



**NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL OF CREATIVE ARTS (NIFCA)
PERFORMING ARTS - MUSIC RULES 2019
NON PROFESSIONAL ADULT & JUNIOR CATEGORIES**

1. NAME OF THE COMPETITION

- a) The name of the competition shall be the NIFCA Performing Arts Music – Non Professional Adult & Junior Categories (the Competition) which comprises Preliminaries, Semifinals and Finals and is organized and administered by the National Cultural Foundation (NCF).
- b) These Rules apply to those persons wishing to enter the Competition in the Non Professional Adult & Junior Categories.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- a) Persons wishing to enter the Competition must be:
 - i. A citizen of Barbados or
 - ii. Legally resident in Barbados
- b) If the artiste is not a citizen or legal resident of Barbados he/she must present evidence to show he/she is actively pursuing legal residence.
- c) Participants in the competition must be at least 4 years old by September 1st in the year of the competition. An entrant is eligible to participate in the Junior Category of NIFCA-Music where his/her age is under 18 years by September 1st. All other entrants (18 years or older) will be adjudicated in the Adult Category.
- d) Groups with mixed ages will be judged according to the age category (Junior, Adult) to which the majority of the group belongs, on or by September 1st. A complete list of the group's members indicating their ages and dates of birth must be submitted with the entry form. The NCF reserves the right to satisfy itself that the conditions relating to age are met.
- e) To enter as an Adult, a person must be 18 years old by September 1st in the year of the competition.
- f) The following are eligible to participate in the Competition:
 - Individuals
 - Schools
 - Community Groups
 - Office(s)
 - Neighbourhood(s)
 - Church(es)
 - Organization(s)
 - Musical Bands/Orchestras/Soloists,
 - Groups Singing or Instrumentalist
 - Other

3. ENTRY TO THE COMPETITION

- a) Persons must enter directly with the NCF by properly filling out the relevant registration form and submit it to the NCF on or before the deadlines accordingly:
 - by or before Sunday October 6th, 2019 11:59 p.m. for online entries via the NCF website: www.ncf.bb,



Individuals/ Community Groups/ Others:
Sunday October 6, 2019

Secondary Schools:
Sunday October 6, 2019

Primary Schools:
Sunday October 6, 2019

- b) Participants whose registration has not been received by the NCF by the deadline indicated at 3a) above shall not be eligible for participation in the Competition.
- c) The NCF shall dispatch a notice by email to the participant(s) within seven (7) working days of receipt of their entry advising them whether the request for entry has been approved or refused.
- d) A participant's duly appointed representative(s) may register, as set out in 3 a) above, on behalf of the participant(s). All group entries must be submitted by the designated leader of the group.
- e) Participants under 18 years of age at September 1st must have their entry forms submitted by a teacher, parent or guardian.
- f) Where two works) are being entered in the competition, one must be local or original. (*For the purposes of this competition, an original work is considered a musical composition created by a local artist in the last three years*). When one piece is being entered, that piece should be locally arranged. SEE GENERAL AND INCENTIVE AWARDS, under APPENDIX "A"
- g) For NIFCA Music 2019 there will be a set piece for Classical entries: The Irving Burgie Suite which is available on request from the NCF Library. All other classical entries should be locally arranged, but must be supported by music scores. Works being entered in this year's competition must not have been entered in any previous NIFCA competition by the same performer. Where there is a complaint that a presentation does not conform to this requirement, the complainant shall produce recorded evidence to support the complaint. The penalty for violation of this shall be disqualification of the musical selection or song from the Competition.
- h) Music Scores (only) of classical pieces to be performed in the Competition shall be submitted with the Entry Forms ONLINE or hand delivered no later than the dates set out at 3a. Classical pieces will not be allowed to be performed if Music Scores are not submitted.

