



2022 Highwood Lions Music Festival Announcement

Warm greetings from your Highwood Lions Music Festival Board!

After such a successful virtual festival in 2021, we have been working behind the scenes to develop a plan for the format of our 2022 festival. Though the pandemic is still a factor in planning, we remain committed to offering a festival experience to our participants that is engaging and encouraging. We have chosen a hybrid model of in person and virtual festival formats for this upcoming year. The festival will run from March 21 to April 8, 2022.

This festival season we will be offering the option to perform in person in accordance with the Restrictions Exemption Program. This means that anyone entering the building (performers, adjudicators, volunteers, teachers, parents or spectators) who is 12 years of age or older will need to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within the previous 72 hours. Masks will be required for everyone in the building. We have made this decision in consultation with our festival venue and the Alberta Music Festival Association, who will be using the REP program for the provincial festival this year. Our choral and group band classes will be held virtually, and we will reach out to instructors to find the best way for adjudication to happen.

Because of our commitment to offer a quality festival experience for all participants, if you choose not to participate in the REP program, you will be able to participate virtually by submitting a video and interacting with the adjudicator through Zoom. Last year taught us just how successful this format can be, and we are excited to have it as an option for participants if they so choose.

Registration will run from January 1-31, 2022. Following registration, participants will receive a link to a survey that will allow them to indicate whether they would like to perform in person or submit a video and interact via Zoom. Participants will need to indicate this choice by February 15 to allow our team to complete the scheduling process.

Please check the syllabus on our website carefully as you make your festival selections. The syllabus is updated yearly and if you have any questions about it you can contact our Helpdesk team at help@highwoodmusicfestival.com.

Our festival operates because of the generosity of our festival sponsors, board members and volunteers. If you are interested in getting involved behind the scenes, I would love to have a conversation with you!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me. We are eagerly anticipating another wonderful festival experience this year!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'CBustin', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chelsea Bustin
Highwood Lions Music Festival President

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What type of COVID test is eligible?

As per the current guidelines for the Restrictions Exemption Program, tests can be PCR or rapid antigen testing. They cannot be one of the free tests currently available for Albertans to pick up prior to the Christmas break. More information on the Restrictions Exemption Program can be found [HERE](#).

What if my performer is under 12 years old?

Those students currently under 12 years old are not required to take part in the REP program. They will not be asked to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test but will be required to wear a mask. However, if the government requirements for the REP program change prior to the festival to include those aged 5-11, our festival will change its requirements to be up to date, and may require a test.

What other COVID protocols will be in place?

Performers will be asked to sanitize or wash their hands prior to entering the performance area. Masks will be mandatory at all times for everyone in the building. Touch points (doors, bathrooms, etc.) will be cleaned several times throughout the day.

What if I perform multiple times? Do I have to get tested multiple times?

If a participant is performing multiple times and will be presenting a negative COVID test, our scheduling team will aim to keep performances within the same day or two so that you can use the same test. In cases where there are many performances, this may not always be possible, but we will keep efficiency in mind to reduce the cost of testing.

How will the virtual festival work?

Virtual participants will submit their videos one week prior to their scheduled session. At their session time, participants will watch each other's performances through Zoom and then the adjudicator will work with them. Marks and certificates will be emailed to them 7-10 days following their session. Virtual participants will receive a mark, full written adjudication, interaction with our adjudicator and are fully eligible for awards and provincial recommendations.

When do I need to choose which way I will perform?

Registration for the festival closes on January 31, 2022. Participants will be sent a survey at the beginning of February that will allow them to choose whether they will participate in person (following REP guidelines)

Can I change my mind about performing in-person or virtually?

Though our festival team strives to be flexible and accommodating, scheduling constraints may not allow us to accommodate changes past February 15. Contact our helpdesk team at help@highwoodmusicfestival.com to see if there is room to switch.

What if my test comes back positive for COVID?

If you planned to perform in person but your test is positive for COVID and you would still like to participate virtually, contact our helpdesk team (help@highwoodmusicfestival.com) to see if there is room for you to switch. We can't promise that it will be possible to switch, but we will do our best!

What are the fees for the festival this year?

Junior classes (12 and under, pre grade 1-grade 3 piano) are \$25 per entry. Intermediate classes (16 & under, grade 4-7 piano) are \$30 per entry. Senior classes (senior or grades 8 and above piano) are \$35 per entry. Choir and Band classes are \$60 per entry. Recital

or concert classes are \$45 per entry and small group performances (duets, trios, quartets and quintets) are \$40 per entry.

Who are the 2022 adjudicators?

Our 2022 adjudicators will be released in early January--check our website [HERE](#).

How do I submit the video and get the Zoom link for my virtual participation?

The video will be submitted as a Youtube link. We'll send detailed instructions to those who have chosen to participate virtually in early February. Those instructions will also be available on our website by February 1.

When will the festival schedule be released?

The general schedule will give a rough idea of which days the disciplines will take place on. This will be released in early January but is subject to change. The final schedule with specific performance times will be released by March 1.

Where do I go to register?

Visit www.highwoodmusicfestival.com at the beginning of January to find more registration details.

What if I have trouble registering or have any questions?

Contact our helpdesk at help@highwoodmusicfestival.com.