

The Debut Atlantic Award for Musical Excellence

DÉBUT ATLANTIQUE



Submission Guidelines: Established in 1999, the Debut Atlantic Award for Musical Excellence is awarded annually to an Atlantic Canadian high school music student as chosen by a member of our distinguished alumni. The award recognizes talented youth who are committed to the serious study of music. Each year's winner receives a \$2,000 cash prize and performance and mentorship opportunities. *

Deadline: Completed submissions must be postmarked by January 31, 2026.

Eligibility: Applicants must be permanent residents of Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, or Prince Edward Island and be **currently attending high school**.

To Apply:

- Download the application form from DebutAtlantic.ca
- Include items 1, 2 & 3 on a single USB flash drive.
- Include a hard copy of item 4 in the mailed package.

Please note: Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to accept submissions via email or other electronic means. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the submission is complete and includes all requested materials.

Submission Requirements:

Good quality recordings in **MP3 format** of three separate works. Please submit a maximum of 20 minutes of music and ensure repertoire information is detailed on the application form where indicated :

1. Three stylistically contrasting pieces representing at least two different eras (i.e. Baroque, Romantic, Classical Contemporary). Ideally, three contrasting eras are preferred, though not required. Excerpts are permitted if the selections are too long for time requirements.
2. A brief biography (max. 250 words) in DOC, DOCX, or TXT format.
3. A high resolution digital headshot in JPG or TIFF.
4. Completed application form.

Assessment & Notification:

The competition is assessed by a Debut Atlantic alumni artist chosen for their experience and ability in the adjudication of music. An anonymous process, adjudication is completed by number only (i.e. details of the age, gender, teacher or province of residence are not shared with the adjudicator). It should be noted that the adjudicator is never a resident of Atlantic Canada.

All applicants will be notified in writing via email. Results will not be released over the telephone.

Please Note: Debut Atlantic reserves the right to not award the Debut Atlantic Award for Musical Excellence in any given year based on the advice of the adjudicator.

Questions? Please contact elizabeth@debutatlantic.ca or call 902.220.6651

Please forward your completed application package to:

Debut Atlantic

P.O. Box 575

Halifax, NS B3J 2R7