Northern Lights Christmas Festival

First Baptist Church
116 Fergus St N
Mt Forest, ON

Sponsored by Mount Forest & District Arts Council

and ***Northern Lights*** **Canadian National Conservatory of Music**

and **Mount Forest Lions Club**

Friday, December 4th, 2026

Welcome to the 15th *Northern Lights* Christmas Festival. Please read the rules carefully, begin learning your pieces soon, and enjoy the Festival.

The focus of the Festival is on Christmas music in a non-competitive format. Teachers are invited to attend a noon luncheon at the festival venue but **MUST** pre-register with student applications. Listed below are a few of the advantages of performing in a Festival.

- A candidate learns that adequate preparation and memorizing the work ensures a polished performance.

- The opportunity to perform before an audience helps the candidate acquire self-confidence and poise.

- The candidate's horizons are broadened by hearing other interpretations of the same piece.

- The candidate benefits from expert criticism from an unbiased adjudicator.

- Recognition of the talent (and sometimes the superiority) of others develops the candidate's sporting instinct, and helps to foster a sense of fair play.

- The Festival provides incentive and encouragement for small ensemble groups.

- A well-conducted Festival, has a remarkable effect upon the community, helping to make it "arts" conscious.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS October 31st, 2026

Northern Lights
Canadian National Conservatory of Music
Box 583
Mount Forest, N0G 2L0, Ontario

Cheques payable to CNCM or E-transfer: registrar@cncm.ca
If you have any questions please phone or text 519.321.9463

Northern Lights Christmas Festival

Rules and Regulations

1. All classes, unless otherwise stated, are open to *amateurs* only.

2. *Open* classes may be entered by any person. University performance majors must enter open classes only.

3. In all classes in which an age limit is set, competitors (candidates) must be under the prescribed age limit on December 4th, 2026 and must state age on the entry card.

4. Competitors may enter as many classes as they wish providing the age limits are strictly observed. Competitors may enter the A **and** the B class in any age group. **Original Composition** classes are **NOT** available.

5. Use of video cameras and taking of photographs is ***strictly*** prohibited during the Festival competition.

6. Use of photocopies is **PROHIBITED**. **Participants using photo copies WILL NOT be allowed to perform.**

7. In all classes, competitors ***must provide*** an **original** copy of the work for the adjudicator.

8. Competitors using ***digital copies***, ***must present original copies of the purchase receipt*** for the digital scores used.

9. Competitors' music copies must be given to the Secretary immediately before the class and recovered from the Secretary immediately after the class.

10. On the entry card, state the name, composer or arranger, length (in minutes), collection edition, collection level (Bastien Level 1), and grade level of the piece.

11. A competitor may not perform the same piece in more than one class.

12. *Repeats* are to be omitted from all music. *Da capos* are to be observed.

13. Test pieces for all classes, except music ensembles and bands, *should be memorized* to be eligible for scholarships.

14. Competitors are **not permitted** to enter into any discussion or correspondence with the adjudicator regarding test pieces, prior to or during the Festival.

15. Entries must be submitted on the official entry card by the *application deadline* of **October 31st, 2026** and *must* be accompanied by the appropriate entry fee as indicated. For ensemble classes, only one entry card need be forwarded, with the names and addresses of all participants included on the card (on the back of the card for larger ensembles).

16. Entry fees *will not* be refunded.

17. The Festival Committee shall decide the order and size of the classes, and reserves the right to alter the order as necessary. Competitors must perform in the order indicated.

18. A complete festival program will be emailed to the teacher with performance times and location. Teachers **MUST** provide an email address and may print copies of the program for their students.

19. A competitor shall be called to the platform by the Secretary and must not commence until a signal is given by the adjudicator.

20. A competitor may be disqualified if he or she is not ready to perform when the class is called. A class will not be delayed or altered to accommodate late-comers. All competitors should be prepared to perform **15 minutes prior** to the scheduled time.

21. Complaints or protests must be made in writing and submitted to the Secretary during the Festival.

22. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification for scholarships, although an adjudicator's report will be made.