4. ARBITRATION

- a. Prior to the deadline for submission of Entry Forms, the NCF shall appoint an Arbiter to decide and adjudicate on any appeals, complaints or matters in dispute or requiring clarification arising from these Rules.
- b. All complaints related to the Competition shall be submitted, in writing, to the Arbiter in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:



**The Arbiter
National Cultural Foundation
West Terrace
St. James**

- c. All decisions made by the Arbiter shall be final and binding on the competitors and the NCF.

5. ADJUDICATION

- (a) ***NEW* - Prior to the adjudication, coaching will be provided for all entrants to the competition towards guiding the entrant to their best possible presentation. These sessions will be for a maximum of one hour per entrant.**
- (b) The Competition shall be judged in three (3) stages - Preliminaries, Semi-Finals and Finals.
- (c) The NCF shall appoint a Chief Judge who shall adjudicate at each stage of the Competition.
- (d) The NCF shall determine the composition of the judging panel at each stage of the Competition.
- (e) The names of the judges shall be publicly announced before the commencement of the Preliminaries.
- (f) The judges reserve the right not to award any special prizes offered in this competition.

6. PRELIMINARIES

- a) Judging at the Preliminaries shall not be open to the public.
- b) Only entries registered by the closing date indicated at Rule 3 a) above shall be eligible to be judged in the Preliminaries.
- c) Each participant shall enter and perform not more than two (2) works in each genre of music at the Preliminaries.
- d) Participants performing to recorded accompaniment or their duly appointed representatives shall present a recording (as outlined at 10 aa) to the NCF's designated officer no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the Preliminaries.
- e) At the Preliminaries, the maximum points awarded to each participant by the judging panel shall be as follows:

1.	VOCAL PERFORMANCE	
	Musicianship	35
	Voice/Diction	20
	Interpretation	15
	Originality	20
	Presentation	10
	Total	100



2. INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Musicianship	50
Interpretation	20
Originality	20
Presentation	10
Total	100

- f) An average score for each musical selection entered shall be taken. All participants who perform music works that are awarded scores of sixty (60) points or over in the Junior Category, or seventy (70) points or over in the Adult Category shall be selected to perform at the Semi-Finals.
- g) At the request of participants, judges will critique their performances at the Preliminaries only. Participants must indicate on the registration form their desire to have this critique done.
- h) *NEW* Any first time entry to NIFCA performing arts that does not qualify for advancement to the Semi-Finals may be re-entered in the following year.

7. SEMI-FINALS

- a) The Semi-Finalists shall perform only those entries selected via adjudication at the Preliminaries.
- b) At the Semi-Finals, the maximum points awarded to each participant by the judging panel shall be as follows:

1. VOCAL PERFORMANCE

Musicianship	35
Voice/Diction	20
Interpretation	15
Originality	20
Presentation	10
Total	100

2. INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Musicianship	50
Interpretation	20
Originality	20
Presentation	10
Total	100

- c) The thirty-five (35) entries that are awarded the highest scores of sixty-five (65) points or over in the Junior Category, and scores of seventy (70) points or over in the Adult category shall be selected to perform those works at the NIFCA Finals.
- d) In the event of a tie for thirty-fifth (35th) place, all participants who are tied for the thirty-fifth place shall be invited to compete at the Finals.

8. FINALS

- a) Participants selected for the Finals will be competing for Gold, Silver, Bronze and the Top Awards in NIFCA Music. Participants shall perform only those works that have been selected by the judging panel to be performed at the Finals.



- b) All Finalists shall assemble at the venue designated by the NCF on a date and time advised by the NCF to rehearse for participation.
- c) At the Finals, the maximum points awarded to each participant by the judging panel shall be as follows:

VOCAL PERFORMANCE

Musicianship	35
Voice/Diction	20
Interpretation	15
Originality	20
Presentation	10

Total 100

INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Musicianship	50
Interpretation	20
Originality	20
Presentation	10

Total 100

- d) An average score for each selection entered shall be taken. Participants who perform selections that are awarded average scores as indicated below will also be awarded certificates as follows:

	Junior Category	Non -Prof	Professional
Gold	86 - 100 points	91-100	95-100
Silver	76 - 85 points	81-90	85-94
Bronze	65 - 75 points	70-80	75-84

- e) Participants that medal at this stage of the competition will be eligible for consideration towards the awarding of general and incentive awards.
- f) No duplicate certificates will be issued for any lost/stolen certificates. However, a letter confirming the award will be issued by the NCF if requested to do so.

