

# Music is a Mind Builder

An introduction to  
The Royal Conservatory  
Certificate Program



**The Royal  
Conservatory®**  
The finest instrument is the mind.



# Developing Human Potential

Research shows that formal music education contributes to cognitive development.



The quality of a child's music education is linked to their academic achievement.

Elementary school students in higher quality music education programs saw a 20% improvement in standardized tests of English and math.

Source: Johnson, CM and Memmott JE, *Examination of Relationships between Participants in School Music Programs of Differing Quality and Standardized Test Results*, Journal of Research in Music Education (Winter 2006), Volume 54, Number 4



**BRAINS OF  
MUSICALLY  
TRAINED  
INDIVIDUALS:**

- Better memory and attention
- Improved brain structure and function
- Higher IQ

Learn more about the benefits of music education  
[rcmusic.ca/music-study](http://rcmusic.ca/music-study)

# The Benefits of Formal Music Education

Comprehensive musical training benefits both brain structure and brain function. Just like well-exercised muscles protect the bones and joints, reduce blood pressure and increase energy levels, music education produces bigger, better-functioning brains—a benefit to people of any age.





# The Royal Conservatory of Music

For over 130 years, The Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) has been a leader in **developing human potential** through music education and the arts.

Our program is used by over 30,000 teachers to support 500,000 students across North America. Our more than 5 million RCM alumni have built careers in a wide range of fields, including medicine, law, journalism, and professional athletics.

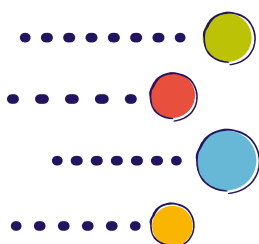
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## WHY STUDY THE ROYAL CONSERVATORY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM?

The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program is a **comprehensive system of music study and assessment** from Elementary through to Advanced levels. In many countries, it is considered the gold standard for developing high-calibre musical literacy.

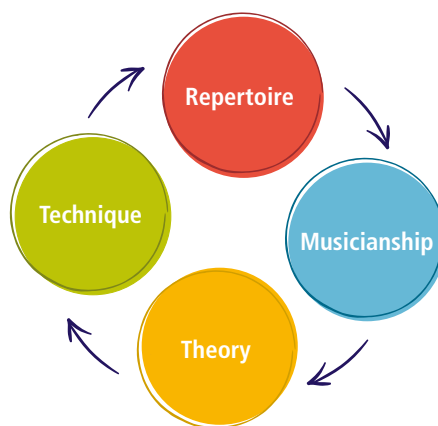


At each level of the RCM Certificate Program, **students are supported** with accompanying publications to help them develop into well-rounded musicians.



With a focus on nurturing creativity and developing self-confidence, our program allows students to **work at their own pace.**

Our **integrated curriculum** encompasses repertoire from classical to contemporary, as well as etudes, ear tests, sight reading, technique, and theory **for over 20 instruments**, voice, and speech arts and drama.



Individual student examinations, delivered by one of our 300+ accredited examiners, enable students to track their progress and **celebrate their accomplishments.**

# Tracking Progress

RCM examinations are available for both Practical (performance) and Theory (written)

## The Benefits of Examinations

- Build self-confidence
- Encourage goal setting
- Provide a national standard for students to track their progress
- Promote well-rounded musical training

## What to Expect at an Examination

- An objective assessment of the student's skill for that level
- A friendly yet professional atmosphere
- Personalized feedback and marks available online within a few weeks

## PRACTICAL

Practical examinations evaluate the performance of repertoire, etudes or vocalises, aural skills, sight reading or singing, and orchestral excerpts for string, brass, and wind instruments.

## THEORY

Theory examinations evaluate the understanding of theory basics such as musical notation. Advanced levels include harmony, counterpoint, analysis, and history.

For resources to help prepare for examination day  
[rcmusic.ca/exam-prep](https://rcmusic.ca/exam-prep)

## TIPS FOR SUPPORTING MUSIC STUDY

### Students and Parents:

- Create time for consistent, dedicated practice
- Collaborate with your teacher to establish achievable short- and long-term goals
- Celebrate success and accomplishments!

# Recognizing Achievement

Certificates, Diplomas, Awards, and High School Credits

A **Certificate of Achievement** can be earned at each level of study by successfully completing all the requirements for each level of The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program.

The **ARCT Diploma** is recognized internationally and is one of the highest academic credentials awarded by The Royal Conservatory.

All examination candidates are eligible to receive **Gold Medal awards** from The Royal Conservatory. These awards are based on examination results.

Many school systems recognize RCM examinations for **credit toward secondary school graduation**.



## Parents:

- Communicate regularly with both your child and teacher
- Support your child during practice sessions either as a coach or an engaged listener
- Encourage improvisation and student-driven exploration of the instrument

TIPS FOR  
SUPPORTING  
MUSIC STUDY



# Start Your Journey Today

with The Royal Conservatory Certificate Program



Find a Music Teacher  
[rcmusic.ca/teacher-directory](http://rcmusic.ca/teacher-directory)



Purchase RCM books from your local retailer or online  
[rcmusic.ca/bookstore](http://rcmusic.ca/bookstore)



Create your free RCM Account to receive updates and notifications  
[rcmusic.ca/new-user](http://rcmusic.ca/new-user)

## LEARN MORE

Learn how developing human potential through music and the arts lies at the heart of everything we do.

[rcmusic.ca/rcm-program](http://rcmusic.ca/rcm-program)

[rcmusic.ca](http://rcmusic.ca)

**1.800.461.6058**

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