

Sample form, not for offline completion.

Visit <https://musicnl.grantplatform.com> to apply.



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St. John's, NL
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709-754-2574
www.musicnl.ca

Awards

You have selected Awards. This category is for MusicNL award applications **only**. Complete this form to submit your award nomination for MusicNL Week 2026.

⚠ This is not a showcase application. If you want to perform at MusicNL Week 2026, do not continue with this form. Click on the dropdown menu above and select **Stages** to apply for a showcase performance.

Applying for both MusicNL awards and showcase applications? These are separate forms. Complete this form for your award nomination, then **start a new application** and select **Stages** to apply for a showcase performance.



Before preparing an application, please read:

- [2026 MusicNL Awards and Stages Submission guidelines](#)
- [2026 MusicNL Awards and Stages Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

If you have any questions about the MusicNL Awards and Stages criteria please contact the Programs Manager at programs@musicnl.ca

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Monday, April 6 at 11:59pm (NST)

FEES: A non-refundable application fee of \$28 applies to each submission (Awards and Stages). If applying to both (within the same applicant profile), a bundled rate of \$45 is available.

If you are from an equity-deserving community or if the application fee presents a barrier to participation, please contact us before submitting - we are here to work with you.

To save and continue working on the submission at a later time, please click the save button at the bottom of the form.

Artist or Group Name

The following questions are for statistical purposes only

Which region of Newfoundland and Labrador do you currently reside in?

- St. John's Metro
- Avalon Peninsula (excluding St. John's Metro)
- Central Newfoundland
- Eastern Newfoundland
- Western Newfoundland
- Labrador

What is your hometown?

Once you complete this tab, please scroll down and click on the green "**Check Eligibility**" button to proceed.

Do you meet the residency requirements as listed in the 2026 MusicNL Awards and Stages Submission guidelines?

- Yes
- No

Applicants must be a current resident of Newfoundland & Labrador. To qualify, you must meet at least one of the two following criteria:

- Currently living, and having resided in the province for a minimum of 6 months preceding the application date
- Filed provincial taxes as a Newfoundland & Labrador resident in the most recent taxation year prior to the application date

For duos or larger groups, at least 50% of members of the group must meet the above residency requirement.

Are you currently a member of MusicNL?

Yes

No

To apply and remain eligible for our awards, you must be a member of MusicNL until October 30, 2026

Check your membership here: <https://musicnl.ca/manage-account/#account/manage>

Have you commercially released at least three (3) singles between April 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026. (unless otherwise specified in the specific award criteria)

Yes

No

Eligibility period April 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026. To be eligible, albums, EP's and singles must have been commercially released in this period. Proof of release will be mandatory.

The release date is determined by the album's availability for retail sale or online streaming. Artists/groups will need to provide a release date and may be asked for proof, such as a letter from the distributor, label, retail outlet, Soundscan report, or digital sales report.

Please upload your proof of release



Proof of recording(s) release must be provided at the time of application. You may submit a manufacturing invoice or documentation from the distributor (CD Baby, Distrokid, TuneCore, Bandcamp etc), aggregator, record company, or streaming service.

We understand this requirement may be complex for some artists - please don't hesitate to reach out to programs@musicnl.ca if you need any assistance.

This section allows jurors to understand your brand, authenticity and professionalism.

Biography and professional history

1000 words

Please include an updated biography. Professional history should include recent successes and work in chronological order from the most recent.

Include awards and nominations, notable gigs and tours, professional development, your discography, and anything else that a jury may find relevant.

Max: 1000 words

Website

A website is mandatory to complete this application.

Provide the URL of your official artist or band website. Unlike social media, your website serves as professional export-ready portfolio - the standard way festivals, booking agents, and industry partners evaluate artists. Without one, we are unable to consider your application for MusicNL Week, as all performances are export showcases.

Social media links will be collected in a separate field.

Spotify (optional)

Bandcamp (optional)

Other Streaming (optional)

Any platform not mentioned above

Facebook (optional)

Instagram (optional)

Other links (optional)

Please provide your social media HANDLE for Facebook
ie @myusername (no HTTP)

Your handle is your username on each platform, typically starting with @ (e.g. @MusicNL).

These will not be shared with the jury — they are used exclusively by our marketing team to tag you in nominee and showcase artist announcements on social media.

Please provide your social media HANDLE for Instagram
ie @myusername (no HTTP)

Your handle is your username on each platform, typically starting with @ (e.g. @MusicNL).

These will not be shared with the jury — they are used exclusively by our marketing team to tag you in nominee and showcase artist announcements on social media.

Please upload a **landscape-orientation** photo. MUST BE full colour, PNG format, high-resolution (minimum 300 dpi, 3 MB)



Should you be nominated or selected for a showcase, this will be the photo used for production

Format: png

Minimum resolution: 300 dpi

Minimum file size: 3 MB

Maximum file size: 10 MB

Please upload a **portrait-orientation** photo. MUST BE full colour, PNG format, high-resolution (minimum 300 dpi, 3 MB)



Should you be nominated or selected for a showcase, this will be the photo used for marketing and publicity

Format: png

Minimum resolution: 300 dpi

Minimum file size: 3 MB

Maximum file size: 10 MB

Please upload one (1) MP3 track from your most recent release



Should you be nominated, this will be used for production, marketing and publicity

Please provide a list of awards and accomplishments (past 24 months)

200 words

Provide a focused list of your awards, nominations, and accomplishments from the last 24 months only.

