



## **RULES FOR THE 2025 OTTAWA REGION BRANCH COMPETITIONS**

### **SATURDAY MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> AND SUNDAY MAY 4<sup>th</sup> 2025, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA**

The following rules govern the 2025 Ottawa Region Branch Instrumental and Vocal Competitions. Failure to comply with these rules will result in disqualification. Competitors, teachers, parents, and/or guardians are therefore advised to read all information carefully. The Ottawa Region Branch Competitions are local, Branch competitions. Winners do not advance to other levels of competition.

**New this year: the level/grade requirement has been changed to 6 and/or 7 for both Instrumentalists and Singers.**

#### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- There are no age restrictions for the Ottawa Region Branch Competitions.
- Competitors must be studying with an ORMTA teacher.
- This teacher must be the competitor's principal teacher for the performance discipline.
- This teacher must be a member in good standing of both ORMTA and the Ottawa Region Branch of ORMTA as of 1 January 2025, and must remain so until the Ottawa Region Branch Competitions conclude in May 2025.
- Competitors may compete in the Ottawa Region Branch Competitions as both an instrumentalist and a singer.
- Anyone who competes in the 2025 Ottawa Region Branch Competitions as an instrumentalist **is ineligible** to compete in either level of the 2025 Provincial Instrumental Competitions or the Ottawa Region Branch 2025 Provincial Young Artist Competition as an instrumentalist.
- Likewise, anyone who competes in the 2025 Ottawa Region Branch Competitions as a singer **is ineligible** to compete in either level of the 2025 Provincial Vocal Competitions or the 2025 Ottawa Region Branch Provincial Young Artist Competition as a singer.
- Competitors are responsible for their own expenses (travel, accommodation, collaborative pianist, etc.).
- There is no requirement for competitors to have taken Conservatory examinations. However, competitors who have taken Conservatory examinations **must** provide proof of their most recent results. Should any questions arise, competitors may be asked to provide further proof of their standing. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

## PROGRAM:

- Competitors **must** be studying at Level/Grade 6 and/or 7 to take part in the 2025 Ottawa Region Branch Instrumental or Vocal Competitions, and all repertoire in the program must be at that level.
- All repertoire must be taken from the most recent version of any officially recognized Canadian syllabus. Candidates will be required to provide page numbers on their application form.
- One selection from the RCM Popular Selection List, the RCM Popular Repertoire list, or Conservatory Canada's Contemporary Idioms Syllabus may be included in a competitor's program.
- For these Competitions (2025 Ottawa Region Branch Instrumental and Vocal Competitions), competitors who participate in examinations **must not** have passed the Level/Grade 7 practical examination with any conservatory as of March 31, 2025. Those who have passed their Level/Grade 7 practical examination with any conservatory may participate in the Provincial Instrumental or Vocal Competition – Levels 8 and/or 9, provided they meet the requirements. Competitors who have passed their Level/Grade 6 practical examination with any conservatory as of March 31, 2025, must perform **Level/Grade 7 repertoire only** on their program.
  - **Instrumentalists:** The program must contain a minimum of two (2) contrasting pieces at Level/Grade 6 and/or 7. There is a maximum time limit of 15 minutes of stage time. Stage time is defined as the time between the first note of the performance and when the final selection concludes, including accompaniment if applicable. There is no minimum time limit.
  - **Singers:** The program must contain a minimum of three (3) contrasting pieces at Level/Grade 6 and/or 7. There is a maximum time limit of 15 minutes of stage time. Stage time is defined as the time between the first note of the performance and when the final selection concludes, including accompaniment. There is no minimum time limit. At least one (1) selection must be sung in English. Competitors must also include at least one (1) selection sung in one (1) of the following languages: French, German, Italian, Latin, or Spanish. A total of two (2) languages is required. Singing in more than two (2) languages is encouraged.
- For all competitors, the stylistic balance of the program will be considered in the adjudication. Repertoire should be chosen carefully to reflect the experience and maturity of the competitor.
- Competitors must perform all repertoire selections from memory.
- Competitors must provide legal music for the adjudicator(s). Tablets are permitted with proof of purchase of music or IMSLP, etc.
- Collaborative pianists must use legal music.
- The use of photocopied or scanned material is illegal and prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification from the Competition. Music scores will be checked prior to the start of the Competition.
- Background tracks are not permitted; only live piano accompaniment is allowed.
- Competitors are not required or expected to introduce themselves or their pieces prior to performing.

- An official timekeeper will be seated near the adjudicator during the Competitions. Any competitor who goes over the 15 minutes stage time allowed will receive an adjudication but will be disqualified. The actual timing of their program will be noted on their adjudication sheets. Disqualified competitors will not be eligible for scholarships or prizes.
- Teachers and parents are permitted to be in their own student's/child's room during warmup, should the venue and schedule allow for warm-up time.

#### **APPLICATIONS:**

- All application materials will be available on the Branch website (<https://www.ormtaottawa.ca>) under Events/Competitions by the end of February 2025. Please read these guidelines carefully before applying.
- Competitors must abide by the Ottawa Region Branch's rules and deadlines, and pay our application fee.
- Competitors must use the Ottawa Region Branch Application Form found on the Branch website. Please ensure that you select the correct Competition from the pull-down menu. **Do not** go to the Provincial website for forms for these Competitions.
- **THE DEADLINE FOR THE ONLINE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS IS 6 PM ON TUESDAY APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025. APPLICATIONS ARE DATE- AND TIME-STAMPED. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- The **non-refundable** entry fee of \$50 must accompany the application. Payment must be made by E-transfer to the Branch Treasurer at [orbtreasurer@ormta.org](mailto:orbtreasurer@ormta.org). Please indicate the competitor's name and the name of the Competition in the comments box on the e-transfer. Also, please retain proof of payment in case of technical issues.
- Competitors wishing to take part in more than one Competition must submit separate applications **and** pay the fee for each application.
- All Ottawa Branch Competition (Instrumental and Vocal) applications will be vetted by the Ottawa Region Branch Competitions Convenor to ensure that all rules as laid out in this document are adhered to. Competitors submitting incomplete or inaccurate applications will be contacted and offered an opportunity to correct their application forms.

**For more information, please contact The Ottawa Region Branch Competitions Convenor, Susan Blyth-Schofield, at [orbcompetitions@ormta.org](mailto:orbcompetitions@ormta.org).**