



*Northern Lights*  
**Canadian National Conservatory of Music**

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P.O. Box 583 Mount Forest ON N0G 2L0 **Toll free:** 866-889-8807 **Website:** [www.cncm.ca](http://www.cncm.ca)

**'Shaping Canada's vast musical landscape'**

**Seasons Series  
(Grade 4)  
Composition Invitation**

The *Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music was founded in February 2002. Its founding members were inspired to produce programs of study serving the needs of Canadian music teachers and their students.

Traditional teaching approaches are being blended with newly developed ideas to offer holistic pedagogical tools, which will raise the level of musical standards throughout our country.

Our members bring a vast wealth of experience, ethics, and skill to the programs they have developed and continue to be leaders in shaping Canada's vast musical landscape. Our members are highly recognized in their fields as composers, editors, examiners, workshop clinicians, adjudicators, teachers, pedagogues, and concert artists.

**One of CNCM's mandates is the promotion of Canadian composers and repertoire. CNCM is supplementing the *Northern Lights* series by launching a solo composition series on the theme of *Seasons*, which are protected digital downloads. Please visit [www.harbridgewanlessmusic.com](http://www.harbridgewanlessmusic.com) to see examples of the *Seasons* series Preparatory through Level 3.**

**At this time, we are inviting submissions of new, original (unpublished) piano compositions for the Grade 4 level. Compositions should fall under the hands and capabilities of Grade 4 students.**

This is an open invitation to all NEW Canadian composers (both published and self-published), aged 18-35 to participate.

Criteria for *Seasons*:

- Composers may submit a maximum of TWO works for each level
- Submission deadline: August 7, 2026
- Submit a pdf **AND** computer file (Finale or XML preferred)
- Must be enrolled in, a graduate of, or completed music credits in a music degree program at a university or college level, or in a professional diploma program
- Do NOT need to be in or have completed composition courses

- All submissions must be accompanied by:
  - Composer photo (a headshot cropped at the shoulders)
  - Composer biography which includes:
    - Year and location of birth (city or province)
    - A short paragraph (100 words maximum) which includes the following information:
      - ✓ Current location of residence
      - ✓ Favourite things (to do; interests; items appealing to a young student, for example: loves animals, loves hockey, pizza, etc.)
      - ✓ Plus - General sharing points

To determine the appropriate grade levels for these submissions, please check out the *Northern Lights* series - 4A, 4B collections, available from Harbridge/Wanless Publishing or your favourite print music store. Samples for each level can also be found at [www.cncm.ca/northern-lights](http://www.cncm.ca/northern-lights).

*Northern Lights* CNCM is looking for variety in style, metre, key, technical ideas, and appeal.

The CNCM Editorial Committee reserves the right to edit any submissions selected for publication.

**All submission requirements must be met before a composition can be forwarded to the selection committee. The deadline for submissions is August 7, 2026.**

This is not a commission; there is no entry fee, and composers will retain their copyright. Selected composers will gain a great deal of exposure through this project, and be contributing to the vast musical landscape of Canada. CNCM will promote this series throughout North America.

*Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music agrees to pay royalties under the following conditions:

Title: **Seasons series**

- a 10% royalty, pro-rated per composition, based on selling price will be paid to each composer
- royalties will be issued annually at a time established by *Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music

Thank you for your co-operation. CNCM is excited to continue its support of Canadian composers with this project. We look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

**All submissions MUST be emailed to Lois Knarr, CNCM Team lead on this project at: [lois.cncm@gmail.com](mailto:lois.cncm@gmail.com)**

Tenley Dyck (she/her)  
 Co-ordinator & Editor of Publications  
*Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music

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