



SPRING 2025 SYLLABUS

ONLINE FESTIVAL

RULES & GUIDELINES

The VAYA International Music 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.

**PROVINCIAL PIANO, VOICE, STRINGS AND
CHAMBER GROUP SESSIONS WILL BE IN-PERSON ONLY
IN LANGLEY, BC IN MARCH & APRIL 2025.**

ONLINE FESTIVAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2025 – 11:59pm.
Registrations arriving after this date will be subject to a \$10.00 late fee.

Video submission deadlines are staggered to help us manage our workflow:	Video submission deadline	Projected date for return of adjudications
Intermediate & Senior Piano, Piano Concertos	March 15	April 6
Voice, Woodwinds & Brass	March 22	April 12
Strings, Chamber Groups, Composition, Harp & Classical Guitar	March 29	April 19
Junior & Advanced Junior, Piano Ensembles	April 11	May 2

ABOUT OUR ONLINE FORMAT:

1. In lieu of a live performance opportunity, written adjudications are more detailed than would be possible within the time constraints of an in-person festival.
2. Performance videos will be posted on our website (vayafestivals.ca).
3. Due to processing time and budget constraints, certificates and adjudication reports will be sent by email only.
4. We know that the playing field is not as level with this format. The quality of pianos and audio/video recordings will vary. Our adjudicators know to take this into consideration.
5. It may take up to three weeks to receive your adjudications and notices of awards depending on the volume of entries received.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2025 VAYA SPRING ONLINE MUSIC FESTIVAL:

Register HERE:

<https://vayafestivals.ca/vaya-international-music-festival/vaya-international-music-festival-registration/>

VIDEO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

1. Film a video of your performance(s) in one continuous take – one video file for each selection. No video editing is permitted.
2. Try to announce your name and title of selection at the beginning of your video. It helps the adjudicators connect with you.
3. Try to make sure your hands, face, feet, and instrument are visible. We understand that not everyone has the space to make this possible.
4. **VOCALISTS: LIP-SYNCHING IS NOT PERMITTED. NO ADJUDICATIONS OR REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.**
5. **LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT IS NOT REQUIRED.** We will accept pre-recorded backing tracks.
6. Upload your recording to your own YouTube channel as an **UNLISTED** video – so anyone with the link can view it. Upload your video link and a PDF of your sheet music **to the link on your registration receipt** by the deadline date for your discipline. **Please note: We are unable to accept Google Drive or Dropbox links.**
7. **IMPORTANT:** We require **PDF** copies of sheet music for **ALL** entries. **We are unable to accept Jpeg or other formats.** **PROOF OF PURCHASE IS NOT NECESSARY.**

ABOUT REPERTOIRE & CATEGORIES:

1. Competitive categories are open to amateurs only, meaning those whose principal income is not derived from musical services. This does not apply to students of music who teach for the purpose of applying the money to further their musical education. Professional musicians are welcome to enter the festival for an adjudication only.
2. Participants may enter more than one selection in any category (e.g., Romantic Composers). A separate entry fee is required for each additional selection.
3. 'OPEN' categories are for students who have completed their ARCT diploma.
4. Rules specific to certain categories are stated in their sections of the syllabus.
5. Participants who enter categories with an incorrect choice of music for the period named will be reassigned to the appropriate category.
6. Participants may not perform a selection in more than one category in the festival.
7. **Registering in more than one division (eg Advanced Junior Piano and Intermediate Piano) is no longer permitted.**
8. No refunds will be given once video submissions have been received.
9. The festival reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason for so doing.
10. By registering in the VAYA Spring 2025 International Music Festival, participants agree
 - a) to 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, illness, injury, or damage incurred while participating.
 - b) to allow the Society to post their video links on the vayafestivals.ca website.

ABOUT MARKS, AWARDS & CERTIFICATES:

1. Our marking system is as follows:
 - Platinum standard (95%+) Signifies exemplary standards of performance in most areas.
 - Gold standard (90 - 94%) Signifies commendable standards in most areas and excellence in some.
 - Silver standard (85-89%) Signifies a very good standard in most areas of performance.
 - Bronze standard (84%-) Signifies a good overall standard in most areas of performance.
2. Certificates and adjudication reports will be sent via email. We are no longer able to send these through regular mail due to postage costs and processing times.
3. To be eligible for any cash award, a participant must have entered at least two selections and have received a mark of at least 85% in both categories. Final decisions regarding awards rest with the adjudicators. All participants who achieve 90% (Gold) will receive an Outstanding Performance Medal.
4. The awards program is ongoing. Check our website (www.vayafestivals.ca) for updates.
5. If a division is under-subscribed, the festival reserves the right to re-allocate award money to another division.