

2026/27

VAMWP1 DEBUT SPOTLIGHT SOLO COMPETITION

VAM presents its 7th annual VAM WonderPhilharmonic Level 1 (formerly Friendly Philharmonic) Debut Spotlight Solo Competition providing an opportunity for one soloist to perform a movement of a concerto or solo piece with the VAM WonderPhilharmonic Level 1 orchestra in the 2026/27 VAM Orchestra Festival *.

* 2026/27 VAM Orchestra Festival will be performed at the Orpheum.

VAM will ensure that the competition is impartially and professionally conducted with a two-person adjudication panel consisting of experienced musicians with no affiliation with the competing musicians.

Application deadline: October 19, 2026, 11:59pm

Competition dates: November 16, 2026

**Students will receive notice of their specific time slot following the application deadline.*

Eligibility

Eligible students:

- are currently members in good standing of VAM WonderPhilharmonic Level 1;
- are not winners of the VAMFP 2025/26 Solo Competition.

Competition Rules

1. Students must perform on the instrument they currently play in WonderPhilharmonic Level 1.
2. Repertoire selections must not exceed 8 minutes in duration. Repertoire must be performed with accompaniment. For the competition, tutti passages must be shortened as necessary.
3. The selection must be approved by the Orchestra Manager and meet length, orchestration and proficiency requirements. Repertoire approval will be confirmed within 3 business days of the application deadline.
4. If the selected repertoire requires performance licensing or copyright clearance, the student is responsible for any associated costs if chosen as a winner and invited to perform.
5. Students must provide 2 copies of the solo part or piano reduction for the adjudication committee (photocopies are permitted).
6. Performers must perform from memory.
7. Performers must perform with and provide their own pianist.
8. The competition phase is closed to the public with the exception of the parent/guardian and teacher of the student performing; no video or audio recording permitted.
9. All applications must include a non-refundable \$65 application fee.
10. The winner will be awarded the Orpheum Prize and will perform at the Orpheum in the 2026/27 VAM Orchestra Festival. The winner must perform the same repertoire selection that they competed with.
11. By applying to the competition, the student and parent/guardian agree that any resulting recordings from the winner's performances with VAM WonderPhilharmonic Level 1 may be used for VAM's promotional purposes.

To apply

Complete the form on the back page or apply online at: vam.ca

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Application Form

Deadline: October 19, 2026, 11:59pm

Name: (First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Last) _____

Address: (Number and Street) _____

(City) _____ (Prov.) _____ (Postal Code) _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Instrument: _____

Name of Private Music Teacher: _____ Pianist: _____

Work to be performed

Composer: _____

Title: _____

Movement (if applicable; please include number and title, e.g., *I. Allegro*): _____

Duration, after tutti cuts: _____

By signing below, the contestant agrees to observe and abide by the rules, regulations, and restrictions as stated in this document.

Signature of Contestant: _____ Date: _____

Remember, your completed file must contain:

1. Completed application form
2. Non-refundable registration fee of \$65

Mail your completed file to: Niki Hung, Programs Coordinator

Vancouver Academy of Music 1270 Chestnut St | Vancouver, BC V6J 4R9

Please contact niki.wingyan@vam.ca with any questions.

For Office use only

Application fee included: by cash _____ by cheque _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____