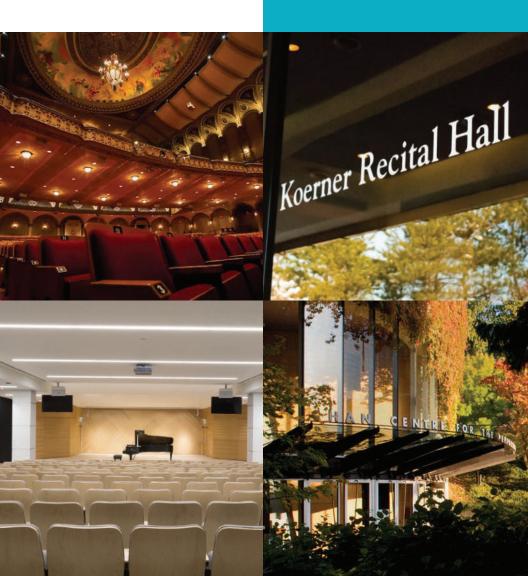


2025/26 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the 2025/26 academic year at the Vancouver Academy of Music!

This year's calendar offers a dynamic mix of performances, competitions, and community programming that reflects the artistry, dedication, and spirit of our students and faculty. From large-scale



orchestral concerts at the Orpheum to intimate chamber performances and solo showcases, each event celebrates the transformative power of music.

We are proud to present a season that brings together free events open to the public and ticketed programs designed to support our continued growth. Signature competitions and masterclasses will once again spotlight the rising stars within our community, while new initiatives invite audiences of all ages to experience the joy of music—many for the very first time.

We can't wait to share the stage—and the season—with you.

Musically yours,

Joseph Elworthy

President & CEO



Stay Updated with Our Latest Events!

- 1. Scan the QR Code
- 2. Get real-time updates on event details
- 3. Never miss out on the latest happenings at VAM

2025/26 FEATURED SERIES

VAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SERIES

The VAM Symphony Orchestra (VAMSO) is the flagship series of Vancouver Academy of Music's orchestral program, featuring our top-performing students in a professional-level setting. With four captivating performances each year, our young musicians take on iconic masterpieces that define the classical repertoire.



NEXT GENERATION

OCT 26, 2PM | ORPHEUM THEATRE

Ian Parker: Conductor | Danny Lin: Composition | Joy Li: Piano | Merett Khamis: Violin | Aeri Seong: Flute



A MUSICAL STORYBOOK

NOV 23, 2PM | ORPHEUM THEATRE NOV 30, 2PM | KAY MEEK ARTS CENTRE

Ian Parker: Conductor



TCHAIKOVSKY NO. 6

FEB 22, 2PM | KAY MEEK ARTS CENTRE MAR 01, 2PM | ORPHEUM THEATRE

lan Parker: Conductor | Forest Benson: Piano



JAEDEN IZIK-DZURKO PLAYS RACHMANINOFF

APR 25, 7:30PM | KAY MEEK ARTS CENTRE APR 26, 2PM | ORPHEUM THEATRE

lan Parker: Conductor | Jaeden Izik-Dzurko: Piano

SEASON PASS ON SALE UNTIL OCT 15!

- All Four Concerts in One Purchase
- Consistent Seating



Competitions

VAM's annual competitions aim to identify the accomplishment of talented students and offer recognition for their hard work. Awards include opportunities to perform as soloist with one of VAM's orchestras and scholarships to assist students in advancing their musical studies.

Students wishing for more information may visit **vam.ca/events/competitions** or email **niki.wingyan@vam.ca**

GOLD MEDAL COMPETITION

Eligibility: VAM Performance Exams Winners

Competition Date: September 28

VAM FRIENDLY PHILHARMONIC, JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE SYMPHONY CONCERTO COMPETITIONS

Eligibility: Registered members of VAMFP, VAMJS & VAMIS

Application Deadline: September 29 | **Competition Date:** October 20

AMATI & STRADIVARI PLAYERS CONCERTO COMPETITION

Eligibility: Members of Amati & Stradivari Players

Application deadline: October 26 | **Competition date:** November 17

JEROLD GERBRECHT WOODWIND & BRASS COMPETITION

Eligibility: VAM woodwind & brass students

Application Deadline: January 12 | Competition Date: February 9

EDITH AND ESMOND LANDO GIFTED YOUTH COMPETITION

Eligibility: VAM students 13 and under as of December 31, 2025

Application Deadline: January 26 | Competition Date: February 23

Winner's Recital: March 8

PHYLLIS SALTER PIANO COMPETITION

Eligibility: VAM piano students ages 26 and under

Application deadline: April 6 | Competition date: April 27

ALTO CLEF VIOLA FESTIVAL

Eligibility: VAM viola students

Application deadline: April 6 | Competition date: May 4

KAY MEEK COMPETITION

Eligibility: VAM students age 14 and over as of May 13, 2026 **Application deadline:** April 13 | **Competition date:** May 11-12