9. GENERAL AND SPECIAL AWARDS

- a) Participants who receive certificates are eligible for Incentive and General Awards as outlined in Appendix "A". Only those participants who are selected for the Finals would be eligible for Special Top Awards.

10. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Conduct

- a) A participant shall be held accountable for the actions of those individuals whom he or she brings on stage during the Competition.
- b) If, during the Competition, a participant or any of his/her supporting acts make any gesture or action that exceeds the bounds of good taste, the participant may be disqualified from the Competition. The Judges shall determine whether behaviour is indecent, obscene, or in excess of the bounds of good taste.



- c) Participants or their associates who behave in a disruptive manner, which interferes with the performance of other individuals or groups or the smooth running of the Competition, may be disqualified from further participation in the Competition.

Venues

- d) The NCF will choose the venues for the staging of the Preliminaries, Semifinals and Finals of this competition.
- e) Participants shall report to the NCF Stage Manager or NCF designated Officer at the venues selected for the staging of the Preliminaries, Semifinals and Finals no later than one (1) hour before the scheduled start time of the event.
- f) Failure to comply with Rule 10 e) may result in the reduction of one (1) point by each judge up to a maximum of five (5) points.

Staging

- g) The manner of presentation of a selection will be at the discretion of the participant. Each entry is, however, limited to a maximum of seventy (70) persons on stage at any one time during the presentation of a selection.
- h) Should a participant fail to observe Rule 10 g) a designated NCF officer shall inform the Chief Judge immediately after the participant's performance has ended.
- i) The penalty for violating Rule 10 g) shall be a deduction of one (1) point by the panel judge for every person in excess of the number permitted, up to a maximum of five (5) points. The designated NCF officer shall notify the participant or the participant's duly appointed representative of the violation.
- j) Performance in the Competition shall not exceed seven (7) minutes for group or solo presentations and will be timed by the official time-keeper from the start of the performance (first musical note played).
- k) A violation of Rule 10 j) shall result in a one (1) point deduction by the panel for every minute or part thereof over the limit up to a maximum of five (5) points. Where a violation occurs, the designated NCF officer shall notify the participant or the participant's duly appointed representative of the violation.
- l) Participants shall appear and perform in their correct position as determined and notified by the NCF.
- m) A violation of Rule 10 l) may result in a one (1) point deduction by each judge on the panel up to a maximum of five (5) points.
- n) Failure by participants to comply with the reasonable instructions of the NCF designated officer may result in their disqualification from the Competition.
- o) All participants shall be responsible for the setting up, dismantling, transportation and safety of their equipment which must be removed promptly at the end of the respective judging session.
- p) All participants must provide their own musical scores, sets, costumes, props, make-up, accompaniment and instruments.
- q) The NCF will provide technical assistance in stage management, sound and lighting for the Finals.



- r) Participants shall inform the NCF designated officer of any changes to their technical requirements no later than forty-eight (48) hours after being notified of their selection to perform at the Finals. Failure to provide this information may result in the non acceptance of the request.
- s) All children shall be accompanied by adults at the minimum ratio of one (1) adult to ten (10) children at all stages of the Competition.
- t) A maximum of two (2) assistants shall be allowed to accompany each adult group at all stages of the Competition.

