



2024 *VAYA Live!* RULES and GUIDELINES

GENERAL:

1. The *VAYA Live!* Festival is under the working management of the VAYA Youth Arts Society. Any questions not dealt with in these rules will be referred to the Directors whose decisions on such matters will be final and binding. The Objectives of the Festival will be the basis for these decisions.
2. **LIABILITY WAIVER:** Acceptance of a participant's entry into the *VAYA Live!* Music Festival will release any responsibility of the Festival Society's Directors, Staff and Volunteers from any claims, demands, damages, actions, or causes of action arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage to any participant or any participant's personal property incurred while attending or participating in the festivals.
3. **ELIGIBILITY:** Competitive classes are open to non-professional performers who are living or studying in BC. This condition does not apply to those bona fide students of the performing arts who teach for the purpose of applying the money so earned for the furtherance of their education and does not preclude occasional remuneration received for services rendered in the arts. Professional musicians are welcome to enter the festival for an adjudication only.
4. Participants may enter more than one selection in any class (e.g., Romantic Composers). A separate entry fee is required for additional selections.
5. 'OPEN' classes are for students who have completed their ARCT diploma.
6. Age limits: Age of competitors is determined as of December 31, 2023.
7. **'PROVINCIAL CLASSES are mandatory for those wishing to be considered for recommendation to the Provincial Festival.'**
 - a. **EXCEPT FOR CHAMBER GROUPS, ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED.**
 - b. In Provincial Classes only, no solo competitor may be over the age of 23, or 24 for vocalists.
8. Rules specific to classes and categories are stated in their sections of the syllabus.

9. Publicity Photos: VAYA reserves the right to take official photographs at appropriate times for archival and publicity purposes.

ABOUT REGISTRATION:

10. Festival entries must be received on or before **MARCH 1, 2024**. Late registrations will be considered if time is available and will be subject to a \$10 late fee.
11. Entry fees for VAYA *Live!* are non-refundable unless for medical reasons and accompanied by a doctor's note.
12. Participants in the Solo and Small Ensemble Festival classes, must enter a grade level higher than their last conservatory examination, except if the examination was completed in January of the festival year.
13. Participants who enter classes with an incorrect choice of music for the period named will be reassigned to the appropriate class.
14. Participants may not use the same composition in following years.
15. Participants may not perform a composition in more than one class in the festival.
16. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason for so doing.

SCHEDULING:

17. Classes may occur on any day during the festival event, and at any time of day between 9:00am and 9:00pm. **As the availability of our festival venues is limited, we are unable to accommodate rescheduling requests.**
18. It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure they are aware of when they are to perform by viewing their online class schedule.
19. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure they are available to perform at the time of their scheduled class.
20. No competitor will be allowed to perform at an alternate time from their scheduled class
21. There will be no printed program. Instead, the full schedule will be posted in advance on the website, and daily updates will be accessible at the festival venues using a QR code.
22. After the deadlines for entries has passed, the order of the programs will be arranged. Under-subscribed classes may be combined.

23. Approximately 3-4 weeks prior to the festival, schedules will be forwarded by email to participants and teachers confirming the class number(s), location, date, and time.
24. Participants who intend to withdraw from any class, are requested to notify the Festival in advance.

REPERTOIRE:

25. Unless specific class requirements state otherwise, repertoire must be stated at the time of registration. Movements must be specified in pieces that require one or more movements. Registrations will not be considered if incomplete. Once registrations have closed, any changes to repertoire must be submitted within 2 weeks after the entry deadline, and must be accompanied by a \$25.00 change fee, after which time no changes will be accepted.
26. Participants will not be allowed to alter repertoire selections at the time of performance.
27. Syllabi of the major Canadian examination bodies provide grade level guidance in making suitable repertoire choices. Repertoire not included in a Canadian syllabus must be at the appropriate grade level for the class.
28. Participants in solo classes should memorize their chosen selections, except in Sonata class or in non-competitive classes.
29. **SHEET MUSIC AND COPYRIGHT:** Each competitor must submit an original copy/score of the music selections to the adjudicator's secretary prior to the class in which he/she is to perform. Competitors must number the first bar of each line in their score(s).
30. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE NOT PERMITTED** except when:
 - a. Written notice of permission to copy out of print from the publisher or direct permission from the composer is provided at the time of performance.
 - b. Downloaded sheet music is accompanied by a receipt indicating proof of purchase or proof of public domain status.
 - c. Music downloaded from imslp.org is permitted if accompanied by the full URL of the work being performed.
 - d. Accompanists display the original score on the piano when using copies to facilitate page turns.
31. **TIME LIMITS:** All selections must be accurately timed and stated on the entry form. Timing shall "begin with the first note and extend to the final note", but shall not include any necessary tuning between selections, verbal introductions, nor applause.

AT THE FESTIVAL:

32. There is no admission charge for festival performances and all sessions are open to the public.

33. Participants should arrive 15 minutes before the time set for their classes, as the time allotted for classes is approximate.
34. Warm-up rooms may be available, but we cannot guarantee this. Warming up and tuning must be completed 10 minutes before the start of the class.
35. **COMMUNICATION WITH THE ADJUDICATOR:** Communication with the adjudicator on the part of competitors, teachers, coaches, or parents prior to competition is absolutely forbidden. Necessary questions from the participant must be directed to the adjudicator's secretary.
36. **ETIQUETTE:** Concert etiquette is expected. NO videos, audio recordings or photographs may be taken during competition or adjudications. Phones must be turned off within the performance venue. Competitors are encouraged to introduce their pieces from the stage before they begin.
37. The audience is requested to be silent during performances and not to enter or leave the auditorium while a performance is in progress, or an adjudication is being given.
38. Performances may begin when the Adjudicator signals.
39. Adjudicators may stop performances when the time limit is reached.
40. The Festival reserves the right to disqualify any participant who is not ready to perform when called upon by the adjudicator's secretary, unless an acceptable reason has been submitted prior to the class.

ACCOMPANISTS:

41. Participants must provide their own accompanists. Some accompanists are listed on our website - www.vayafestivals.ca.
42. The piano is the instrument to be used for all selections requiring accompaniment except Contemporary or Folk Songs where the use of other instruments is acceptable.
43. Recorded accompaniment is permitted for vocal ensemble and choral classes. These groups must bring their own portable sound systems. Vocalists may accompany themselves.

COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS:

44. Complaints and protests must be made in writing during the festival, accompanied by a protest fee of \$25.00. If the protest is sustained by the festival, the protest fee will be refunded.

CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS:

45. Certificates and adjudication comment sheets will be given to participants with their sheet music at the completion of the class.
46. To be eligible for a cash award or more, a participant must have received a mark of at least 85% in at least two classes. However, this does not automatically qualify for an award. The final decision rests with the adjudicators.
47. All participants who achieve a grade of 90% or higher will receive a VAYA Outstanding Performance Medal.
48. The awards program is ongoing. Check our website (www.vayafestivals.ca) for updates.