

OBA Provincial Band Festival

February 10 – 13, 2020



PARTICIPANT'S INFORMATION PACKAGE

REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING:

1. **Materials:** Syllabus, additional guidelines, and other downloads, can be found on our website: <https://www.onband.ca/CBF/>
2. **Choosing Repertoire:** Please read carefully all instructions in this package, especially those concerning the syllabus and repertoire. You shouldn't be discovering in December or January that you haven't fulfilled the requirements for our festival. In particular, please note that our requirements and syllabus are different from those of MusicFest Canada.
3. **Scheduling:** When registration closes (November 15, 2019), we will begin scheduling bands in the order in which completed registrations have been received. We will do everything we can to accommodate scheduling requests; however, schools whose complete registrations are received closer to the deadline may not receive their first choice for dates and times. The finalized schedule will be e-mailed out as soon as it is complete – hopefully but the end of November.
4. **Refunds:** If you must withdraw from the festival after submitting your registration, we will do our best to fill your spot from the waiting list. After December 20, 2019 we cannot offer a refund of the registration fee unless a replacement band can be found. We also cannot guarantee a make-up time in case of bad weather and/or bus cancellations.

PREPARING FOR THE FESTIVAL:

1. **Bussing:** When booking your busses, try and leave as much time on either side of your performance as possible. Weather is often an issue at this time of year, and if you arrive late, we may need to reduce your warm-up or clinic time so as not to disrupt the schedule. If you arrive after your scheduled performance time, we will do our best to reschedule your ensemble, but cannot guarantee a make-up time. **There is no refund for missed performances due to late arrivals.** On the other hand, although we do our best to stick to the schedule, there are sometimes unavoidable delays, and it is best to allow at least half an hour after your performance slot before your scheduled bus pick-up.
2. **Student Adjudication Forms:** A valuable part of the festival experience is the opportunity to hear performances and clinics by other bands. We have provided a simplified copy of the adjudication form, available for download on our website, which students can use to apply their critical listening skills.
3. **Scores:** We will provide scores for any selections that on our current syllabus (please note, this is not the same as the syllabus for MusicFest Canada). In order that the adjudicators are able to provide you specific feedback in their adjudications, **we require that you provide two original scores for each of your pieces that is not on our current syllabus.** Please note that photocopying scores is illegal without written permission from the copyright owner (usually the publisher). We suggest ordering scores from your local music retailer, at least a month ahead of the festival, to ensure they arrive in time.
4. **Downloads:** In addition to student adjudication forms, other helpful downloads are also provided on the website, including a student leadership award form which should be filled out and submitted at registration.

FESTIVAL DAY GUIDELINES:

1. Plan to arrive **at least one hour before your performance time**, and allow **at least one half-hour afterwards** for unforeseen delays, the group photo, and time to pack your things. We also strongly encourage you to arrive early or stay late to watch other ensembles. This is a festival and we encourage the wonderful opportunities to listen to other groups! Parents are also welcome to join us!

2. You are required to bring these items to the Festival:

- Two original copies of scores for pieces which are not on the OBA Festival syllabus – **make sure these scores have your school name on them!**
- **USB stick each ensemble, labeled, for clinic and adjudication recording – minimum 4MB each**
- Your ensemble's bio
- Completed Student Leadership form

3. Your allocated Warm-up Room time will occur in the time slot prior to your performance slot. Under ideal conditions, your warm-up time will be approximately 15-20 minutes. Please be ready to move your band to your assigned Performance Hall immediately, when asked to do so.
4. We will help gather your band outside your assigned Warm-up Room approximately 5 minutes ahead of your warm-up time. We must maintain a tight schedule. Your warm-up time will begin as soon as the outgoing band leaves the warm-up room.

Stage time will be strictly enforced. Stage time includes set-up, a brief warm-up chorale, performance, AND clinic. B100 will be allowed 25 minutes, B200 & B300 will have 30 minutes, and B400 & B500 will have 35 minutes. Please try to avoid extensive individual tuning on stage. Example: A B300 level band performs 2 pieces totaling 12 minutes. This will leave approximately 23 minutes for set-up, warm-up, introduction, transitions between pieces, and clinic.

5. Bands are to use the percussion equipment generously loaned to us by St. John's Music, with assistance from Yamaha Canada. Please, only use alternative percussion if they do not provide that which you need.
6. **DO NOT** rearrange the chairs/music stands, etc., in either the warm-up hall or performance hall.
7. **PHOTOGRAPHY:** PSP Sundance Photography will be on-site to take photographs of your group after the performance – further details for purchasing photos will follow. You may want to encourage students to consider ordering a souvenir photo of your group. You can obtain information from their website at: <http://www.pspundance.ca/>
8. **AT THE VENUE:** *Le Parc Conference Centre* (<http://www.leparc.ca/>) will have concession-style food service. While nothing is guaranteed, a sample of foods and snacks that may be available are: coffee, tea, pop, milk, chips, candy, muffins, pastries, soup, sandwiches, pizza slices, hot dogs, salads, fruit, french fries, and brownies. Please, no outside food, other than students' bag lunches from home. We ask that you be mindful of food allergies re: home lunches/snacks. There is an ATM in the parking lot just west of Le Parc's main doors.

Please note that several schools will be sharing the storage space at any one time. Although we have student volunteers monitoring the area, we highly recommend not bringing expensive personal items such as tablets/laptops, etc., that would have to be left unattended in storage while the band is performing. The OBA and Le Parc will not be responsible for any damage or loss to personal items left in the storage room. Any items left behind at the end of the day will be collected in our lost and found, which will be held at Le Parc for the remainder of the week. An e-mail will be sent to directors following the festival notifying them of any unclaimed items.

