

Brant Music Festival Rules

General

1. The Brant Music Festival reserves the right to refuse any entry or cancel any class. With the exception of this rule, entry fees will **NOT** be refunded.
2. The Brant Music Festival reserves the right to divide or combine classes.
3. Where age limits are specified, participants must be of the prescribed age on December 31st of the previous year.
4. All classes are open to amateurs defined as any person whose principal means of livelihood is not derived from the profession of music.
5. Please note that the Brant Music Festival will run from 9:00 AM to 9:30 PM Monday to Saturday. Participants are expected to perform at their scheduled time. No changes once the programme has been set.
6. Please read the NOTES at the top of each section. Any special rules applicable to a particular section or class will be deemed part of the official rules.

General Performance

7. The most recent RCM, Royal Conservatory of Music, and CC Conservatory Canada syllabus **MUST** be used. Crossover times in the event of a new syllabus will be observed as in the Conservatory.
8. All pieces must be performed from memory, unless otherwise stated. The use of music will result in adjudication **ONLY**, with no mark given. Exceptions are noted in individual classes.
9. Unless otherwise specified, all instrumental pieces must be played without repeats.
10. Da Capos and Dal Segnos must be observed.
11. Time limits, where specified, will be strictly enforced.
12. Duet classes do not need to be memorized. However, if music is used, there must be an original copy of the music for both performers **AND** the adjudicator. The use of photocopies will result in adjudication **ONLY**, with no mark given.
13. During quick study and sight reading classes the room will be closed to the public. Parents, teachers, friends, other competitors, and the general public will be asked to leave the hall. They will be welcome to return for the adjudication remarks.
14. For accompanists, photocopies of copyrighted music will be allowed, **provided there is a second original copy in the room.**
15. Participants must provide their own live accompaniment. No taped accompaniment.
16. All participants must supply an original copy of their piece, with bar measures numbered, for the adjudicator.

Entries

17. Registration opens **MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025**. All entries must be received by **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026** and accompanied by the correct fee stated for each class. **LATE ENTRIES** will be accepted until **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026** and accompanied by the correct fee and a **LATE FEE of \$25 per participant. Entries will not be accepted after this date.**
18. Registration fees are to be paid by etransfer. Send fees to **brantmusicfestivalfinance@gmail.com** and

include your **Ciniki Invoice number**, and name(s) of registered participant(s).

19. Participants are limited to one entry per class.
20. Participants entering grade/level classes must not have completed a conservatory exam at that grade level at any time prior to the start of the current festival.
21. Submission of the registration gives permission for use of photos on the website or newspaper.
22. For duets or ensemble classes one entry form is required. Please make sure all participant names and birthdays are clearly marked.
23. The adjudicator will discuss the performance of each participant but only the marks of 3rd, 2nd, and 1st will be read out loud. Everyone will receive a written report.
24. To be considered for an award, you must compete in 2 or more solo classes (not including quick study or sight reading.)
25. Videotaping and photography are allowed by **family** of their own child. **Videotaping the adjudication is strictly forbidden and will result in immediate disqualification.**
26. Adjudicators may not evaluate their own students.
27. Participant's performing schedules will be forwarded to both the teacher and the participant.
28. Performers chosen to compete in BMF's Trophy Night Competition **MUST** perform in at least **THREE** solo classes in their genre's Senior Trophy Classes to be eligible.

To participate in the trophy night competition, performers must have performed in two or more classes at the previous year's festival. To be invited to trophy night this year, a performer must have participated in Brant Music Festival 2025.

Decorum

29. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the festival board or hall manager, and not directly with the adjudicator. **Any contact with the adjudicator is strictly forbidden and will result in disqualification.**
30. All performers and spectators are expected to act in a professional and courteous manner towards their fellow competitors and with the adjudicators. Failure to adhere to this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the Discipline Committees and the Festival Board.
31. The Brant Music Festival is committed to providing a safe and inclusive space for all students to perform and learn. If you anticipate any barriers to your child's learning and participation in the festival, please contact the Discipline Head directly to explore potential options for accessibility.
32. **ADJUDICATORS DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

Speech Arts English

1. All content and material should be age-appropriate and suitable for all ages/audiences. Offensive language (profanity) found in piece selections must be replaced with alternate word(s) to ensure a 'clean' version. BMF reserves the right to reject any selections that have an inappropriate tone, either in style or content.
2. Competitors must present to the Adjudicator the published book or printed source with edited selections clearly marked, or, if selection is from a free website, bring a printed text citing the author and website source.
3. The RCM Speech Arts Syllabus is a good resource for examples of poetry and prose excerpts for all age levels.
4. Memorization is required, except for Public Speaking, where cue cards are allowed.
5. Participants must provide the adjudicator with an original copy of the work being performed. Failure to do so will result in a "for adjudication only" performance.
6. All selections must be taken from published works unless otherwise specified. The RCM Speech Arts Syllabus is a good resource for examples of poetry & prose excerpts for all ages.
7. Competitors will be evaluated on age appropriate selections, poise, elocution, and stage presence.
8. Own Composition - storytelling, poetry, public speaking. Participants must provide a printed copy of their piece.
9. Props and costumes are allowed, but will not be judged. One stage and/or one hand prop is permitted, but not mandatory.
10. To be eligible for awards or scholarships, participants must enter at least two solo classes in the same discipline, not including sight reading or improv classes.
11. Beginner to Advanced levels are eligible for Provincial nomination. Students must enter two (2) classes in this discipline to qualify, but only ONE qualifying selection will be entered as the adjudicator's recommendation on the OMFA form, and that selection must be performed at Provincials. Provincial rules are available by visiting

www.omfa.ca the Ontario Music Festival Association's website.