This is not a repeat of your biography — it is a concise, standalone summary of your most recent highlights for the jury to reference quickly.

Press highlights (past 24 months)

200 words

Please list your press highlights from the past 24 months. For each entry, include the outlet name, date, and type of coverage. This helps our jury evaluate your media presence alongside your other achievements.

Please check the award you are applying for.

This section contains conditional logic. You will only be able to provide the required information if you click the award checkbox. Otherwise, you won't be considered for those specific awards.

A single award is presented in each category.

Title of qualifying music release

Date of release of qualifying music release (s)

Eligibility period April 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026. To be eligible, albums, EP's and singles must have been commercially released in this period. Proof of release will be mandatory.

The release date is determined by the album's availability for retail sale or online streaming. Artists/groups will need to provide a release date and may be asked for proof, such as a letter from the distributor, label, retail outlet, Soundscan report, or digital sales report.

Would you like to be considered for Fans's Choice Entertainer of the Year?

Yes

No

This award recognizes the accomplishments of an artist or group who has performed within the dates of the eligibility period. Artist or group is not required to have an eligible release. Voting for this award is done online by the general public in conjunction with a sponsor.

Would you like to be considered for Group of the Year Award?

Yes

No

Duos, small and large ensembles (such as choirs and chamber groups), and bands qualify for this award. All genres are accepted. Applicants must meet the general eligibility criteria.

Would you like to be considered for Rising Star of the Year?

(Please select this award **only** if your qualifying release is your **first commercial recording**)

Yes

No

This award recognizes an artist or group who has released their **first commercial recording(s)** within the dates of the eligibility period. All genres accepted.

Would you like to be considered for Solo Artist of the Year?

Yes

No

Solo artists qualify for this award. All genres accepted. Must meet the eligibility criteria.

Aimeriez-vous être considéré(e) pour Artiste francophone de l'année / Francophone Artist of the Year?

Oui

Non

Ce prix récompense un artiste ou un groupe issu de la communauté francophone. Au moins 50 % des titres doivent être chantés en français. Pour être éligibles, les artistes/groupes doivent avoir sorti au moins trois (3) singles au cours des trois (3) dernières années.

Would you like your album to be considered for Album of the Year?

Yes

No

Album of the Year – A full-length recording (minimum of 6 tracks or 30 minutes) must be released within the eligibility period to qualify. Both solo artists and groups qualify. All genres accepted.

Would you like to be considered for Global Music Artist of the Year?

Yes

No

With a goal to support and celebrate immigrant artists, this award is specifically geared for an individual artist/ group who is a newcomer (including: international student, international graduate, PR, refugee, temporary foreign worker, second generation immigrants etc.) to Newfoundland and Labrador. The artist/group also has a musical practice that increases awareness, belonging, and celebration of diverse and equity-deserving cultures, languages, and/or stories in the community. To qualify, artists/groups must have released at least three (3) songs within the last three (3) years.

Would you like to be considered for Indigenous Artist of the Year?

Yes

No

This award recognizes an Indigenous Artist or Group. If a group, at least 50% of members must be Indigenous. To qualify applicants must have released at least three (3) singles within the last three (3) years, must provide a statement of relationality, and provide a letter of support from an Indigenous official representative, government or organization with whom they are connected/affiliated with.

Would you like to be considered for Side Musician of the year?

Yes

No

This award recognizes the accomplishments of a recording/performing musician within the dates of the eligibility period. This award is given to an individual and does not require a MusicNL membership. The applicant needs to add a list of their session work in the eligibility period (a selection of concerts, recording sessions, etc.)

Would you like to be considered for the Ron Hynes Songwriter of the Year?

Yes

No

To be considered for songwriter of the year, songwriters must submit three songs that were released within the eligibility period. The songwriter must be a recording artist on the three (3) submitted songs. Songwriter(s) can be nominated in both this category and the Non-Performer Songwriter of the Year category if they are both performing songwriters (recording artist) and write songs for other performers. For collaborations, the applicant songwriter must meet all eligibility criteria. If songwriters are submitting to both categories, they cannot use the same three (3) songs in both submissions. All songs must be registered with SOCAN.

Would you like to be considered for Music Video of the Year?

Yes

No

This award recognizes the creative and technical accomplishments of a music video released.

The video must feature a commercially released song by an artist or group who is a current MusicNL member. The video must have been released during the eligibility period.

The award is presented to the artist(s), as well as the video's producer and director.

Would you like to be considered for International Touring Artist of the Year?

Yes

No

This award celebrates an artist's significant achievements and success in live music touring. It's a recognition of their ability to connect with audiences through live performances and build a strong touring presence outside of Canada.

Would you like to be considered for Songwriter of the Year (Non-Performer)?

