

December 2, 2021



2022 Sunderland Lions Music Festival

Over the past 20+ months we have all faced many uncertainties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and as circumstances and understanding surrounding it continued to evolve, the Festival Committee have closely monitored its impact on the Festival in conjunction with directives from Brock Township, Durham Public Health, and the Boards of Education. As such, we continue to make informed decisions regarding the Festival with the health and safety of all those involved in mind: our participants, their parents and extended family members, our community music teachers, volunteer teams, adjudicators, venues and their staff, and all others involved in the successful operation of the Sunderland Lions Music Festival each year.

On March 16, 2020, the Sunderland Lions Music Festival Committee made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Music Festival and then just a few months later on September 23, 2020, determined that the 2021 Festival should be cancelled as well. Understandably, these difficult decisions were met by much disappointment from our many young participants, their teachers, families, and friends as well as the many community volunteers involved with the Festival. Today, although we hopefully find ourselves nearing the end phase of the pandemic, we are still very cognisant that life as we know it is not yet back to normal and that significant public health measures must still be taken. Regrettably, after careful review of the current and continually evolving circumstances, the Festival Committee are profoundly disappointed to announce that it would be in the continued best interest of all those involved to **cancel the 2022 Festival**.

The Sunderland Lions Music Festival Committee have also agreed to extend an earlier decision regarding entry fees paid to date such that:

*The Sunderland Lions Music Festival will **FURTHER extend a credit towards the 2023 Sunderland Lions Music Festival, equal to the entry fees paid to date for ALL 2020 Festival piano, voice and instrumental entries. The credit, which will be equal to the original entry fee paid, will then be applied to all participants who register for the 2023 Sunderland Lions Music Festival.** Those 2020 Festival participants who register in voice, piano and instrumental solo and/or duet classes for the upcoming 2023 Festival will be eligible for this fee extension as the entry fees from 2020 to 2023 will remain unchanged for these classes. Participants who **will not be participating** in the 2023 Festival (if currently enrolled in Grade 12) will be eligible to receive a full refund upon request. Anyone else still wishing to receive a refund is asked to contact us at info@sunderlandlionsmusicfestival.ca.*

As we anxiously await and prepare for the anticipated return of the Festival on April 11th, 2023, we look forward to the opportunity for our participants to safely perform in public once again, along with the support of our many community volunteers and audience members. We trust that our decision to cancel the upcoming 2022 Festival will meet with your continued understanding. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding entry fee refunds/extensions or wish to discuss extenuating circumstances, you are kindly asked to contact the Sunderland Lions Music Festival @ info@sunderlandlionsmusicfestival.ca.

Sincerely,
"The Festival Committee"



<http://www.sunderlandlionsmusicfestival.com>