



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: What is included in the LangleyLive! entry fees?

A: Each entry includes: taxes, order processing charges, and admission for all family and friends who attend your class as viewers.

Q: When will LangleyLive! Adjudicators be announced?

A: Competitors can expect to know the Adjudicators in January 2026.

Q: When will I know my competition schedule?

A: Registrations are scheduled to close on February 15th, 2026. Competitors can expect to know their schedules a minimum of 3 weeks prior to their competition week. LangleyLive! Has posted date ranges for each discipline/instrument on the website. No competitor will hear about their schedule before March 16th, 2026 but can expect confirmations to follow shortly after this date.

Q: Why are the Provincial Class entry fees more expensive than a regular solo class?

A: VAYA offers Provincial Classes for students to practice the BC Provincial Competition format, and also so they may qualify for Provincial Competitions in **one day**. BC Provincial qualifying rules state that all representatives must have competed in at least 2 solo classes at the regional level. At VAYA, our rules state that our Provincial Classes count as two solo classes performed back-to-back. This is the first reason for the cost.

While there are certain awards reserved exclusively for those who participate in both Provincial and Non-Provincial classes at LangleyLive!, we want to take the stress of juggling schedules and travel away for competitors and their families by allowing a competitor to qualify through the Provincial Class rather than attending 3-4 classes over the span of a week.

Another factor in the cost is the length of adjudication. In Provincial Classes, participants and families can expect that there will be time to receive individual feedback and/or a solo or group mini-workshop on a common theme from our adjudicator at the end of each session/class. See the next question for more detail on why this is an important part of VAYA.

Q: What does VAYA do differently from other festivals in the Metro Vancouver Region?

A: The short answer? Many things! Here are some highlights that make our programming unique:

Mini-Masterclass Format

At LangleyLive!, competitors can expect VAYA festival administration to schedule time for meaningful connection between adjudicator and performer at the conclusion of each class. This time is used at the adjudicator's discretion and can look like:

- Coming up to try a difficult passage again with a technical goal in mind.
- Working on a technical detail at the piano / up on stage.
- Information given about style or time period that every participant can learn from.
- All performers trying a technical concept out as a group with the Adjudicator.

In bigger festivals, the competition experience can feel rushed due to tight scheduling and large numbers of entries. Sometimes, the educational experience can become secondary. VAYA is committed to allowing teachers, performers, and audience members multiple ways to learn from our master teachers—through written adjudication, mini-masterclasses, and performance experience—and all without having to travel to attend a workshop scheduled on a separate day.

Provincial Qualifier Classes

VAYA knows participants and their families are busy. A high-quality experience and a manageable schedule are the main reasons we offer Provincial Classes. This also gives clarity to the Adjudicator about which participants are available and committed to attending the PABC competition held each year in June. In June 2026, Provincials will be held in Prince George, BC.

Online International Festival

Each Fall and Spring, VAYA runs an online festival that hears more types of solo Instrumentalists, Speech Arts, Composition, and Musical Ensembles. The online festivals are open to International participants and feature International or Canadian National Artists as Adjudicators. Accessibility is a key feature of our Online Festivals.

Q: What if I cannot attend my scheduled class?

A: Please contact langleylive@vayafestivals.ca and let us know your name and the class #. While there are no refunds unless for medical reason, LangleyLive! Spring Festival participants *may* be able to submit a VAYA International Festival video for adjudication in the online festivals. Unfortunately, there is no option for an online Provincial Class submission for Voice, Strings, Chamber Music, or Piano. Please contact langleylive@vayafestivals.ca to obtain permission to switch to an Online Festival submission.

Q: How are Awards decided?

A: LangleyLive! Is committed to supporting our Provincial Representatives by paying the PABC festival entry fees for their main competitive class. In addition, we award program scholarships, cash awards, and named/themed or merit level medals to our participants each year. Named Awards for 2026 will be updated to the LangleyLive! Website. Please check back in February 2026.

Q: Why did costs increase from the LangleyLive! Spring 2025 festival?

A: Historically, VAYA Youth Arts Society partnered with a local venue that fully sponsored the LangleyLive! competition venue rentals. This greatly lowered operating costs. While we have secured an excellent new venue, the cost is still increased and our entry fees have risen to accommodate without sacrificing other elements of festival.

In addition, VAYA has also reviewed our Adjudicator rates for the 2025-2026 festival. For at least a decade, Master Teachers have been paid a flat rate per day that falls far below the median hourly market rate for their teaching expertise. VAYA believes in supporting Established Artists in addition to our aspiring Young Artists. Our Adjudicators are now being paid on par with other regional festivals.

Q: Will there be an Awards Concert in 2026?

A: Standby! Festival Administration will notify all past and current participants of an Awards Concert for 2026 early in the new year. Attendance at an Awards Concert is not mandatory and will never override an Adjudicator's Recommendation or become a barrier to accepting an award or medal.

Q: When will Woodwinds, Brass, and other orchestral instruments be able to play in the LangleyLive! Festival? How can these players qualify for BC Provincials with VAYA?

A: The post-pandemic reality is that the number of registrants for Woodwinds, Brass, and Choirs did not return to their pre-pandemic levels. The logistics of hiring an adjudicator to travel and hear only 1 hour of playing are a challenge and major factor for why LangleyLive! does not currently hold solo classes for these instruments.

Some Good News? **LangleyLive! will be able to register all instrumentalists in our new Duet Classes** (Registration is under the Chamber Groups Form).

For Instrumentalists seeking a pathway to compete at the BC Provincials, VAYA International Online Festival takes virtual submissions for adjudication and recommends BC participants who the adjudicator feels is playing at a competitive level to advance to Provincials. Registration for VAYA's International Online Festival begins in February for a March/April video submission deadline.