



# PROFESSIONAL VS AMATEUR

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All competitors **MUST** be amateurs.

- An **amateur** shall be defined as a music student, performer, or any person who does **NOT** earn significant income (see below) from performance or teaching in the discipline in which they are participating.

A **professional** shall be defined as:

- an individual performing in a professional show **and/or** earning significant income (over \$5000.00 for adults and over \$1000 for children up to 18 years) from performing or teaching music privately or in the school system.
- Individuals who are full or junior members of either **ACTRA** or **EQUITY** or are collecting credits to becoming an Equity member.
- Children up to 18 years who perform in a professional show and are not paid, receive valuable professional experience, and are therefore considered professional for the calendar year in which they are cast.
  - a. The calendar year is defined as September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. If the individual is enrolled as a full member of either ACTRA or EQUITY, has performed in a professional show **and/or** received professional income (over \$5000.00 for adults and over \$1000 for children up to 18 years), they are then considered professional and are therefore ineligible to participate in the OMFA Provincial Finals *for that same year* (eg. if the individual was recommended in February, but then joined ACTRA or EQUITY (eg. April).
  - c. If the individual has received professional income *after* they were recommended to the OMFA Provincial Finals, they would be ineligible to participate and their entry fee would be refunded, if applicable.
  - d. An exception would be made for an individual participating in another discipline that is different from the reason for their ACTRA or EQUITY membership (eg. an individual performing in a professional musical that has been recommended for classical piano would be allowed).
  - e. Disciplines that **CANNOT** be entered when performing in a professional musical include Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Songs from the Screen and More and Popular Voice.