managed by an Executive Director. Questions not addressed in these rules should be referred to the Executive Director.
2. All competitions, unless otherwise stated, are open to amateurs only. An “amateur” is one whose principal income is not derived from musical services. This condition does not apply to bona fide students of music who teach for the purpose of applying money earned to further their musical education. The term “professional accompanist,” as noted in String Sonata Classes, is one whose principal income is, or has been derived from, either from the performance, or teaching of music, in subject or class concerned.
3. The festival is open to all eligible candidates who reside within the Province of British Columbia.
4. Complaints and Protests must be received in writing during the festival event and accompanied by fee of \$25.00. Should the protest be sustained, the fee will be returned. All decisions are final.
5. The Richmond Music Festival reserves the right to substitute adjudicators.
6. Upon entering the Richmond Music Festival participants agree to the following liability waiver:
The Richmond Music Festival Society is not responsible for any claims, demands or damages concerning injury to any competitor that may occur during the annual Richmond Music Festival. The Richmond Music Festival Society will not be responsible for any loss or damage to musical instruments, equipment, props, or any other personal property. Acceptance of a competitor’s application for entry into the Festival, releases any responsibility of the Society, its volunteers and staff, from claims, demands, damages, actions or causes of action arising out of, or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage to any competitor, or any competitor’s personal property incurred while attending, or participating in the Richmond Music Festival. The Richmond Music Festival Society reserves the right to use participants’ photos for promotional purposes, unless otherwise informed, in writing, with entry application.
7. Submit and pay for entries online at: www.rmfs.org or mail to: RMFS Entries, Suite #283, 186-8120 No. 2 Road, Richmond BC, V7C 5J8. All entry forms must include full payment. Mailed entries will be charged an additional \$10 service charge per entry for processing. Submit mailed entries on an official entry form.
8. Entries must be received on or before August 7th, 2009. Mailed entries postmarked and received after this date will be returned.
9. Entry fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.
10. In age limit classes, the accepted age is as of September 1st 2009.
11. Time limits will be strictly adhered to and enforced. The competitor must stop when time limit is reached or disqualification will result.
12. Competitors may elect to enter one grade level “only” higher in any repertoire class in the same division. For example, a competitor may enter a Gr. 5 Baroque class and a Gr. 6 Classical class, but may not enter a Gr. 5 Baroque class and a Gr. 7 Classical class.
13. Competitors must elect which class to enter, subject to grade limits, and shall not be eligible to compete in another class in the same section, but may enter classes of a different type. For example, a competitor may enter Gr. 9 Baroque and Gr. 10 Classical but may not enter Gr. 9 Baroque and Gr. 10 Baroque.
14. Music must be provided for the adjudicator and accompanist. This music must be original or an authorized copy from the publisher. Photocopying music is illegal. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
15. Each class is permitted one piece only unless otherwise specified in the class description. (ie. Single Session; Concert Group)
16. Competitors who do not comply with choice of music of the named period will be disqualified.
17. Competitors who do not comply with the grade level in which he or she has entered may forfeit eligibility for an award. Piece and song levels should be based on the two Canadian Conservatory systems. The following Syllabi list will help to provide selection suggestions:
 - a) Royal Conservatory of Music
 - b) Conservatory Canada
 - c) Associate Board of the Royal Schools of Music
 - d) London College of Music
18. Contemporary Composer classes include 20th and 21st century compositions.

19. Contestants in the Piano, Strings and Vocal Divisions should memorize their chosen selections but if they must use music, they must be prepared to lose marks, if the adjudicator so judges. Memorization is optional in ensemble work and in the Woodwind Division.
20. TBA entry forms, will be automatically rejected. A change of selection cannot be made after the entry is accepted or announced as a change on the stage at performance time. The performer will be disqualified.
21. In all classes, once a composition has been used, the same competitor may not use it for a period of two consecutive years.
22. No competitor may perform the same selection in more than one class.
23. No competitor will be allowed to perform apart from the class he or she has entered.
24. Competitors must provide their own accompanists. The Festival assumes no responsibility for arranging or supplying accompanists. The festival will not adjust classes due to accompanists scheduling conflicts.
25. The adjudicator, at his or her discretion, may stop any performance at any time.
26. The piano is the instrument to be used for all selections requiring accompaniment. The use of acoustic guitar is also acceptable. Recorded accompaniment is not allowed
27. Please notify the Festival of any address changes for either the competitor or teacher. The Festival assumes no responsibility for lost entry forms.
28. Class schedules will be made available online approximately three weeks prior to the event. It is the participants responsibility to ensure they have received notification of their class time by reviewing the website class schedules.
29. Programmes will be made available for purchase during the festival event.
30. Upon arrival, the participant should register at the reception desk before their class begins.
31. A participant who is not ready to perform at the designated time will be disqualified.
32. The Festival will not reschedule a participant to an alternate time should they be late for or unable to attend their class.
33. No competitor, accompanist or audience member may approach the adjudicator at any time. This may result in disqualification. Necessary questions from the competitor must be directed to the adjudicator's assistant.
34. Participants are not allowed to approach the adjudicator for lessons during the event. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disqualification and lose of award eligibility.
35. Immediately following the class, music, adjudication sheets, and certificates must be claimed. The Festival assumes no responsibility for music, certificates or adjudication sheets left at the event.
36. No one is permitted to enter or leave the hall while a competitor is performing. The audience must remain silent during performances.
37. Photographing, videotaping or recording any performance is prohibited.

Award Eligibility

38. Unless otherwise stated, all trophies and plaques are the property of the Richmond Music Festival Society and shall be returned to the Festival by the indicated due date.
39. All awards will be based on adjudicator's recommendations.
40. A list of awards and criteria will be listed online and in the Programme and are subject to change.
41. Awards will be presented in the form of trophies, plaques, medallions, and scholarships. Winners will be notified by phone and/or email.
42. Competitors are ineligible to receive the same award in two consecutive years.
43. To be eligible for any scholarship a competitor must be under 30 years of age and have attained a mark of at least 85%.
44. Eligibility for trophies, plaques and scholarships under the amount of \$200 will be based on fulfilling the specific requirement listed in each award criteria.
45. To be eligible for scholarships of \$200 and over, candidates must fulfill the award criteria and compete in at least two classes in the same discipline.

Bursary Eligibility

To be eligible for a bursary, candidates must fulfill the following criteria:

46. Be 22 years of age or under as of September 1st, 2009.
47. Demonstrate a financial need.
48. Submit the necessary documentation requested in the bursary application.
49. Participate in at least two classes in the Senior or Open Piano Division.
50. Attain a minimum mark of 80% in at least one class entered.

A committee comprised of two members from the community at large, and one member from the festival board will review the candidate's application and determine the suitability of the applicant based on documentation provided. The amount of the bursary awarded will be based on documentation provided.

Applications are available online at www.rmfs.org or by request.

Deadline: October 1st, 2009.

Gala Scholarship and Trophy

To be eligible for the Gala Scholarship and Gala Trophy, a participant must fulfill the award criteria and have competed in at least two classes in the same discipline.

Gala Concert

51. If selected as a winner of an award, the competitor must be available to perform at the Gala Concert to receive the award. In the case of illness, verification must be provided.
52. The Festival reserves the right to select performers and repertoire for the Gala Concert. These selections will be based on adjudicator's recommendations.
53. Performers selected to play at the Gala Concert will be notified by phone and/or email. 1st place standing in a class does not ensure that a participant will be chosen to play at the Gala Concert.