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LEVELS & REPERTOIRE:

In general, the repertoire guidelines exist to ensure that ensembles are presenting the best set of repertoire on which to be adjudicated. This means not only an appropriate amount of music at an appropriate level for the ensemble, but also diversity of style and genre. In addition to the guidelines below, arrangements of pop music, film music, musical theatre, etc., are not permitted.

Syllabus: Our syllabus is curated by our PBF organizers and is comprised of repertoire we believe is of high quality and allows ensembles to demonstrate a wide variety of styles and techniques. **We require that every ensemble select one piece from our syllabus at the class level at which they wish to be adjudicated.** It is suggested that you choose all of your repertoire at the same level as your syllabus selection, but it is also possible to choose music at other levels if you feel it is appropriately challenging for your ensemble. If you receive an invitation to MusicFest Nationals, you will be invited to compete at the same level at which you are entered for our festival. **Please note that although we are affiliated with MusicFest Canada, our syllabus is not the same.**

Lyrical requirement: We also feel that lyrical playing is an important part of every ensemble's toolbox. We therefore also require that every band's performance includes a significant lyrical component. This can be an entire piece, or it can be a significant section or movement of a piece. Suitable examples include: a stand-alone work such as *A Scottish Ballade*; the entire *Three Folk Miniatures*, which includes a lyrical movement; only the second movement from the Second Suite in F; or a work such as *The Hounds of Spring*, which has a substantial lyrical section. A short, lyrical introduction to an otherwise up-tempo work would not be enough to fulfill this requirement. **Please note: it is possible to choose one complete piece from the syllabus that is lyrical or contains a lyrical section or movement and thereby satisfy both requirements with one piece.**

Length of program: Finally, since musical works vary greatly in terms of length and musical content, rather than requiring a certain number of pieces, we are suggesting an amount of music by time instead. The specific guidelines are below, according to class level. In general, for bands at lower class levels (100 & 200), this will mean either three shorter works or two longer ones. We highly recommend choosing repertoire that shows contrast, variety, and balance: choosing two works by the same composer, for instance, or whose musical content is very similar, is not recommended. For bands at higher class levels, in most cases, two contrasting pieces will be sufficient. There are also certain longer works that would satisfy all of the requirements and recommendations unto themselves; for example, *Lincolnshire Posy*, *Suite Française*, *Give Us This Day*, or *A Movement for Rosa*. **Please keep in mind that the total stage time includes your clinic.** Therefore, more music, a wordy written ensemble bio, more complex percussion setups, longer warm-ups or chorales, and time taken between pieces will all result in less time with your clinician.

SUMMARY:

All bands regardless of class level must perform:

- one selection from the current OBA syllabus at the level at which they are registered
- one selection must be slow and lyrical, or contain a significant lyrical section, as outlined above
- B100-level bands – 25 minutes total onstage time – recommend about 8-10 minutes of music
- B200-level bands – 30 minutes total onstage time – recommend about 9-12 minutes of music
- B300-level bands – 30 minutes total onstage time – recommend about 10-13 minutes of music
- B400, B500, B600-level bands – 35 minutes total onstage time – recommend **no more than 16 minutes of music.**

N.B. The OBA syllabus has been changed from previous years, and is also **NOT** the same as the MusicFest Canada syllabus

N.B. Your ensemble must be registered (and will be adjudicated) at the level of your syllabus selection, so please ensure that you choose a piece from the appropriate level for your ensemble. If your repertoire includes multiple syllabus selections from different levels of the syllabus, you may decide at which of those levels to register your ensemble, and you will be adjudicated accordingly. **If you have any questions about syllabus or repertoire, please contact us immediately – December/January is too late! bandfestival@onband.ca**

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EQUIPMENT:

Please do not bring percussion equipment which is supplied by the Festival (e.g., drum kit). You will not be allowed to bring this equipment on stage. This protocol will save time in set-up and give due respect to our percussion sponsors, St. John's Music and Yamaha Canada.

Equipment	Warm-up	Hall #1	Hall #2
Chairs & Stands	X	X	X
4 timpani		X	X
Concert snare drum & stand	X	X	X
Concert bass drum & stand	X	X	X
4 Concert toms & stands		X	X
Gong & stand		X	X
Orchestra bells & stand	X	X	X
Xylophone		X	X
Vibraphone		X	X
Marimba		X	
Tubular Bells (chimes)		X	X
Electric piano, stand, amp, & cables		X	X
Bass amp (no cables)	X	X	X
Drum set, stool, cymbals & stands		X	X

WARM-UP ROOM - supplied

- chairs & stands
- snare drum, bass drum, bells, one bass amp

PERFORMANCE HALL/CLINIC - supplied

- chairs & stands
- Percussion, etc.
 - Hall #1: 4 timpani, bass drum, concert snare drum, drum set, 4 concert toms, gong, bells, xylophone, vibraphone, marimba (pending availability), tubular bells (chimes), electric or acoustic piano, one bass amp
 - Hall #2: 4 timpani, bass drum, concert snare drum, drum set, gong, bells, xylophone, vibraphone, tubular bells (chimes), electric piano, one bass amp

Notes:

- No cymbals are provided except for those on the drum set
- No mallets or sticks are provided
- Electric pianos will include everything necessary to play, but the bass amps do not come with patch cables – please bring your own
- If you require more than one amp, please bring your own and be prepared to set it up wherever power is available in the hall