Musical Accompaniment

- u) Participants using live accompaniment shall provide their own accompaniment and shall indicate on the Entry Form what instruments will be used, the number of persons expected to perform, and the number of chairs and microphones required.
- v) Participants not submitting the information required in Rule 10 u) shall not be considered for participation in the Competition.
- w) Accompaniment tracks being used should not contain the same melodic line as that being performed by the vocalist / instrumentalist / group.
- x) The participant shall submit a copy of the props list, a short biography and details of the accompaniment to be used, in the space provided on the entry form to the NCF by the deadline.
- y) The details of the accompaniment to be used, whether live or recorded must include the title of the music, the arranger and the composer.
- z) All recorded music must be presented on high quality CDs/ flash drives, clearly labeled showing the name of the participant, the title of music contained thereon, name of the composer, and arranger.
- aa) Each piece of music must be submitted on a separate Compact Disc/ flash drives. Participants shall have an extra copy of the Compact Disc(s) as a backup in the event of misplacement of the first Compact Disc.

Release of Scores

- bb) The average scores of the participants for the Semi-Finals and Finals shall be made public via the NCF website within seven (7) days after the completion of the Competition.

Special Performances

- cc) Award-winning participants in the Competition may be required to perform at the Spirit of the Nation Gala and the NIFCA Gold Awards Ceremony. Entry in the Competition, therefore, implies an acceptance to perform at the Spirit of the Nation Gala and/or the NIFCA Awards Ceremony if chosen.

11. PROMOTION/ BROADCAST OF PERFORMANCE

- a. The participant agrees that the NCF shall be entitled to use his/her performance or part thereof or his/her image or likeness in the promotion of the competition and other related NIFCA events.
- b. The NCF shall have the following rights in the performance:



- i. The right to a live broadcast, within Barbados, of the whole or any substantial part of the performance;
- ii. The right to use excerpts of the performance for promotional or marketing purposes within Barbados and outside of Barbados;
- iii. The right to copy the performance or a recording of the performance for the purposes of teaching, research, news reporting, review, instruction or education;
- iv. The right to record the performance for archival purposes,
- v. The right to include the performance in any Pay Per View or subscription programming provided there is an agreement between the producer and any performing rights organization of which the Performer may be a member;
- vi. The right to include the performance in any Pay Per View or subscription programming for the agreed upon rate of two hundred and fifty Barbados Dollars (Bds. \$250.00) between the producer and the performer if the performer is not a member of any performing rights organization.



APPENDIX "A"

NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL OF CREATIVE ARTS (NIFCA) SPECIAL AND GENERAL AWARDS FOR MUSIC – NON PROFESSIONAL ADULT & JUNIOR CATEGORIES

SPECIAL TOP AWARDS- PROFESSIONAL

All entries that reach the Finals stage of the Theatre competition will be eligible for these awards.

1. **The Governor General's Award of Excellence** will be on offer for the most outstanding Professional performance achieving 96% or greater in the NIFCA Theatre Finals. This will comprise a cash prize of \$5,000.00 and a trophy, and will only be awarded should the judges determine that the entry merits the award.

SPECIAL TOP AWARDS – ADULT & JUNIOR *All entries that medal at the Finals stage of the Music competition will be eligible for these awards accordingly.*

1. **The Prime Minister's Scholarship** is presented in the Name of the Prime Minister's Office. An individual and/or creator of an entry achieving GOLD (an average score of 91% or higher) may be nominated for this prize. Awardees must demonstrate the greatest potential for training and development in their discipline. This award which may only be won once by any participant is for a maximum of BDS\$35 000.00, for tertiary studies in the awarded discipline, preferably at any Caribbean Arts institution. A maximum of two scholarships will be awarded in the Festival in any year. Scholarships are tenable across all categories of NIFCA.
2. **The James Millington Award of Excellence** is in the form of a trophy and a cash prize of \$3,000.00. It is presented to the highest scoring participant achieving 91% or greater.
3. ***NEW* - The NIFCA Award for the Best Original NIFCA Music Entry.** This award is offered to recognize significant creativity in a NIFCA entry. It will comprise a cash award of \$2,000.00 and a trophy. Only one participant achieving an average score of 91% or higher at the Finals stage may be nominated for this by the judges. There will be only one given in each discipline in any year.
4. **The Founder's Trophy.** This award is in memory of NIFCA Founder - Mr. Arden Clark. It takes the form of a cash award of \$3,000.00 and a trophy, which is awarded to the most outstanding performance achieving an average score of 91% or higher in the NIFCA Performing Arts Finals.
5. ***NEW* - 2 scholarships to the Barbados Community College** will be offered towards training in any of the Associate Degree programmes in Dance, Music, Theatre, Visual Arts and Culinary Arts to a value of Bds \$3000.00 each.

