

INVERNESS MUSIC FESTIVAL

SYLLABUS 2024



MUSIC, DANCE & PERFORMANCE ARTS ...
FOR EVERYONE

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Welcome to our 2024 Syllabus

This is the post closing date version of the syllabus. It contains general information and updates on each section.

There are a handful of last minute entry classes available until 21st January, Please help us by supporting these classes and telling your friends if you can. If you have enquiries about our other events, please email us on invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com for advice.

You can also use this address if you require rules or guidance for any class which is no longer visible in the syllabus.

Our motto is 'Performance for Everyone!'. This means whatever your age or stage, whether you are an individual or a group, whether you just want to have fun, whether you want to join in a competition, or receive detailed specialist feedback, you will be very welcome. We can always help you find an event suitable for your needs.

We are known as Inverness Music Festival, but don't forget we also have events for Speech, Debating, Composition, and even Art.

Our venue is Inverness Methodist Church. Participants should note there is no parking at the church and should plan their day carefully if not using public transport.

During and post pandemic we held many classes online. We are glad to say that nearly every class is now live again. There are some exceptions (eg large orchestras), but otherwise we hope to see everyone in person in 2024. However, for every class, if you would like to enter online, you will be able to submit a video. You won't be able to compete, but the video will be played on the day and you will receive a mark and feedback.

Don't forget, if performing isn't for you, we always need volunteers and kind' supportive audiences.

Why support Inverness music festival?

- To have fun and meet interesting people- join us for a little while, watch a few events, become part of our community,
- To have something to practice for and work towards- as a group or as a solo
- To challenge yourself
- To gain confidence
- To have a platform- the stage is yours!
- To experience a friendly competition.
- To gain feedback

If you have questions - get in touch! invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com

Online Entries

Any video entries should be submitted online via 'Play and Perform'. Please see our website and Facebook pages for advice about the best way to record and present your videos.

Fully online classes will be adjudicated remotely, and you will be sent a link to view your class. If you have given permission, highlights will be available to view on our Facebook page or on YouTube during the festival period.

Please note that by entering an online class, we expect the class participants to view each other's videos to create an inclusive and supportive environment for all entrants.

Video performances can be recorded on any phone with a camera, and do not require highly specialised equipment. However, if you have difficulties accessing a suitable device, please contact us on invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com, and we will try to help.

Live Performances

Live participants need only bring their scores on the day plus an EXTRA photocopy for the adjudicator. You are asked to specify your choice of music for some classes, but you can change your mind.

Live performers may book the festival piano accompanist if they wish for many of our classes, although in most cases traditional music is performed without piano accompaniment. Requests for the official accompanist need to be reconfirmed by email. Please be mindful of our funding situation and do not book the accompanist unless you genuinely intend to use them. If you book the official accompanist you will need to supply them with a copy of the music and you will not be able to change your mind about the choice of piece.

Watch out for our Festival concert on Saturday 23rd March! More details soon.

And Finally...

We are grateful to the Inverness Common Good Fund and the Highland Council Ward Discretionary Fund for supporting this event.

Please spare a thought for the festival team. The festival depends on support from generous benefactors and supporters. We also need volunteers - in particular anyone with IT and Social Media experience, to help us out in January and February.

We very much hope you will enjoy browsing the syllabus, and please get in touch if you have any questions.

Email: invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com.

Website: www.invernessmusicfestival.org

Cover artwork by Jemma Sinclair.

Classical Syllabus

Welcome to the Classical Syllabus for 2024.

The main festival entry phase is now closed.

Timetable details have been being emailed out.

All Brass and Woodwind will be held on Sunday afternoon 10th March.

Piano classes will be held as follows. Friday 15th March afternoon - 63,64,61 (Themed piano and Intermediate Duets) Evening Grade 6, Grade 7, and Open Piano Recital Saturday 16th March AM 59,60 Beginner and elementary duets, 51,53 Grade 2, Grade 4 Afternoon : Grade 3, Grade 5 Grade 8. Evening- Advanced Online Piano recital. Other piano online classes will be released on 14th March

Strings will be held on Saturday 16th March. AM Beginners, Improvers, Elementary. PM Intermediate Evening Advanced and Open Strings.