BARBARA CLAGUE FESTIVAL OF SONG

Eligibility: VAM voice students

Application deadline: May 4 | Competition date: May 31

ELSJE DE RIDDER ARMSTRONG CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

Eligibility: Ensembles in VAM's chamber music program

Application deadline: May 19 | Competition date: June 13



SEPTEMBER

SEP. **28**

Gold Medal Competition

Koerner Recital Hall | 1:00PM

The Vancouver Academy of Music Gold Medal Competition is designed to identify young talented students who won gold medals in Performance Exam 2025, and afford them recognition and financial assistance.



2025 Gold Medal Competition

OCTOBER



Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning. ост. 5

VAM Symphony Orchestra: Next GenerationOrpheum Theatre | 2:00PM

Welcome the '25/26 concert series with the Vancouver Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra. This Next Generation opening concert is a showcase of the most promising young artists, featuring the winners of the 2025 Bjorn & Lori Hareid Concerto Competition and Young Composers' Competition in a vibrant celebration of emerging talent.

ост. **26**





Scan here to buy tickets for VAMSO: Next Generation

For more information visit vamso.ca

Buy your Season Pass before October 15 and save 15% on all four concerts.

NOVEMBER

NOV. **2**

Halloween Orchestral Concerts

Koerner Recital Hall

Friendly Philharmonic: 2pm Junior Symphony: 3pm Intermediate Symphony: 4pm



Join VAM's Friendly Philharmonic, Junior and Intermediate symphonies in a world of musical colours that brings stories to life with excitement and suspense. Come watch... if you dare!

NOV.

Vanier Park Symphony & Adult Strings Winter Concert Koerner Recital Hall | 7:30PM

Join VAM's adult orchestras in their calendar year-end concert, featuring a variety of compositions.

NOV.

9

Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts

Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning.

NOV.

College & YACP Fall Recitals

Koerner Recital Hall | YACP: 1:30PM & College: 3:30PM

Showcasing the highest level of education at VAM, the College Program Concert Series highlights exceptionally gifted high school students from the Young Artist Collegiate Program (YACP) and post-secondary students from our Music Performance Diploma and Artist Diploma programs.

NOVEMBER

VAM Symphony Orchestra: A Musical Storybook Orpheum Theatre | 2:00PM

Step into a musical storybook with a concert for all ages. The evening begins with The Composer is Dead, a hilarious and mysterious whodunnit that introduces the orchestra's instruments as suspects in a musical crime. From there, travel through beloved cinematic worlds — from The Lion King to How to Train Your Dragon, Frozen, Up, and more — in a symphonic journey through Disney, Dreamworks, and beyond.

NOV. **23**





Scan here to buy tickets for VAMSO: A Musical Story-book

For more information visit **vamso.ca**

Stradivari & Amati Strings Program

Koerner Recital Hall | 7:00PM

Join us as our new string ensembles present works by Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Mahler, and Debussy. Alongside featured commissioned premiers composed by VAM faculty and students. NOV. **28**

NOVEMBER

NOV. **29**

Academy Chamber Players: Robert and Johannes Koerner Recital Hall | 7:00PM

Step into an evening of romance and allure as VAM's esteemed faculty present the music of Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms. Experience a captivating program that journeys through the emotional landscapes of love, longing, and friendship.

The Academy Chamber Players series showcases our faculty's exceptional professionalism and musical talent on stage beyond the classroom.



Academy Chamber Players Presents:

ROBERT & Johannes

FEATURED PROGRAM:

Schumann's Piano Quartet in E flat Major, Op. 47 Schumann & Brahms, Lieder Brahms' Piano Quintet in F minor, Op. 34

30

HarpFest

Koerner Recital Hall | 7:00PM

Experience the enchanting sounds of the harp with award-winning faculty, talented students, and ensembles from VAM. Be transported by the breathtaking sight and sound of multiple harps on stage for an unforgettable evening of musical beauty.