INCENTIVE AWARDS

All entries that medal at the Finals of the Music competition will be eligible for these awards. Incentive Awards will be offered to reward and encourage promising acts in each discipline may be won by participants. These will take the form of a plaque and cash awards to the value of four hundred (\$400.00) for an individual and seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) for groups as follows:



1. **Incentive Awards** to reward and encourage promising performer in each discipline may be won by participants as follows:
 - Best Presentation
 - Best Performance by a Primary School
 - Best Performance by a Secondary School
 - Best Performance by each category of Community Group (Office, Neighbourhood, Church, Organization)
 - Best Performance by an Individual
 - Best Newcomer to NIFCA
 - A Special Incentive Award will be offered for the Best Arrangement. Non-resident arrangers are ineligible for this award.
 - *NEW* - Best Spouse Performance
 - *NEW* - Best Folk Performance
 - *NEW* - Best Performance of Tuk Rhythms
2. **Special Award** for outstanding participation by differently able artist(s). This award comprises a trophy and educational materials to a value of \$500.00. To qualify participants must specify on their entry form their wish to be considered for this award.
3. **Ernest P.F. Rocheford Award** to be awarded to the most promising individual under 18 years is in the form of a \$500.00 scholarship to be utilized for further studies in music.
4. **Barbados National Trust Heritage Focus Award** is given to encourage junior artistes to pay more appreciative attention to Barbados' heritage. This award, will comprise cash of \$200.00, and one year's membership in the Barbados National Trust for the winner and a friend entitling them to free admission to all BNT properties and other benefits. The award will be given for works that draw attention to historical aspects of Barbados or to elements of our cultural heritage that are either disappearing or being sustained. A maximum of two prizes will be given in any year.

GENERAL AWARDS

1. ***NEW* - The "Vision 2020 Prize"** will be awarded to the entry that celebrates the contributions of Barbados and Barbadians across the globe. It comprises a cash award of \$1,000.00 and a trophy. One prize will be on offer in each discipline of NIFCA.
2. **The Cynthia Wilson NIFCA Producer's Prize.** This prize in the name of the first organizing secretary of NIFCA takes the form of a cash award of \$1,000.00 and a trophy. It will be awarded to recognize outstanding participation by a community leader, producer/organizer who facilitates and manages the successful participation of a group of artistes in any discipline of NIFCA. One prize will be awarded each year.
3. **The Barbados Gospelfest Award.** This prize will be awarded to recognize the most outstanding Christian act at NIFCA Performing Arts, in the form of a trophy and the opportunity to perform at the next year's Gospelfest. One prize will be awarded each year.
4. **HIV/AIDS Awareness Prizes.** Each award comes with a cash prize of \$750.00 and a trophy and will be awarded per discipline to the most outstanding entry dealing with this national issue.