The large group ensemble videos will be shown on the morning of Saturday 9th March in the church. All welcome. Small Group ensembles will be heard on the evening of Saturday 16th March.

The Curtis Craig premier competition will be held on the afternoon of Sunday 17th March. Winners of the Open Brass, Woodwind, Strings, Piano (live) and Secondary Classical Vocal will be invited to take part.

Did you forget to enter? Please send any enquiries to invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com, and we will advise if the schedule allows any post closing date additions.

The advanced piano ONLINE class remains open until 31st January.

Our adjudicators will be Ian Sharp, Mark Reynolds, Peter Evans and Graham Dickie.

Entrants for live classes do not need to upload their score. Please bring a copy of the music for the adjudicator on the day.

Fully online classes will be released during the festival. You will be sent login details to see the other entrants videos and the adjudicator comments. You will also be sent individual comments and a certificate.

Live Classes will be held at Inverness Methodist Church. Plan your day carefully- there is no parking. You may bring spectators. Spectators are asked to make a minimum of £3 donation if they are able.

Classes will be held in sessions of up to 2 hours. All participants should arrive in good time to be seated by the start time of the session. Please plan to stay for the full session to support the other performances. Live performers are reminded to bring a copy of their music for the adjudicator.

Piano

080 Advanced Piano Recital Online

A programme of music played on piano which can be submitted on video. The performance should be up to 10 minutes, and can be played in any style. The standard should be upwards of Grade 6. Marks will be awarded and the video will be played at the festival.

This is a competitive class is especially for those who cannot enter Live.

Fee £13.00

Up to 10 mins

Scottish Traditional Syllabus

Welcome to the Scottish Traditional Syllabus for 2024.

The main festival entry phase is now closed. Class times have been released. Piping will be held on the evening of Thursday 7th March. Traditional Vocal will be on Friday 8th March. Clarsach, Fiddle, Scottish traditional performance and group classes will be held on Saturday 9th March.

The Elizabeth Davis Premier Competition will be held on the afternoon of Sunday 17th March. The winners of the Open Piping, Open Trad Vocal, Open Trad Performance, and Open Fiddle classes will be invited to take part.

Did you forget to enter? Please send any enquiries to invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com and we will advise if the schedule allows any post closing date additions.

Our adjudicators are Graham Dickie, Charlie McKerron, Lewis Barclay and Isobel Mieras.

Most classes are live but it is possible to submit non-competitive online entries if any entrants are unable to attend on the day due to illness or personal circumstances. If this occurred, the video would be played during the live class .

Where a graded syllabus has been specified, eg RCS, a piece from an equivalent alternative graded syllabus may be accepted on discussion with the administrator.

it is not compulsory to specify the music to be performed on the entry form, but entrants may wish to do so. If a piece has been specified, entrants may change their minds before the event. Please note that if a published piece is performed, entrants should provide the score for the adjudicator.

Live classes will all be held at Inverness Methodist Church. There is no parking. Please plan your day carefully. You may bring spectators who will be asked to make a minimum donation of £3 if they are able. Classes will be held in sessions of up to 2 hours. Please arrive in good time to be in your seats for the start of the session. Please plan to stay for the full session to support the other participants.

For vocalists who have requested the official accompanist, please remember you must have reconfirmed your request and supplied your music in advance. Please be aware of the festival costs and do not book the accompanist if you do not need them.

Fiddle Solo

122 F03 - Fiddle Intermediate Live

Two contrasting pieces from RCS Scottish Music Graded exam Syllabus or Trinity fiddle Syllabus Grade 3 or 4 or equivalent standard.

Award: The Webster Memorial Trophy

Fee £8.00

Traditional Vocal Solo

Notes: Songs may include Burns Songs, Jacobite, Hebridean or other Scottish Traditional Material.