DECEMBER

Orchestral Program Holiday Concerts

Koerner Recital Hall

Friendly Philharmonic: 2pm Junior Symphony: 3pm Intermediate Symphony: 4pm

Join VAM's Friendly Philharmonic, Junior, and Intermediate symphonies for some festive tunes and holiday favourites. The performance will also showcase one of our three Concerto Competition winners.

DEC. **7**

Adult Learning Program Soiree

Koerner Recital Hall | 1:30PM

One of VAM's fatest growing communities, the Adult Learning Program is a celebration of lifelong learning through music. Come hear a highlight of our adult learners in an evening gathering of music and conversation.

DEC. **14**

Chamber Music Program Concert

Koerner Recital Hall | 3:30PM

Featuring various groups from VAM's Chamber Music Program, join these young musicians as they present an evening of the intimate side of music-making often described as conversation between friends.

DEC. **14**

WINTER BREAK BUILDING SCHEDULE

Building Closed on the following

- Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)
- Dec 25 (Christmas Day)
- Dec 26 (Boxing Day)
- Dec 27 and 28
- Dec 31 (New Years Eve)
- Jan 1 (New Years Day)
- Jan 3 and 4

Building Open on the following:

- Dec 22
- Dec 23
- Dec 29
- Dec 30
- Jan 2

JANUARY

JAN. **25**

Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts

Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning.





FEBRUARY

Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts
Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning.

ғев. **15**

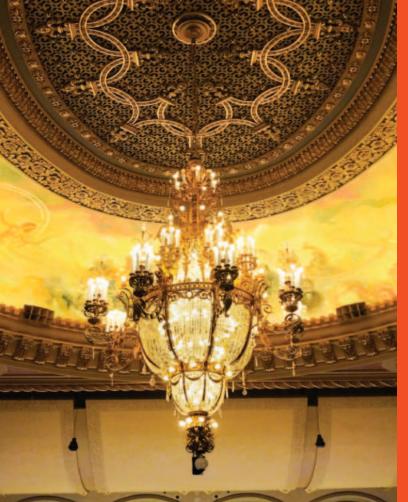


MARCH

VAM Symphony Orchestra: Tchaikovsky No. 6 Orpheum Theatre | 2:00PM

Join us for a luminous afternoon with the Vancouver Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra as we present Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6. Known as the Pathétique, this final masterwork stands as one of the most emotionally profound symphonies ever written. Complemented by a performance from Forest Benson, winner of the 2025 Kay Meek Competition, performing Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 5 in F major, Op. 103, also known as The Egyptian.

MAR. **1**





Scan here to buy tickets for VAMSO: Tchaikovsky No. 6

For more information visit **vamso.ca**

MARCH

MAR.

Edith and Esmond Lando Gifted Youth Competition Winner's Recital

Koerner Recital Hall | 2:00PM

Named after two outstanding arts advocate and humanitarian, the Edith and Esmond Lando Gifted Youth Competition opens doors for the next generation. Eight talented students aged 14 and under are selected from the preliminary round to receive tuition scholarships and perform in this winner's concert.

MAR.

Vanier Park Symphony & Adult Strings Spring Concert

Koerner Recital Hall | 7:30PM

Join VAM's adult orchestras in their calendar year-end concert, featuring a variety of compositions. Led by a team of faculty player-coaches, VAM's adult orchestra explores the performance practice of seminal masterpieces, fostering a deeper understanding of their musical significance.

MAR. **15**

Orchestral Program Spring Concerts

Koerner Recital Hall

Friendly Philharmonic: 2pm Junior Symphony: 3pm Intermediate Symphony: 4pm

Celebrate the spring season and brighter days with VAM's Friendly Philharmonic, Junior, and Intermediate Symphonies. The performance will also showcase one of our three Concerto Competition winners.

SPRING BREAK & EASTER HOLIDAY BUILDING SCHEDULE

MARCH

 March 16 - 29: Regular building and office hours

APRIL

- Apr 3 (Good Friday): building & office closed
- Apr 4: building open & office closed
- Apr 5 (Easter Sunday): building & office closed
- Apr 6 (Easter Monday): building open & office closed

APRIL



Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts

Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning.

APR. **12**

College and YACP Spring Recitals

Koerner Recital Hall | YACP: 1:30PM & College: 3:30PM

Showcasing the highest level of education at VAM, the College Program Concert Series highlights exceptionally gifted high school students from the Young Artist Collegiate Program (YACP) and post-secondary students from our Music Performance Diploma and Artist Diploma programs.