5. **Barbados Manufacturers Association “Brands of Barbados” Award.** This comprises an award of a trophy offered in each discipline for an excellent depiction of some patent aspect of Bajan culture.
6. **MASSY Creator’s Prize.** A \$2,500.00 prize will be offered in each of the Performing Arts disciplines for the creator that best demonstrates Originality in his/her scriptwriting, musical composition, choreography, and/or artistic direction of an award-winning entry. The winner will be selected from among nominees assessed by the respective judging panel.
7. **The Jackie Opel Award** will be awarded for the best locally written, arranged and performed musical selection (any genre). It comprises a cash award of BDS\$1,500.00.
8. ***NEW* -The NCF Business Development Award for Music.** This prize of a recording at the Cultural Ambassadors Recording Studio is valued at Bds \$1,000.00 and will be awarded to recognize an original song and commercially viable in the NIFCA Music competition. One prize will be awarded each year.
9. **Certificates of Achievement.** These will be issued to authors/directors/set-designers/costume-designers/accompanists in recognition of their contribution to award-winning acts. These certificates will bear a gold, silver or bronze seal according to the level of award won by the entry.
10. **Diabetes Association of Barbados.** This will comprise a cash prize of \$1000.00 and will be considered across all categories of NIFCA to award an entry that most successfully increases awareness of the impact on, or avoidance of, this non-communicable disease in the Barbadian community.
11. ***NEW* -The UNICEF Awards for NIFCA** is offered in recognition of the 30th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It comprises 8 cash awards of BDS\$2,000.00 each to be awarded in each NIFCA discipline. The prize will be awarded for the most outstanding entry(ies) that draw attention to children’s rights.
12. ***NEW* - The Co-operator’s General Insurance Road Safety Award** is a prize of \$1,500 cash for the Performing Arts entry that most successfully creates Road Safety awareness (in song, drama, spoken word, dance or music). This award is offered for 2018-19.



APPENDIX “B”
NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL OF CREATIVE ARTS (NIFCA)
GENERAL GUIDELINES – MUSIC – NON-PROFESSIONAL ADULT & JUNIOR
CATEGORIES

GENERAL

1. Participants are only allowed to enter a maximum of two (2) compositions. All entries must be Barbadian in origin or in arrangement. The categories of entry are at their own discretion, however, the compositions should be contrasting. Participants are encouraged to note that the creativity and a Barbadian aesthetic should be reflected in their presentations: lyrics, genre, arrangement or instrumentation and are expected to give consideration to originality and innovation in their choice of music.
2. Participants may use any vocal or instrumental combination in their presentation.
3. Where two songs are submitted, at least one should have a Barbadian or Caribbean quality whether through the music, lyrics,.
4. Groups may be represented as Duos, Trios, Quartets, Choirs, Bands, and can be augmented.
5. With respect to school entries:
 - i. SOLOISTS: Student soloists may, where desired, be accompanied by one or two teachers or other adults.
 - ii. SCHOOL BANDS/CHOIRS: These shall comprise school children but may also include past students of up to two (2) years and a Teacher or other adult as “Conductor”.
 - iii. AUGMENTAL CATEGORY: This is open to bands comprising students and teachers
6. Music will be categorized as follows:
 - i. TRADITIONAL/FOLK
 - ii. CONTEMPORARY/POPULAR
 - iii. CLASSICAL
 - iv. JAZZ
 - v. RELIGIOUS
 - vi. EXPERIMENTAL/FUSIONS
 - vii. OPEN - This category may comprise a mixture of disciplines, e.g. mime, sign language, performance poetry, etc., although with the principal focus being on music.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All entries will be judged in the following areas:

- i. MUSICIANSHIP: technique, tonal quality, dynamics, melody, rhythm, tempo, rendition.
- ii. VOICE/ diction, (enunciation) lyrical attack, control of pitch, projection.
- iii. INTERPRETATION: relevance of choreography, conviction.
- iv. ORIGINALITY: original use of imagery, originality of arrangement
- v. PRESENTATION: stage presence, musical effect/impact, movement & projection.

JUDGING

The three (3) stages of the 2019 NIFCA Music Competition will be judged on the following dates:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| • Preliminaries | October 11- 21, 2019 |
| • Semifinals | November 2-4, 8-10, 2019 |
| • Finals | November 28- December 2, 2019 |

General queries should be directed to The Cultural Officer – Music Education, Tristan Layne at the National Cultural Foundation, telephone number 417-6629 or email tristan-layne@ncf.bb.