Performances in Gaelic are very welcome in this section.

161 TV02 Secondary Traditional Scottish Song Live

One traditional Scottish Song of own choice.

May be in any style, includes dialect or Gaelic.

Online entries may be made but will be non-competitive.

Fee £8.00

164 Scots Song 1-4 singers Live

A performance of a Scots Song, or any other Scottish Heritage song -traditional / Scottish/ Gaelic/ Jacobite.

Performers should introduce their song.

Open class- any age.

Online entries are welcome. They will be non-competitive.

The Saltire Society Trophy for Scots Song will be awarded.

Award: Saltire Society Trophy for Scots Song

Fee Solo: £6.00

Group: £8.50 per group

Traditional Ensembles

180 SC02 Scottish Traditional Music Duet/Trio - Open Live

A recital of Scottish Music to include a minimum of 2 tempos.

Award: The Swordale Trophy

Fee £9.00 per duo/trio

Group of 2 to 3 people

Up to 6 mins

181 SC03 Scottish Traditional Music Groups/Ensembles Primary Live

A Recital of Scottish music to include at least 2 tempos.

All players must be primary school age.

Groups must be at least 4 players.

In addition, or included in the 4, there may be one adult or secondary accompanist if needed.

The Ness Trophy will be awarded.

Fee £12.00 per group

Group of a minimum of 4 people

Up to 6 mins

182 SC04 Scottish Traditional Music Groups/Ensembles Secondary

A recital of Scottish Music to include 3 tempos. Live performance

The group may include primary age performers.

No adult accompanist or adults in a supporting role permitted.

Groups must be at least 4 players.

The Clan Munro Association Cup will be awarded,

Award: The Clan Munro Association Cup

Fee £12.50 per group

Group of a minimum of 4 people

Up to 8 mins

183 SC05 Open Trad Bands Live

A Recital of Scottish music to include 3 tempos.

Performers may be of any age.

Groups must be at least 4 players.

The Sheila and Roddie Urquhart Quaich will be awarded.

Award: The Sheila and Roddie Urquhart Quaich

Fee £15.00 per group

Group of a minimum of 4 people

Up to 10 mins

Vocal (Non-traditional) Syllabus

Welcome to the Vocal Syllabus for 2024.

Entry phase has now closed. Timetable details will be released shortly.

Vocal classes will be held on Friday 9th March and Friday 15th March.

AM Friday 8th P1-P3 choirs. PM Secondary Solo classical, contemporary, stage and Screen, adult classical. Evening: Adult Solo classes, Showcase classes (includes adult choirs). All welcome.

Friday 15th March AM P4-P7 choirs and action song PM Performed Song.

The Curtis Craig Premier competition will take place on Sunday 17th March (PM). The winner of the Secondary Solo Classical Vocal class will be invited to take part.

Did you forget to enter? Please email invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com for advice. We may be able to fit in additional vocal performers.

We have space for 'nervous performers' to try out singing for the adjudicator on the 15th March. This is with friends and family only audience, and is non-competitive.

Our MUSICAL THEATRE classes (Secondary and 16 ad over) will remain open until 31st January.

Live entrants need to bring copies of scores for the adjudicator on the day.

Our adjudicators will be Graham Dickie and Gillian Jack.

Classes are organised into sessions of up to two hours. Please plan your day to be seated for the start of the session and expect to stay for the full session to support the other performers. You may bring supporters, who are asked to donate a minimum of £3 at the door if they are able. Please be aware that there is no parking at this venue.

Our vocal classes are live unless otherwise specified. Online non-competitive entries can be made by request - the video will be played at the event. Any videos should be submitted by 2nd February. They should be introduced with the date, name of song and composer.

If you have requested the official accompanist, please be aware you must have confirmed your request and supplied your music in advance. Please be aware of the festival costs and do not book the accompanist if you do not intend to use them.

Performed Song

Notes: A performance by a group. Props/Costumes/Instruments/Movement/actions allowed.