APR. **12**

VAM Symphony Orchestra: Jaeden Izik-Dzurko Plays Rachmaninoff
Orpheum Theatre | 2:00PM

From the wild energy of Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals to the fiery drama of Bizet's Carmen Suite, this program is a vibrant showcase of colour and character. Guest pianist Jaeden Izik-Dzurko joins VAMSO for Rachmaninoff's towering Third Piano Concerto — a virtuosic tour de force that brings the season to a triumphant close.

APR. **26**





Scan here to buy tickets for VAMSO: Jaeden Izik-Dzurko Plays Rachmaninoff

For more information visit vamso.ca

MAY

MAY 3

Academy Chamber Players: Prodigious Felix

Koerner Recital Hall | 7:00PM

Join us for an evening celebrating the genius of Felix Mendelssohn as the distinguished faculty of the Vancouver Academy of Music present an intimate chamber music concert. Witness the works of the prodigious composer who perfected the art of balancing classical form with romantic expressiveness - all while navigating the trials and tribulations of adolescence and early genius.

The Academy Chamber Players series showcases our faculty's exceptional professionalism and musical talent on stage beyond the classroom.

ACADEMY CHAMBER PLAYERS:

KOERNER RECITAL HALL SUNDAY, MAY 3 7:00PM

FEATURED PROGRAMS:

MENDELSSOHN'S STRING QUARTET NO. 3, OP. 44, NO. 1

MENDELSSOHN'S PIANO TRIO NO. 1 IN D MINOR, OP. 49

MENDELSSOHN'S OCTET IN E FLAT MAJOR, OP. 20



MAY

Strawberry & Tea Student Concerts

Mary Olson Hall | 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Join the VAM community in this monthly series that features students from a variety of programs celebrating all levels of musical learning.

10

Adult Learning Program Soiree

Koerner Recital Hall | 1:30PM

One of VAM's fatest growing communities, the Adult Learning Program is a celebration of lifelong learning through music. Come hear a highlight of our adult learners in an evening gathering of music and conversation.

MAY 10

Chamber Music Program Concert

Koerner Recital Hall | 3:30PM

Featuring various groups from VAM's Chamber Music Program, join these young musicians as they present an evening of the intimate side of music-making often described as conversation between friends.

10

Orchestral Festival

The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Friendly Philharmonic, Junior and Intermediate Symphonies: 11:00AM

Vanier Park Symphony, Adult Strings:

4:00PM

Join a multitude of VAM's orchestras and ensembles in a day of musical celebration. In the morning, the VAM Friendly Philharmonic, Junior, and Intermediate symphonies present works by Vivaldi, Tchaikovsky, Saint-Saëns, and more.

In the afternoon, VAM's adult ensembles the Vanier Park Symphony and the Adult Beginner Strings embody the joy of lifelong learning and perform works by Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and a variety of other composers, featuring conductor and pianist lan Parker as soloist for Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4.

16

MAY

MAY 30

Stradivari & Amati Strings Program

Koerner Recital Hall | 7:00PM

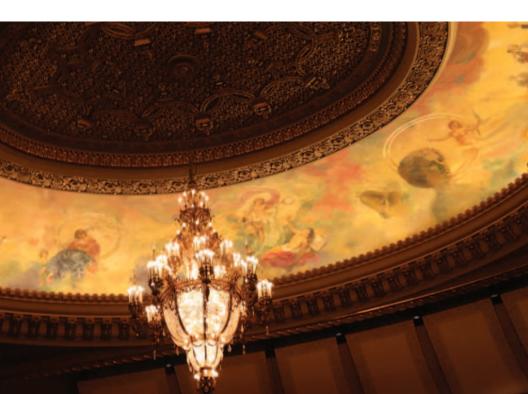
Join us as our new string ensembles present works by Holst, Mozart, and Tchaikovsky. Alongside featured commissioned premiers, composed by VAM faculty and students.

MAY **31**

Barbara Clague Festival of Song

Koerner Recital Hall | 2:00PM

VAM is honored to present the 13th Annual Barbara Clague Festival of Song, with the support from the Clague family, as well as numerous friends. The purpose of the Festival is to spotlight talented vocalists in all ages, fostering their musical development with \$1,200 in total scholarships awarded for 2026/27 VAM tuition.



We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia and the following partners:

