

# VSO SCHOOL OF MUSIC

## **2024 VSO School of Music Festival for Piano**

**March 4 – March 8, 2024**

**Celebration Recital on March 10, 2024**

**Adjudicators: Wayne Weng & Ronald Morgan**

**Application Deadline: Monday January 29, 2024**

The VSO School of Music Festival for Piano is an opportunity for music students of the VSOSoM to participate in a nurturing performance environment in which they perform for one of our professional adjudicators and receive positive and valuable feedback intended to inspire their continued musical growth. Students awarded the highest marks at the festival will be awarded scholarships for continued studies, either at the VSO School of Music or an accredited post-secondary institution at which the participant has been accepted.

### **Piece Selection**

The Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) Syllabus is the syllabus of reference for the Festival. Pieces not listed in the RCM Syllabus or listed in other syllabi such as LCM and ABRSM may be entered in the Festival, as long as they are at the appropriate level for the grade. Teachers are asked to use their judgement on grade suitability.

Levels:

RCM Preliminary or equivalent  
RCM Grade 1 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 2 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 3 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 4 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 5 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 6 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 7 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 8 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 9 or equivalent  
RCM Grade 10 or equivalent  
ARCT or equivalent

Open Class for students 19 and older

Length of Pieces:

The maximum duration for each performance is:

RCM Preliminary to RCM Level 3	-	4 minutes
RCM Level 4 to RCM Level 9	-	8 minutes
RCM Level 10 and ARCT	-	12 minutes
Open Class	-	10 minutes

Piano Duo and Piano Trio Class:

Students are encouraged to participate in duet and trio classes. Indicate the level of the repertoire at the time of registration. Every performer must be enrolled in lessons at the VSO School of Music.

Sight Reading Class:

Sight reading classes will be available for all levels. Students will be grouped accordingly. Students will submit their application for these classes based on their current grade of study. The sight reading repertoire will be approximately 3 grades below the current grade of study.

## Quick Study

As with Sight reading, the student will submit their current grade level, and the adjudicator will choose a piece 1 or 2 levels below their current grade of study. The music will be available to the student 24 hours before the performance class.

## **Fees**

Solos/duos/trios – all ages/levels = \$32.00 submission fee per piece

Sight Reading – all ages/levels = \$20.00 submission fee per class

Quick Study – all ages/levels = \$20.00 submission fee per class

## **Important Dates to Remember**

**Monday Jan 29, 2024**

Deadline for applications - 5:00 PM

**Monday March 4 – Friday Mar 8, 2024**

Festival for Piano - 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Sunday Mar 10, 2024**

Celebration Recital - 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

## **Eligibility and Entry**

- Entries will be accepted only from students currently enrolled in private piano lessons at the VSO School of Music.
- All entrants must be of amateur status, defined as those persons whose principal income is not derived from musical services.
- The maximum age restriction is Grade 12 high school, except for the Open Classes, which have no age restrictions, and is suitable for adult students.
- Entrants are responsible for arranging their own collaborative pianist(s) should they be needed.

- The maximum number of solo entries per student is three (3). Grade level refers to the **level of the piece that is being played**. Students may participate at more than one grade level.
- Groups performing in the **Duo/Trio Class** will participate at the level of their Duo/Trio Class piece.
- Entrants must perform at least two (2) solo entries to be eligible for a scholarship. For any one student, each solo choice is encouraged to be from different musical periods (e.g. Baroque, Classical, etc.) and styles.
- Sight Reading and Quick Study classes will also be available at all levels. It is important to note that all students **MUST** participate in either a sight-reading class or a quick study class to maintain their eligibility for scholarship.
- Entrants repeating a grade in successive years must change their repertoire selection.

### **Awards and Scholarships**

Scholarships are awarded in all divisions to the highest performing student(s) of each division. Decisions for these awards are at the sole discretion of the adjudicators, and as such all decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

Grade levels are grouped into Divisions as follows:

Preliminary and Primary Division — Preliminary, Grades 1 - 3

Junior Division — Grades 4 - 6

Intermediate Division — Grades 7 - 9

Senior Division — Grades 10 & A.R.C.T.

## **Entry Forms**

- Entry forms are available online
  - Solo entries (including Sonata, Concerto, Sight-Reading and Quick Study):  
[http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vsoschoolofmusic/Activity\\_Search/12782](http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vsoschoolofmusic/Activity_Search/12782)
  - Duo/Trio entries:  
[http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vsoschoolofmusic/Activity\\_Search/12781](http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vsoschoolofmusic/Activity_Search/12781)
- Entries must be submitted by **Monday January 29, 2024 at 5:00pm.**
- Entrants should confirm prior to entry submission that they have no scheduling conflicts (e.g band trips) during Festival time. The Festival will not make changes or refunds for any reason other than Festival error or class cancellation. (by the Festival) or medical emergency (with a doctor's note).
- Names of selected works may not be changed after the entry has been submitted.

## **Performance**

- The adjudicator must be provided with an original copy of the score being performed by each student. Copies of IMSLP are acceptable, (include a page with the student's name and copy the link from IMSLP.)
- Teachers are reminded to ensure that their students have **the appropriate copy of the music being performed.** Photocopies are allowed with written permission from the publisher for out-of-print music.
- Music measures are to be numbered at the beginning of each line to assist the adjudicator in making specific remarks. The entrant's name should be marked on the front of the score, and a page marker inserted at the first page of the piece to be played.
- Entrants in Solo classes are expected to perform from memory. This rule is applicable to all classes except for Duo/Trio and Sonata classes.

- Late arrivals to Festival Classes that are not present when they are called upon to perform will be called again at the end of the class performances. If not present, then the entrant will be considered a no-show and will not be able to play later.
- We ask for absolute silence in the hall during the performances. Attendees may be asked by staff to exit the hall if they are not able to maintain silence.
- In fairness to the adjudicator, it is expected that all teachers refrain from identifying who their students are.
- All teachers should refrain from discussing student performances with the adjudicator. Adjudicators' decisions are to be respected and are not open for discussion.
- Teachers may not give the convenor contact information to the public. Problems should be addressed to the convenors, Greg Caisley & Bogdan Dulu, from the teacher.

### **Grading**

All participating students will be awarded a certificate based on the Adjudicator's assessment of their performances. The categories are:

- Gold 88% and above
- Silver 84% to 87%
- Bronze 80% to 83%

Marks are not made public during the Festival. Certificates will not be publicly awarded but will be included with the adjudication sheet in the returned copy of the student's score.

### **Celebration Recital**

- The Celebration recital is open to the public.
- Entrants who receive a gold medal may be invited to perform on the Celebration Recital, based on the adjudicator's highest marks. Any additional awards will be predetermined by the adjudicator and presented to the performers at the Celebration recital. The Celebration Recital has no competitive component.
- It is expected that any award recipient will be available to perform at the Celebration Recital.