

MSM Competitive Festival 2024

RULES AND REGULATIONS

All festival entries and applicable fees must be received no later than
Friday December 22nd 2023.

Entries will be accepted with a \$5 late fee up to one week after the deadline.

Entries received after the extended deadline **will not be accepted.**

~Entries for StudioFest must be received no later than **Monday, January 24th 2024.** StudioFest entries are free to all Merriam students. Late StudioFest entries will be accepted with a \$5 late fee up to one week before the performance date based on availability. Festival entries are **non-refundable.**

~Students can complete their Festival and StudioFest entry forms on our website at members.merriammusic.com. Dates and times of all categories are set and cannot be changed.

~All Festival schedules will be posted on the Festival notice board at Merriam Music on **Wednesday January 31st 2024.** A confirmation email will be sent to the email address listed on your entry application to inform you of the scheduled time for your class/category. You may also refer to the MSM Festival Syllabus for your competitive category date and time window.

~All StudioFest schedules are available in the syllabus. Space is limited so all entries will be handled on a first come, first served basis. Please note that session start times may vary in order to accommodate the demand.

~Festival competitions will run from **February 9th to March 8th** inclusive (Mon-Fri 4:00-9:00pm, Sat 10:00-6:00pm, Sun 10:00-5:00pm). StudioFest will run from **February 3rd - February 8th** inclusive for all Oakville students (Mon-Fri 4:00-9:00pm, Sat 10:00-6:00pm, Sun 10:00-5:00pm), and **January 28th** for Vaughan students (10:00am - 5:00pm).

~All Festival competitions will take place in the Merriam School of Music Oakville, Studio A. Vaughan StudioFest will take place at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts at 10268 Yonge St. Richmond Hill.

~Merriam School of Music will provide the following equipment: 1 grand piano, microphone and stand, music stands, PA System, drum set, guitar/bass amp and patch chords. Festival piano competitions must be performed on the grand piano.

~Student performances will be professionally recorded by our Videographer. Please see our enrolment terms and conditions for more details.

~Performers cannot enter the same piece into more than one solo category and cannot enter more than one piece per solo category.

~Performers of shorter pieces (one minute or less) may perform one repeat of their piece if they so desire.

~**Original Published music must be given to adjudicators on the day of the competition, at the start of the class. Please check your instrument category for more details.**

If the performer requires the original music on stage, photocopies are permitted for adjudicator's marking purposes and will be destroyed after the Festival is complete. **All other photocopies are strictly prohibited and are cause for disqualification.**

~ Students who register for a category that is not the appropriate level or age group will be asked to move or will be disqualified.

~Students that arrive late to a class may be permitted to perform, but will only receive comments from the adjudicator. They will not be considered for placement if the adjudication has already begun.

~Students **must** stay for the full duration of the class in order to receive adjudication and be considered for placement. If a student leaves before the end of their festival class, they will forfeit their chance for placement and scholarship.

~Students may not register with a piece that they have already performed in any previous Merriam Festival Competition; doing so may lead to disqualification.

~Performers must be registered students of the Merriam School of Music at the time of their performance and entry.

~**Memorization is required for all competitive Festival categories**, with the exception of Original Composition and Woodwind Categories. (Performers will receive adjudication but will not be considered for placement if piece is not memorized).

~Performers are responsible for providing their own accompanist.

~The adjudicator must NOT be approached during or after each session and their decisions are **FINAL**. All questions and concerns should be submitted via email to the festival committee at festival@merriammusic.com.

~Entrants performing with a sequence/track will be required to supply their own sequence/track. Sequences/tracks must be MP3 format. Please check all sequences and tracks with the AV technician at the start of each class. All sequences/tracks must be submitted to sequences@merriammusic.com at least 48 hrs before competition date.

~Written adjudication forms will be handed out to each student at the end of each session - original/copy **will not** be kept on file.

~1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards will be handed out by the adjudicator at the end of each festival competition.

~ Students related to any Merriam employee are not eligible for Festival Scholarships.