

# The Royal Conservatory of Music Certificate Program FAST FACTS



## What is The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program?

The Certificate Program is a well-rounded and effectively sequenced system of music study and assessment that motivates students, helps them set and achieve goals, and instills a sense of accomplishment as they complete each level.

- Available for the study of 21 different acoustic instruments, Speech Arts, and voice
- Develops overall musical literacy, increases understanding of musical language, and stylistic and structural awareness
- Includes formal examinations as an important part of the learning process at each level

## The Curriculum

The curriculum of The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program consists of ten levels (1-10), Preparatory/Introductory Levels and Professional ARCT designations.

- Each level includes repertoire, etudes or vocalises, technical tests, ear tests, sight reading, and orchestral excerpts for string, brass, and wind instruments
- Repertoire includes pieces from all style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary
- Students progress at their own pace and move freely through the system
- Development of overall musical literacy is assured through the inclusion of music theory (rudiments, harmony and analysis) and music history at each level

## Publications and Resources

The Royal Conservatory offers the most comprehensive, award-winning teaching resources and learning materials, developed and meticulously reviewed by over 300 distinguished musicians and leading pedagogues to support The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program.

- Over 500 volumes of repertoire, etudes, technique, theory books and official examination papers, published by

Frederick Harris Music, are available at leading retailers across North America as well through our online bookstore at [bookstore.rcmusic.ca](http://bookstore.rcmusic.ca)

- Professional recordings are included in Royal Conservatory repertoire books for all instruments (except guitar). The 2015 edition of the award-winning *Celebration Series*® for piano features high-quality recordings, easily accessible online, in all repertoire and etudes publications. The 2015 edition *Four Star*® publications include interactive online ear-training activities, offering students the opportunity to practice aural exercises independently

Many other high-quality, innovative resources to support teachers, students, and parents, including syllabi for each discipline, the latest research, newsletters, videos, information about professional development sessions, and guidelines and tips to help prepare for exams, are available at [rcmusic.ca](http://rcmusic.ca)

## What is unique about The Royal Conservatory of Music system?

Established in 1886, The Royal Conservatory of Music is one of the largest and most respected music education institutions in the world, providing an unparalleled music education to over 500,000 students each year.

- Certificates and diplomas awarded by The Royal Conservatory represent the gold standard in music education in North America and increasingly around the world
- There are over 5,000,000 RCM alumni, including many musicians of international acclaim, such as Glenn Gould, Oscar Peterson, Diana Krall, and Jon Vickers
- The RCM provides the most thorough, well-rounded curriculum and assessment, encompassing performance, technical requirements, musicianship, and written subjects
- The RCM's comprehensive training provides the strongest possible foundation for music education

- Over 500 volumes of repertoire, etudes, technique, theory books and official examination papers, published by



## The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program

Formal assessment is an important part of the learning process, and The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program provides an international standard for students, parents, and teachers to track and measure progress and achievements, encouraging the continued pursuit of excellence.

- Logical assessment points for practical requirements are provided upon the completion of each level
- Theory and history examinations support music literacy
- Examinations encourage goal setting and build self-confidence
- A recognized, international standard of music assessment provides an opportunity to track progress and celebrate success
- Royal Conservatory Certificates are awarded to students who successfully complete the requirements at each level
- Examination marks and written comments are provided online following the examination period

- The College of Examiners includes over 350 distinguished teachers and performers from across North America who undergo rigorous training and certification as well as annual professional development

### Program Benefits

- **Musical creativity**, artistry, personal expression, and a love of music are cultivated and fostered in the program
- **Provides a clear, leveled system** that includes objective goal-setting as part of music study
- **Encourages** students at all levels to pursue excellence
- **Recognizes** musical achievement
- **Supports** complete musical literacy
- **Adaptable** to all students regardless of discipline, age, level, or ability
- **High School Accreditation** - achievement in Royal Conservatory examinations is recognized for high school credits in Canada
- **Recognized** by international music schools, universities and colleges, orchestras, and ensembles

Maria Lesniak

RCM CERTIFIED TEACHER 2015-17

  
**The Royal Conservatory**<sup>®</sup>  
The finest instrument is the mind.

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