

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Applaud the Future! The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival Now
An Affiliated Member of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals – Canada’s National
Music Festival!**

Victoria BC, December 21, 2020 - The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival Association has received notice that GVPAF has been accepted into the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals’ Local Stream Membership Class. The Local Stream Membership Class was introduced by FCMF in November 2020. This new membership class enables local music festivals operating in Canadian provinces and territories that are not members of FCMF to enter qualified youth performers in FCMF’s annual National Music Festival. The 2021 National Music Festival will be held as a virtual competition August 6-14, 2021.

As a Local Stream Member, GVPAF will be able to offer its Festival 2021 registrants the opportunity to be nominated to FCMF’s 2021 National Music Festival through FCMF’s Virtual Local Stream Qualifying Round. Nominated competitors will have the opportunity to submit video-recorded performances to the Virtual Local Stream Qualifying Round. FCMF adjudicators will select participants to advance to the National Music Festival. GVPAF’s 2021 Festival syllabus has been updated to incorporate FCMF National Music Festival participation requirements.

The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival is delighted to have this opportunity to return to the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals’ annual National Music Festival. GVPAF has been sending its best performers to the National Music Festival for many decades, with many of these performers earning accolades at the National Music Festival. Until 2019, access to the National Music Festival was via a Performing Arts BC ladder, which was lost when Performing Arts BC disassociated itself from FCMF.

The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival continues to be the foremost champion for local youth developing their performance skills. In our determination to continue this important mission, GVPAF is very pleased that we will be hosting, with appropriate modifications, our annual Performing Arts Festival in the spring of 2021. Festival 2021 registration will open on January 4, 2021 and adjudicated-virtual sessions will begin in early April. For more information on the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival 2021, please visit www.gvpaf.org or contact the Festival office by email at festival@gvpaf.org or by phone at 250-386-9223.