



PRESS RELEASE – July 2025

The Canada West Performing Arts Festival, now in its 4th year, was held from July 24 to 26, 2025 in Saskatoon, SK on the University of Saskatchewan campus.

Competitors from provincial festivals in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia were recommended to the Canada West competition, where over \$30,000 in prize money was awarded.

13 & under Classes:	1 st Place \$800
17 & under Classes:	1 st Place \$1,000
22 & under Classes:	1 st Place \$2,000
Choral Classes:	1 st Place \$500 for all age groups

The 149 entrants were heard by nine adjudicators from across Canada.

Adjudicators:

Brass – Richard Gillis (MB)	Musical Theatre – Marliiss Weber (AB)
Chamber/Strings – Bryan Holt (ON)	Piano – Katherine Dowling (ON)
Choir – Donna Rhodenizer (NS) (adjudicated virtually)	Spoken Word – Jessica Watson (ON)
Classical Guitar – Paul Madryga (MB)	Woodwind – Glen Gillis (SK)
Classical Voice – Judith Oatway (MB)	

Class	Winner	Runner-Up	Honourable Mention
Brass			
17 years and under	Mathis Chu (SK)	Ayan Modi (BC)	Lauren Schaefer (AB)
22 years and under	Andrew Pittman (SK)	Esugen Gantumur (AB)	
Chamber			
17 years and under	ZEN Trio (BC)		
Classical Guitar			
13 years and under	Johnny Zhengyang Zhu (AB)	Brody Laing (AB)	
17 years and under	Kevin Chang (AB)	Zoey Chu (BC)	Felix Lin (SK)
22 years and under	Tague O’Bright (SK)		
Classical Voice			
13 years and under	Carlos Gao (BC)	Alice Han (SK)	Lauren Abhirosh (BC), Zuri Ayuno (AB)
17 years and under	Leo Teixeira (BC)	Darya Gusarova (AB)	Kai Yee Li (BC), Mia Gillingham (SK)
22 years and under	Danielle Daunheimer (SK)	Paulina Salisbury (SK)	Arina Rahimi (BC)
Musical Theatre			
13 years and under	Kadence Trachuk (SK)	Mela Pietropaolo (BC)	Daphne Russell (AB)
17 years and under	Isaiah Artavia (SK)	Sophie Regier (SK)	Sarah Taylor
22 years and under	Anika Carrier (AB)	Brittney Bennet (AB)	Paulina Salisbury (SK), Sebastian Curran (AB)
Piano			
13 years and under	Diana Monet (AB)	Joshua Wang (BC)	Ian Quon (AB), Maranda Wu (BC)
17 years and under	Demi Alba (AB)	Valery Lou (BC)	Zijia (Jaydon) Zhuang (AB)
22 years and under	Esther Zhu (SK)	Logan Choi (BC)	Avery Guo (SK)
Speech Arts & Drama			
13 years and under	Raymond Chen (BC)	Gajakharini Iynkkaran (AB)	Liné Linde (SK)
17 years and under	Stefan Jones (SK)	McKenna Fanning (AB)	Kelian Piayda (AB)
22 years and under	Kris Gao (AB)	Rohan Cooper (BC)	Veronica Jiang (BC)
Strings			
13 years and under	Michiyo Yu (BC)	Cara Wing (AB)	Chloe Kam (BC)
17 years and under	Zephan Wu (BC)	Bowen Li (AB)	Jenny Xu (AB)
22 years and under	Jae Park (BC)	Elisha Ruo (SK)	

Woodwind

17 years and under	Anya Delafield (AB)	Eric Davidson (AB)	Lynwoo Kim (BC)
22 years and under	Aeri Seong (BC)	Xavier Marican (BC)	Anthony Schubert Glitz (SK)

Choral – Community/School

13 years and under

Winner:	St. Thomas More Collegiate Grade 8 Concert Choir (BC)
Runner-up:	Master's Academy Concert Choir (AB)
Honourable Mention:	SAM Chorus (AB)

16 years and under

Winner:	Luther College High School Treble Choir (SK)
Runner-up:	LCI Grade 9 School Choir (AB)
Honourable Mention:	Greystone Centennial Middle School Senior Choir (AB)

20 years and under

Winner:	St. Thomas More Collegiate Chamber Singers (BC)
Runner-up:	AHSFA Vocal Ensemble (AB)
Honourable Mention:	Sir Winston Churchill High School Choir (AB)

As the 2025 host province, the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association acknowledges support of the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation, the NRS (Victoria) Foundation, and the University of Saskatchewan.

The next Canada West Performing Arts Festival will be hosted in Edmonton, Alberta in July 2026. For more information, please contact the administrator in your participating province.

Provincial Festival Contact Information:

- **Performing Arts BC** – www.bcprovincials.com
 - Provincial Administrator: Antonia Mahon – festival@bcprovincials.com
 - President: Sue Reedman
- **Alberta Music Festival Association** – www.albertamusicfestival.org
 - Provincial Administrator: Wendy Durieux – info@albertamusicfestival.org
 - President: Jennifer Thomas
- **Saskatchewan Music Festival Association** – www.smfa.ca
 - Provincial Administrator: Carol Donhauser – sask.music.festival@sasktel.net
 - President: Dianne Gryba