A copy of the published music should be provided for the adjudicator.

Conductor allowed.

This section is suitable for school groups or other youth groups e.g. uniformed organisations, Sunday schools etc.

203 Performed Song Primary P3-P5

One Song Own Choice.

In performed song classes, dressing up, actions and props are encouraged.

This class is usually entered by schools but groups of children from other organisations or friend groups are also encouraged.

Award: The Northern Meeting Trophy

Fee £12.50 per group

Group of a minimum of 4 people

Performance (Other) Syllabus

These are classes for learning to enjoy Performing.

The main entry phase is now closed. Details of class times will be released shortly.

Did you forget to enter? If so, please email invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com and, subject to scheduling, we will see if we can help.

At present, we are still accepting entries for our Nervous Adults and Young people events. For these you can try singing or playing for the adjudicator, with a closed audience of your friends and family.

Please see regular scheduling updates here. Music Groups (uniformed) will be held on Friday 8th March Pm with adjudicator Graham Dickie.

Family Groups will be on Saturday 9th March.

Around the world will be held on the evening of Friday 9th March.

307 Nervous Adults Class LIVE or ONLINE

Adults are welcome to take part in any of our non-age restricted classes, but we understand it can be a daunting experience! This is a class designed for shy adults 18 years+. This is ideal for a first experience of playing at the festival.

Experience our friendly and supportive environment, and a non-competitive adjudication. The audience will consist only of your invited friends and family, or adjudicator and the festival organisers. Don't be shy - do take part, whatever your stage, age or instrument (includes Voice) or genre. You can provide your own accompaniment, use a backing track, or we can provide the festival accompanist for you. If your music is published, you must submit a copy for the Adjudicator. Please note that the same piece may not subsequently be played in a different class.

You may join in online if you prefer.

Fee £8.00

18 and older

308 Nervous Young People live or online

Sometimes we want to play or sing but can be overwhelmed at the thought of standing up in front of other people.

If you have these worries, this class is for you. We will do everything we can to support your performance. Tell us what you need to help you. You can play/ sing - on your own with your family for the adjudicator, behind a screen, on video - whatever it takes. You know you will feel better if you go ahead! Let us know what you would like to play and sing, and we will be in touch to find out the best way to support you.

Non-competitive. Feedback if required.

Fee £2.00

Creative - Music, Poetry and Art Syllabus

Welcome to our Creative section - Music Composition, Poetry Composition and Art.
Our Primary Art competition results have been announced. The pictures will be visible in the small hall during the festival.

The results of online classes are released during the festival. You will receive login details to see the adjudicator feedback and other entries. You will also receive written feedback and a certificate. Where permission has been given, we use recordings from online classes on our Facebook pages and website.

By submitting your art entries, it is assumed your permission is granted to use your entries on our website and promotional materials.

Watch out for composition results and announcements on March 9th..

Speech and Drama- (inc Gaelic Speech) Syllabus

Welcome to the Speech and Drama Section 2024.

Main entry phase is now closed. Timetabling details have been issued. Group Verse (schools class will be held in the morning on Friday 8th March and all other classes will be in the afternoon.

Our adjudicator is Shirley Henderson.

All live events will be held at Inverness Methodist Church. Please plan your day as there is no parking at this venue. Sessions will last up to two hours, and you should be in your seat at the start of the session and prepared to stay throughout to support the other performers.

Did you forget to enter or are you wondering how you could still take part in this section? We can probably find room for last minute entries, so please email invernessmusicfestival@gmail.com for help and advice.

Group Verse Speaking

422 Group Verse 'Dress up and Perform' P4-P7

Own Choice of poem.

Have fun - dress up, use props, and lets see some poems!

The Carol Schroder Cup will be awarded,

Fee £10.00 per group

Group of 2 to 30 people

Up to 4 mins

Scottish Country Dancing Syllabus

There will be no Scottish Country Dancing in 2024. We hope you are not too disappointed....