12. **Eleanor J. Clarke Memorial Trophy** - to be eligible for this trophy, participants must be 16 to 19 years of age and perform in a minimum of three Speech Arts solo classes (not including sightreading classes) at the appropriate level (Intermediate, Senior, or Advanced.) To be invited to the Trophy Night competition, performers must have earned at least one adjudication mark of 85 or more, and participants must have performed in two or more Speech Arts classes at the previous year's festival. To be invited to trophy night 2026, a performer must have participated in Brant Music Festival in 2025.

DEFINITIONS:

Lyrical Poetry - is a short poem that is contemplative, an expression of the inner thoughts and feelings of the poet. It includes sonnets, odes and elegies. Selections exhibit a graceful musical rhythm and flow. The content is reflective and emotional, typically written in the first person, and the story element is of secondary importance to the emotion/feeling. Not dramatized. No (or limited) movement or gestures so that attention is never drawn away from the language.

Narrative Poetry - is a poem that tells a story, or recounts an event through verse. It contains a plot, characters, and a setting. It often contains action and dialogue but is told from the narrator's perspective. Usually written in metered verse but does not need to rhyme. Gestures are allowed for emphasis but it is not dramatized. Any movement should flow naturally from the text and the narrator's interpretation.

Public Speaking - an original organized speech on a topic of the performer's choice. Content must be suitable for all ages, all audiences. The speech should have a defined purpose and clear structure. The speech may be delivered to entertain, influence, or inform the audience. Cue cards are permitted, but eye contact should engage the audience.

SA01 Beginner, 6 to 8 years old

SA01-1 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical or Narrative	\$20.00
SA01-2 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$20.00
SA01-3 - Poetry, Original Composition	\$20.00
SA01-4 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$20.00

SA02 Primary, 9 to 10 years old

SA02-5 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical or Narrative	\$20.00
SA02-6 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$20.00
SA02-7 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$20.00
SA02-8 - Storytelling Solo	\$20.00
SA02-9 - Public Speaking Solo	\$20.00
SA02-10 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$20.00

SA03 Elementary, 11 to 12 years old

SA03-11 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical or Narrative	\$20.00
SA03-12 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$20.00
SA03-13 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$20.00
SA03-14 - Storytelling Solo	\$20.00
SA03-15 - Public Speaking Solo	\$20.00
SA03-16 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$20.00

SA04 Junior, 13 to 14 years old

SA04-17 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical or Narrative	\$20.00
SA04-18 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$20.00
SA04-19 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$20.00
SA04-20 - Poetry Sight Reading	\$20.00
SA04-21 - Prose Solo	\$20.00

SA04 Junior, 13 to 14 years old (continued)

SA04-22 - Prose Sight Reading	\$20.00
SA04-23 - Storytelling Solo	\$20.00
SA04-24 - Public Speaking Solo	\$20.00
SA04-25 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$20.00

SA05 Intermediate, 15 to 16 years old

SA05-26 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical or Narrative	\$22.00
SA05-27 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$22.00
SA05-28 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$22.00
SA05-29 - Poetry Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA05-30 - Prose Solo	\$22.00
SA05-31 - Prose Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA05-32 - Shakespeare Monologue	\$22.00
SA05-33 - Monologue other than Shakespeare	\$22.00
SA05-34 - Storytelling Solo	\$22.00
SA05-35 - Public Speaking Solo	\$22.00
SA05-36 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$22.00

SA06 Senior, 17 to 18 years old

SA06-37 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical	\$22.00
SA06-38 - Poetry Solo, Narrative	\$22.00
SA06-39 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$22.00

SA06 Senior, 17 to 18 years old (continued)

SA06-40 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$22.00
SA06-41 - Poetry Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA06-42 - Prose Solo	\$22.00
SA06-43 - Prose Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA06-44 - Shakespeare Monologue	\$22.00
SA06-45 - Monologue other than Shakespeare	\$22.00
SA06-46 - Storytelling Solo	\$22.00
SA06-47 - Public Speaking Solo	\$22.00
SA06-48 - Duologue, Own Choice	\$22.00
SA06-49 - Multiple Performer Improvisation	\$22.00
SA06-50 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$22.00

SA07 Advanced, 19 to 25 years old

SA07-51 - Poetry Solo, Lyrical	\$22.00
SA07-52 - Poetry Solo, Narrative	\$22.00
SA07-53 - Poetry Solo, Canadian Poet	\$22.00
SA07-54 - Poetry Solo, Original Composition	\$22.00
SA07-55 - Poetry Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA07-56 - Prose Solo	\$22.00
SA07-57 - Prose Sight Reading	\$22.00
SA07-58 - Shakespeare Monologue	\$22.00
SA07-59 - Monologue other than Shakespeare	\$22.00

SA07 Advanced, 19 to 25 years old (continued)

SA07-60 - Storytelling Solo	\$22.00
SA07-61 - Public Speaking Solo	\$22.00
SA07-62 - Duologue, Own Choice	\$22.00
SA07-63 - Multiple Performer Improvisation	\$22.00
SA07-64 - Memorized Bible Passage	\$22.00

SA08 Non-Competitive

Non-competitive classes will receive an adjudication and a certificate, but will not receive a mark or a class placement.

SA08-65 - Poetry Solo, Any age, Any grade	\$20.00
SA07-66 - Prose Solo, Any age, Any grade	\$20.00
SA08-67 - Storytelling, Any age, Any grade	\$20.00
SA08-68 - Public Speaking, Any age, Any grade	\$20.00