23. ***The decisions of the adjudicator are final.***

24. The Festival Committee reserves the right to appoint additional or substitute adjudicators.

25. All scholarships and awards are given at the absolute discretion of the adjudicators. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of the competitor's general ability and promise of success. Competitors **MUST** enter a minimum of two classes to be eligible for scholarship.

Festival Luncheon

Teachers and guests may **bring** a lunch. A space will be provided for eating and fellowship.

CLASSES

Photocopies are NOT permitted

Purchased downloads MUST be supported by the purchase receipt.

Competitors may enter both the A **and** the B class in the appropriate age group. Clearly label the entry fee as 101A or 101B, etc. and with the 1st year of study, 2nd year of study, or conservatory level of study. Classes will be set based on age and conservatory level of study.

101 Age 7 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

102 Age 8 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

103 Age 9 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

104 Age 10 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

105 Age 11 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

106 Age 12 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

107 Age 13 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

108 Age 14 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

109 Age 15 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

110 Age16 and under **$18.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

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111 Age 17 and under **$19.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

112 Age 18 and under **$19.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

113 Open age **$19.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

114 Age 13 and under 1st year of study **$19.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

115 Age 14 and under 2nd year of study **$19.00**
A Own Choice: Any traditional or sacred Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.
B Own Choice: Any popular Christmas piece from any appropriate edition.

PIANO DUETS

(Please state ages and grade or level.)

116 Age 8 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

117 Age 10 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

118 Age 12 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

119 Age 14 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

120 Age 16 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

121 Age 18 and under **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

122 Open age **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

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123 Family Class: Two members of the same family **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

124 Student and teacher **$19.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

PIANO TRIOS and QUARTETS

(Please state ages and grades or levels.)

125 Age 8 and under **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

126 Age 10 and under **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

127 Age 13 and under **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

128 Age 16 and under **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

129 Open **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

130 Family Class: three or four members of the same family **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

131 Students and teacher **$20.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition.

SMALL ENSEMBLES

(Maximum of TEN players on any combination of instruments)

132 Open Age **$25.00**
Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition. Any combination of instruments to a maximum of **TEN** performers. Classes will be divided by age and musical experience.

Photocopies are NOT permitted.
Purchased downloads MUST be supported by the purchase receipt.

133 Family Ensemble **$25.00**

Own Choice: Any Christmas pieces from an appropriate edition. Any combination of instruments to a maximum of **TEN** performers.

134 Open - Original Arrangement **$25.00**

Original arrangement created and performed by the competitor of a public domain Christmas piece. Competitor **MUST** provide the adjudicator with a written score.

135 Open - Improvisation **$22.00**

Competitor will select (provide the score) and perform a simple arrangement of a Christmas work followed by a free improvisation based on the selected work.

136, 137 Open – Instrumental and vocal classes as requested **$22.00**

COMPLETING YOUR STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

1. Print the necessary number of application forms from the last page of this syllabus.
2. Complete **ONE** application for each class.
3. Complete **ONE** application for each duet, trio, quartet or ensemble class. List student(s) names, ages and grade levels on the back of the application.
4. Teachers **MUST** provide an email address for the emailing of the official program.
5. Teachers are welcome to **bring a lunch;** a space will be provided for fellowship
6. Applications **MUST** be received by **October 31st, 2026**.
7. Applications **MUST** be accompanied by the appropriate entry fees.
8. Entry fees are payable to CNCM (*Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music), or e-transfer to registrar@cncm.ca
9. Registration fees are **non-refundable**.

Applications may be emailed to cncmoffice@gmail.com followed by etransfer to registrar@cncm.ca, or submitted by mail with cheque to:

Northern Lights
Canadian National Conservatory of Music
P.O. Box 583, Mount Forest, ON, N0G 2L0

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***Northern Lights* Christmas Festival Entry Card**
Festival Date: December 4th, 2026 Application Deadline: October 31st, 2026

Student Name: _____

Student Address: _____

Student Age: (on December 4th, 2026) _____ Phone: _____

Class Number: _____ Selected Work: _____

Fees Included: _____

Composer and Arranger:_____

Collection: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Teacher Address: _____

Teacher Email:_____ Phone: _____

Instrument: _____

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