

# DON BANKS MUSIC AWARDS 2023



Islington United Church and its music staff are delighted to present the thirteenth annual **Don Banks Music Awards**. The purpose of this award is to recognize and encourage young musicians, and was established by the late Don Banks to unite two of his passions – the love of music, and the nurture of young people. Don was an elementary school principal in Etobicoke and a respected, well-loved member of Islington United Church.

This year, the auditions for the Don Banks Music Awards will be held virtually in video format. The final competition will be in person. Please read the information below for details.

## ELIGIBILITY

These awards are open to candidates who:

- are 10 years old as of January 1, 2023, through to the conclusion of high school.
- are active in a school music program, and/or who study privately.
- live or study music in Etobicoke, east Mississauga or west Toronto, and/or have an IUC affiliation.
- did not win the competition previously.

## COMPETITION PROCESS

1. The application form, required documents, and a video recording must be received from all applicants.
2. All audition videos will be adjudicated by the DMBA Committee.
3. As soon as the audition results are finalized, all applicants will be contacted by email.
4. Islington United Church will host a live competition on **Saturday, April 29, 2023**.
5. Winners will be announced at the concert on **Saturday, April 29, 2023**.
6. Winners will receive a monetary scholarship.

## HOW TO APPLY

The following steps are required to compete in DBMA 2023:

1. Candidates must provide:
  - a. a completed **application** form (online) by **February 24, 2023**.
  - b. a **letter of support** from their teacher or mentor by **March 24, 2023**.
  - c. a **scan of the music** they will play in their audition video by **March 24, 2023**.
  - d. an **original copy** of the music is required for the adjudicators, if the candidate is selected as a finalist.
  - e. **performance audition video** by **March 24, 2023**.
2. The video submitted on **March 24, 2023**, will be used for the audition. Finalists will be chosen from the videos submitted. Only finalists will compete in person on **April 29, 2023**.
3. Live accompaniment is required for all vocal (classical or musical theatre), string, and woodwind/brass applicants for the audition video and for the final competition, should you be selected.
4. See the video recording requirements sheet for video tips and suggestions.
5. Candidates are required to present only one selection of music.
6. The final competition this year will take place in person on **Saturday, April 29, 2023**, at Islington United Church.
7. Any genre of music is acceptable.

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## PRESENTATION PROCESS

1. The competition falls into four main instrument categories: voice (classical and musical theatre), piano, strings and winds (woodwinds/brass) and is grouped by performance levels of **Junior**, **Intermediate**, and **Senior**. The competition is between students of like performance levels. (e.g., Junior level may include voice, strings and piano etc.)
2. Live in person concert/competition will be hosted in the main sanctuary by Islington United Church on **Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 7:00 pm. - 9:00 pm.**
3. Adjudicators will make general comments at the competition.
4. All finalists will receive a written adjudication from each adjudicator. Only finalists receive adjudications.
5. Winners will be announced at the end of the program on **Saturday, April 29, 2023.**

## Important dates:

1. Application form (online application) - **February 24, 2023**
2. Letter of support - **March 24, 2023**
3. Scan of sheet music - **March 24, 2022**
4. Audition performance video - **March 24, 2023**
5. Live in person competition - **April 29, 2023**

Email all documents to:  
[donbanksawards@gmail.com](mailto:donbanksawards@gmail.com)  
Attention: Catherine Richardson

Don Banks Music Awards is hosted by:  
**Islington United Church**  
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