



Annapolis Valley Music Festival

Spring 2024

Choral Syllabus

Table of Contents

Rules.....	page 1
School Classroom Choirs.....	page 4
Intermediate/Senior School Choirs.....	page 5
Community Choirs.....	page 6
Provincial Choral Class Information.....	page 6

RULES

See General Rules for a complete list of Rules. **Beginning in 2024, Choral classes will be offered in a live, or virtual format. AVMF NO LONGER HAS ACCESS TO CHORAL RISERS, SO PARTICIPANTS WILL PERFORM ON THE TIERED STAIRS IN FESTIVAL THEATRE.**

1. It is the responsibility of every teacher or ensemble conductor (choir, band, orchestra or ensemble) to become familiar with the rules and regulations because they will be adhered to through-out the festival.
2. All competitions, unless otherwise stated, shall be open to any competitors without regard to domicile, provided they are residents or students in the Province of Nova Scotia
3. All entries must be fully completed on the appropriate entry form. A separate entry form must be used for each class.
4. Entry forms, with the appropriate entry fees must be received by the Music Festival Registrar no later than March 31.

5. Late entries **will NOT** be accepted.
6. All competitions, unless otherwise stated, shall be open to amateurs only. Professionals may enter the classes marked "Senior/Open", except in senior provincial classes.
7. Members of Choral Societies, Choirs, Orchestras and Bands may be professionals provided they comply with the terms of Rule 8 or 9, except in national choral classes.
8. Every competitor in Choirs, Orchestras and Bands must be a bona fide member of their respective organizations. **THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS MUST BE INDICATED ON THE ENTRY FORM** during years of live competition. This is necessary for seating arrangements.
9. Conductors may be either amateur or professional. Conductors may conduct any number of organizations in the same class or otherwise, but must not sing with their Choir, nor play with their Orchestra or Band, except in Open classes.
10. ALL classes have both a Competitive and a Non-competitive option. Please check the "for comments only" box at registration to be non-competitive.
11. Eligibility for all trophies and prizes is determined by the results of Competitive classes.
12. In Own Choice classes, each competitor chooses stated selection, keeping in mind the quality and standard of the music. Where time limits are stated, competitors must adhere to the rules.
13. All Own Choice selections must be listed on the entry form, TBA selections will not be accepted.
14. All music must be claimed from the Adjudicator's Secretary immediately after the class has been adjudicated during live festival performances.
15. **COMPETITORS MUST SUPPLY SCORES FOR THE ADJUDICATORS** which they must leave at the check in desk 15 minutes prior to the start of live competition. During years of virtual competition, scores must be sent as a PDF to info@avmf.ca at the time of registration. If no music is supplied, five marks may be deducted.
16. **NO PHOTOCOPIES FOR ADJUDICATOR, PERFORMER OR ACCOMPANISTS ARE PERMITTED** unless accompanied by a letter of consent from the copyright owner or publisher. A performer using a photocopy will be disqualified. Downloaded music is permitted provided proof of purchase is supplied.

17. Any contestant wishing to enter the Festival, who cannot find a class to accommodate his/her/their musical instrument or group, should contact us at info@avmf.ca or via telephone at 902 385 3378. Your request will be considered by the Festival Committee.
18. Outstanding participants of the Festival will be selected by the Adjudicators to perform in the “Stars of the Festival” concerts.
19. If contestants wish to be eligible for the Provincial Festival they must enter the required class(es) as stipulated in the syllabus for their instrument or voice.
20. Competitors are asked to notify us at info@avmf.ca or 902 385 3378 of any cancellation, to live performance, at least 24 hours in advance.
21. If a selection exceeds the time limit specified in the syllabus, the contestant may be stopped by the Adjudicator.
22. Competitors must check in 15 minutes before the class is scheduled to begin, in the instance of a live performance. Scores must be emailed with the entry for virtual classes.
23. Participants, parents and teachers are not permitted to go to the adjudicator’s desk to speak to the adjudicator. Any questions may be addressed to the festival administrator via email to gm@avmf.ca.

Competitive Choral Classes

Choirs entering Competitive classes will receive a Gold, Silver or Bronze award if they perform to the standard as set by the adjudicator. There will be no first, second or third awards. The marks will not be disclosed to performers on the adjudication sheets. A number of awards may be given in each category provided that the adjudicator feels that the group is meeting the following standards:

GOLD (comparable to a numerical score of 90-100)

Superior, outstanding performance, worthy of distinction of being recognized as the very best.

SILVER (comparable to a numerical score of 85-89)

Excellent, unusual in many respects. A performance of distinctive quality.

BRONZE (comparable to a numerical score of 79-84)

Good performance, shows accomplishment and marked promise.

PARTICIPANT (comparable to a score of 78 or lower)

A fair performance that shows much room for improvement.

Non-competitive Choral Classes

Choirs entering Non-competitive classes receive a written evaluation of their performance from the adjudicator.

There are no marks given, no rank, and no standard of Gold, Silver or Bronze.

Unison & Two-part Classes

Unless specified as a unison or two-part class in the syllabus, all Own Choice classes can be unison, two-part, or three-part optional. Please check Provincial Rules regarding where the inclusion of two- and three-part repertoire is mandatory to qualify for provincial awards.

ALL MUSIC MUST BE PROVIDED FOR THE ADJUDICATOR. There are no set test pieces for competitive or non-competitive choral classes. All selections are own choice.

LIVE SCHOOL CLASSROOM CHOIRS

C2500 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Kindergarten One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2501 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 1 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2502 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 2 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2503 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 3 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2504 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 4 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2505 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 5 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2506 SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 6 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2507 ELEMENTARY CHORUS Two selections (unison or 2pt) \$50

C2508 ELEMENTARY CHOIR (P-3) Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2509 ELEMENTARY CHOIR (3-6) – UNISON Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2510 ELEMENTARY CHOIR (3-6) – 2 PART Two selections - Own Choice \$50

C2511 MIXED GRADE CHOIR: P-6: UNISON Two selections - Own Choice \$50

C2512 MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P - 6: 2 PART Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2513 MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P - 6: OPTIONAL VOICING Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2514 MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of Elem./ Jr. High Two selections – Own Choice \$50

VIRTUAL SCHOOL CLASSROOM CHOIRS

C2500V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Kindergarten One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2501V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 1 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2502V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 2 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2503V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 3 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2504V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 4 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2505V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 5 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2506V SCHOOL CLASSROOM: Grade 6 One selection - Own Choice \$50

C2507V ELEMENTARY CHORUS Two selections (unison or 2pt) \$50

C2508V ELEMENTARY CHOIR (P-3) Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2509V ELEMENTARY CHOIR (3-6) – UNISON Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2510V ELEMENTARY CHOIR (3-6) – 2 PART Two selections - Own Choice \$50

C2511V MIXED GRADE CHOIR: P-6: UNISON Two selections - Own Choice \$50

C2512V MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P - 6: 2 PART

Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2513V MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P - 6: OPTIONAL VOICING

Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2514V MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of Elem./ Jr. High

Two selections – Own Choice \$50

LIVE INTERMEDIATE /SENIOR CHOIRS

C2515 MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P – Gr. 12 Two selections - Own Choice \$50

C2516 MIXED GRADE FOLKSONG CHORUS – Helen Creighton Collection Any Combination of P – Gr. 12 – OPTIONAL VOICING Two folksong selections collected by Helen Creighton \$50

<http://www.helencreighton.org>

- C2517** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: 2-part SA Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2518** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: 2-part TB Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2519** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: SSA Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2520** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: TBB Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2521** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: SAB Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2522** SENIOR HIGH SSA CHORUS: SSA Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2523** SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: SAB Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2524** SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: SATB Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2525** SENIOR HIGH TTBB CHORUS: Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2526** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: One school Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2527** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: More than one school Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2528** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH Treble voices - More than one school Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2529** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH Lower voices: More than one school Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2530** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH COMBINED CONCERT/ JAZZ CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$60
- C2531** JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH JAZZ CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$60

VIRTUAL INTERMEDIATE /SENIOR CHOIRS

- C2515V** MIXED GRADE CHOIR: Any Combination of P – Gr. 12 Two selections - Own Choice \$50V
- C2516V** MIXED GRADE FOLKSONG CHORUS – Helen Creighton Collection Any Combination of P – Gr. 12 – OPTIONAL VOICING Two folksong selections collected by Helen Creighton \$50 <http://www.helencreighton.org>
- C2517V** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: 2-part SA Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2518V** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: 2-part TB Two selections – Own Choice \$50
- C2519V** JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: SSA Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2520V JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: TBB Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2521V JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS: SAB Two selections – Own Choice \$50

C2522V SENIOR HIGH SSA CHORUS: SSA Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2523V SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: SAB Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2524V SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: SATB Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2525V SENIOR HIGH TTBB CHORUS: Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2526V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: One school Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2527V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH CHORUS: More than one school

Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2528V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH Treble voices - More than one school

Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2529V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH Lower voices: More than one school

Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2530V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH COMBINED CONCERT/ JAZZ CHOIR

Two selections – Own Choice \$60

C2531V JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH JAZZ CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$60

LIVE COMMUNITY CHOIRS

2532 JUNIOR CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2533 ADULT CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2534 MULTI-GENERATIONAL CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2535 COMMUNITY CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2536 SMALL VOCAL ENSEMBLE: Any combination of singers

Two Selections – Own Choice \$70

C2537 UNIVERSITY CHOIR OPTIONAL VOICING Two selections - Own Choice \$70.00

C2538 MIXED AGE FOLKSONG CHORUS – Helen Creighton Collection Any Combination of VOICING Two folksong selections collected by Helen Creighton \$70
<http://www.helencreighton.org>

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY CHOIRS

2532V JUNIOR CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2533V ADULT CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2534V MULTI-GENERATIONAL CHURCH CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2535V COMMUNITY CHOIR Two selections – Own Choice \$70

2536V SMALL VOCAL ENSEMBLE: Any combination of singers

Two Selections – Own Choice \$70

C2537V UNIVERSITY CHOIR OPTIONAL VOICING Two selections - Own Choice \$70.00

C2538V MIXED AGE FOLKSONG CHORUS – Helen Creighton Collection Any Combination of VOICING Two folksong selections collected by Helen Creighton \$70
<http://www.helencreighton.org>

PROVINCIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

RECORDED STREAM

9100 - 9500 Choral - #9100 [9101 – 9113]

Chamber Ensembles - #9200 [9201 - 9203]

Band - #9300 [9301 - 9304]

Orchestra - #9400 [9401 - 9404]

Original Composition - #9500 [9501 - 9506]

PROCESS

The competition is conducted at three progressive levels, from Local - Provincial - National:

1. Local Festival The maximum number of entries recommended from each Local Festival to compete at the Provincial Festival in National Music Festival classes is determined by the Provincial Association. Adjudicators at the Local Festival may choose, in each of the Choral or Ensemble categories, groups that are deemed to be of National standard. The competition is based on the performance of TWO CONTRASTING SELECTIONS, only ONE of which may include brief solo or solo ensemble passages. A signed recommendation along with recordings and a digital copy of the music scores must be submitted to the Provincial Administrator.
2. Provincial Festival Groups submitting recordings to the Provincial level of competition must perform the same selections on which they were recommended by the adjudicator at the Local level. The Adjudicator at the Provincial level may choose, in each category submitted, one group that is deemed to be of a national standard. The adjudicator for the provincial music festival is allowed to send 2 extra groups, chosen from across the classes within each section [choral, chamber ensembles, bands, orchestras], with no more than one extra submission per class. The signed recommendation along with the recording, a digital copy of the music scores, and the entry fee as outlined above must be submitted by June 30th.
3. National Festival Groups submitting recordings to the National level of competition must perform the same selections on which they were recommended by the adjudicator at the Local and Provincial/Local Stream Qualifying Round levels. Recordings are adjudicated and the participants are notified.

CHORAL CLASSES 9100

CHORAL CLASS REGULATIONS

These rules apply to all classes:

Participation is limited to amateur Canadian choirs, performing in the appropriate class[es] at affiliated festivals.

1. A choir may enter only one choral class between #9102 and #9113 at the National level. They may enter Class #9101 [Glee/Show/Musical Group] as well;
2. Only selections performed, adjudicated, and recommended from Local and Provincial Festivals are acceptable;
3. The competition is based on the performance of TWO CONTRASTING SELECTIONS, only ONE of which may include brief solo or solo ensemble passages. Please note that the definition of the term 'selection' for choral classes is "one piece of music by a composer and not two or more short pieces from a collection, cycle or larger work";

4. In classes 9102-9113, the total number of bars of the solo or solo ensemble passage[s] must not exceed 10% of the total length of the selection. In class 9101 [Glee/Show/Musical Group] the total number of bars of the solo or solo ensemble passage[s] must not exceed 20% of the total length of the selection;
5. The inclusion of compositions by Canadian and Indigenous composers is encouraged;
6. These classes are open to equal and/or mixed voices;
7. Ages are determined as of December 31 preceding the festival;
8. Memorization is not required.

CHORAL RECORDING REGULATIONS (FMFNS 2024 CHORAL CLASSES ARE NOT BEING HELD LIVE.)

1. A link to each audio recording is required for submission of choral entries in classes 9102-9113;
2. Class 9101 [Glee choir] requires a video recording submitted by link to a YouTube channel as an 'unlisted' video;
3. Recordings must be completed with the same choir, conductor, accompanist, and accompaniment as in the original local performance. The recording must be one take;
4. No acoustic or electronic compensation, filtering, or other enhancement is to be used while [or post] recording.
5. Recordings and music scores should contain no reference to the name of the choir, its conductor, or the festival, from which it has been sent;
6. All copyrights regarding music must be observed;
7. Choral entries are submitted through the FMFNS website by placing links to the following files in the designated fields of the registration form along with payment of Entry Fee, on or before the entry deadline:
 - A link to the audio recordings for each selection in Google Drive
 - A clear, scanned copy of each score [including a picture of the cover, the receipt for digital purchase, or proof of Public Domain] with the first measure in each line numbered.

GLEE/SHOW/MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP Class 9101

- This class is open to school and community choirs and ensembles [a minimum of 6 singers];
- Any combination of ages and voices;
- Both selections must contain staging and/or choreography;
- Time Limit: 20 minutes;
- Video with Audio.

SCHOOL CHOIRS

- A minimum of 8 singers;
- The members of a school choir must all be from the same school;
- Only one folk song is permitted;
- Audio recording only. Class 9102 – Grade 12 & Under
- At least one selection must be sung in three or more parts

Class 9103 – Grade 9 & Under

- At least one selection sung in two or more parts Class 9104 – Grade 6 & Under
- One selection sung in two parts is strongly encouraged COMMUNITY CHOIRS
- A minimum of 8 singers is required;
- Only one folk song is permitted;
- Audio recording only. Class 9110 – 19 & Over
- The majority of members must be 19 years of age and over;
- At least one selection sung in three or more parts.

Class 9111 – 19 & Under

- No more than 5% of the members may exceed the age limit by more than one year;
- At least one selection sung in three or more parts.

Class 9112 – 16 & Under

- No more than 5% of the members may exceed the age limit by more than one year;
- At least one selection sung in three or more parts.

Class 9113 – 12 & Under

- No more than 5% of the members may exceed the age limit by more than one year;
- At least one selection sung in two or more parts