

**PORT COLBORNE  
FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**



**2025 SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIR  
SYLLABUS**

**APRIL 29 – 30, 2025**

**AND**

**2025 SECONDARY SCHOOL BAND  
SYLLABUS**

**MAY 9, 2025**

**ENTRIES CLOSE JANUARY 31, 2025**

*“Every day we spend without learning something is a day lost” – Beethoven*

## **RULES & PROTOCOL FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIR CLASSES**

- 1) Conductors may be either professional or amateur adults and may conduct any number of classes.
- 2) Conductors **MUST NOT** play or sing with the group they conduct in competition. Staff members may not participate in choral performances.
- 3) A choir **MUST** consist of at least 10 members and a vocal ensemble must consist of 9 members or less.
- 4) An acoustic piano will be available. Accompaniment CDs, without lyrics, can be used for performance. Pre-recorded music **must** be listed on the entry form. These and any other additional equipment used to accompany choirs will be the responsibility of the director. PCFA is not responsible for lost or damaged equipment. If you are unable to provide your own accompanist, you may arrange for one at a fee of \$10.00. (If a rehearsal is required, the fee may be slightly higher.) E-mail the Festival at progsecretary@pcfa.ca **no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>** to make the necessary arrangements.
- 5) **GESTURES** may be used.
- 6) For any **OWN CHOICE** class, the competitor **MUST** provide an **ORIGINAL COPY** of the selection for the Adjudicator's use. This selection must be tagged and delivered on the day of the performance to the Secretary prior to the beginning of the class and recovered immediately afterward. **Music** from the Internet, **with proof of purchase**, may be used for choirs only (not Choral Speaking). A copy of proof of purchase must be presented to the Secretary for approval with the entry form on **January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Entries will not be accepted without it.
- 7) Selections need not be memorized.
- 8) Video recorders will be permitted during these performances.
- 9) The Adjudicator will be available for a brief critique after each category performance. All choir members shall remain within the competition area until the Adjudicator has addressed all performances in their category.

### **AWARDS**

**GOLD EXCELLENCE** Standard signifies that an Ensemble has achieved excellence in all facets of its performance.

**GOLD Standard** signifies that an Ensemble is demonstrating an exceedingly high standard of musical performance.

**SILVER Standard** signifies an above average quality of performance with latitude for improvement.

**BRONZE Standard** acknowledges an average quality of performance.

A Certificate and adjudication sheet will be given to each choir and band.

**TEACHERS:**

**Although there is NO Entry Fee, operating costs that include adjudicators, venues & custodial services have all increased. Therefore, any donation that your school is able to give would be appreciated. Receipts will be issued for donations of \$25.00 or more.**

**SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIRS – NO ENTRY FEE**

**Class #**

**SSC 1. SCHOOL CHOIR – UNDER 25 STUDENTS – OPEN CLASS**

Own Choice – two (2) contrasting selections

**SSC 2. SCHOOL CHOIR – OVER 25 STUDENTS – OPEN CLASS**

Own Choice – two (2) contrasting selections

**SSC 3. SCHOOL VOCAL ENSEMBLE – 9 STUDENTS OR LESS – OPEN CLASS**

Own Choice – two (2) contrasting selections

## **RULES & PROTOCOL FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL BAND CLASSES**

- 1) Conductors may be either professional or amateur adults and may conduct any number of classes.
- 2) Conductors **MUST NOT** play or sing with the group they conduct in competition. Staff members may not participate in instrumental performances.
- 3) Music stands and chairs will be provided for school bands.
- 4) For any **OWN CHOICE** class, the competitor **MUST** provide an **ORIGINAL COPY** of the selection for the Adjudicator's use. This selection must be **tagged** and delivered on the day of the performance to the Secretary prior to the beginning of the class and recovered immediately afterward. **Music** from the Internet, **with proof of purchase**, may be used for bands. A copy of proof of purchase must be presented to the Secretary for approval with the entry form on **January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Entries will not be accepted without it.
- 5) Selections need not be memorized.
- 6) Video recorders will be permitted during these performances.
- 7) The Adjudicator will be available for a brief critique after each category performance. All competing personnel shall remain within the competition area until the Adjudicator has addressed all performances in their category.

## **ADDITIONAL RULES & PROTOCOL FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL CONCERT**

### **DRUMLINE**

(as adopted & adapted from CDA guidelines)

- 1) PCFA will provide a clearly defined performance area at all competitions.
- 2) A drumline consists of marching snare drums, marching multi-tenor drums, marching bass drums and marching cymbals. A competing ensemble must be a minimum of 51% drumline.
- 3) Instrumentation is limited to those instruments typically utilized and recognized as part of a percussion section, that is, the snare, tenor, bass drums and cymbals to form the battery. Electronic instruments recognized as normal stage and band rhythm sections instruments are also allowed. Conventional wind and/or string instruments (other than string bass and guitar) may **NOT** be used. Single tone, non-keyed horn (i.e., whistles, sirens, animal calls, etc.) may be used only if generating an effect and may not be used in any melodic form.
- 4) Pre-recorded music **must** be listed on the entry form.
- 5) For the protection of the wooden competition floors, all equipment must be properly taped or otherwise be prepared to assure that damage to the floors will not occur.
- 6) All performers, instruments, props, cables, stands and costumes must remain **inside** the performance area for the duration of a performance.

- 7) All concert ensemble performers may not change their physical location during a performance.
- 8) Before the performance begins, all non-performing personnel MUST be out of the competition area. Performance time begins with the first note following the introduction of the selection.

**TEACHERS:**

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**SECONDARY SCHOOL BANDS – NO ENTRY FEE**

**Class #**

**SSB 1. SECONDARY SCHOOL BAND**

*This class is open to:*

Junior Band – Grades 9 – 10

Senior Band – Grades 11 – 12

Concert Band – Open Class

Jazz Band – Open Class

Instrumental Ensemble – Open Class

Two (2) Contrasting Selections are Required

**SSB 2. CONCERT DRUMLINE (STATIONARY)**

Open Class

Two (2) Contrasting Selections are Required

**ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN**

**JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year**

**PLEASE SEND ENTRY FORM TO:**

**PORT COLBORNE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**

**P.O. BOX 531**

**PORT COLBORNE, ON L3K 5X7**

**OR**

**Submit entry form electronically to: [progsecretary@pcfa.ca](mailto:progsecretary@pcfa.ca)**