Yes

No

This award recognizes the accomplishments of a songwriter who wrote material for another artist. Songwriter(s) can be nominated in both this category, and the Songwriter of the Year category if they are both performing songwriters (recording artist) and write songs for other performers. There is no minimum percentage of contribution in this category.

Three (3) songs must be submitted as a representation of each songwriter's body of work. The Songwriter(s) must not be a recording artist on the three (3) songs submitted. No member of a songwriting team submitted in Songwriter of the Year (Non-Performing), can be a featured recording artist on any of the songs.

If songwriters are submitting to both categories, they cannot use the same three (3) songs in both submissions.

Would you like to be considered for the Sound on Screen Award?

Yes

No

This award is for the songwriters and composers who have demonstrated innovation, commercial success, and artistic merit from music created for screen during the eligibility period.

All works submitted must be the composer/songwriter's original work, written as a result of the creative interaction for a specific screen project. Previously written music for other purposes and synchronized to picture is not eligible (ie. no syncs). Previously

written material is not eligible. The work must have been for a production that received its first public screening, broadcast, or release during the eligibility period.

These awards are designed to recognize recordings by artists or groups in specific genres. A single award is presented in each category. Artists and groups must meet the eligibility criteria listed in the website to apply for a genre-specific award.

Artists and groups must choose ONE genre. They will be also asked to choose an alternative genre in the scenario where the first category does not go ahead.

MusicNL supports all genres equally and encourages members from other non-listed genres to contact info@musicnl.ca to discuss submitting a new genre. In doing so, members can create a new category for their genre pending having enough eligible releases in said category.

Genres descriptions

Alternative Artist of the Year – This category is for a "non-traditional" genre that exists outside of the mainstream music consciousness or the boundaries of an existing musical genre.

Traditional Artist of the Year – This award recognized an exceptional release in a music tradition with direct historical roots to a specific ancestry, culture, region, or community. The genres can include but are not limited to : trad, powwow, throat singing, call-and-response, bluegrass, Balkan brass, Celtic, Cajun, cumbia, gamelan, Carnatic, reggae, ranchera, mariachi, etc.

Classical Artist of the Year – This award recognizes classical recordings from soloists, chamber ensembles, instrumental ensembles, or soloists accompanied by large ensembles or chamber groups (instrumental or vocal). Eligible genres include, but are not limited to, chamber music, orchestral works, solo performances with ensemble, minimalist compositions, atonal music, film scores, and opera.

Country Artist of the Year – This award recognizes a recording in any style of country music including, but not limited to alt-country, Americana, traditional country, western swing, bluegrass, etc.

Electronic Artist of the Year – This award recognizes a recording by an artist or group that employs electronic musical instruments and electronic music technology at the root of its production. This can include, but are not limited to, house, techno, drum n bass, ambient, dubstep, and various other forms of electronic music.

Folk Artist of the Year – This award recognizes a recording within any style of folk music, celebrating both traditional and contemporary expressions of the genre. Eligible styles include, but are not limited to, indie folk, progressive folk,

contemporary folk, Nueva Canción Latinoamericana, trova, bolero, tango, andino, neo-traditional, neofolk, folk-pop, folk rock, and the roots revival movement.

Instrumental Artist of the Year – This award recognizes a recording by an artist or group that primarily features instrumental music across any genre. To qualify as "instrumental," at least 75% of the submitted tracks must consist of music without vocals. Eligible genres include, but are not limited to, classical, jazz, electronic dance music, lo-fi, ambient, post-rock, world music, and instrumental hip-hop.

Jazz Artist of the Year – This award recognizes excellence in recorded music across the genres of jazz. Eligible styles include, but are not limited to, bebop, swing, vocal jazz, cool jazz, hard bop, modal jazz, free jazz, smooth jazz, Latin jazz, Afro-Cuban jazz, Afro-Brazilian jazz, funk, soul jazz, fusion, blues, and bossa nova. The category also embraces jazz subgenres that blend cultural influences, such as world fusion, salsa, merengue, mambo, samba, danzón, and contemporary experimental jazz.

Loud Artist of the Year – This award recognizes excellence in recorded music within the broad spectrum of heavy and high-intensity genres. Eligible styles include, but are not limited to, metal (and its subgenres such as thrash, death, black, doom, sludge, and progressive metal), hardcore (including post-hardcore and metalcore), punk (such as hardcore punk, crust punk, and melodic punk), noise rock, industrial, screamo, grindcore, and other genres characterized by loud, aggressive, or intense sonic expression.

Pop Artist of the Year – This award recognizes excellence in recorded music across the pop genres. These can include but are not limited to: Dance-pop, dream-pop, Electropop, Ambient pop, bubblegum pop, Contemporary pop, mainstream pop, afrobeats, adult contemporary, bollywood, K-pop, J-pop, Cantopop, orchestral pop, middle-of-the-road, top 40, dance

R&B Artist of the Year - This award recognizes exceptional achievement in Rhythm and Blues and its subgenres, including contemporary R&B, neo-soul, alternative R&B, funk, soul, gospel-influenced R&B, and trap soul. The award celebrates artists who honor R&B's heritage while innovating through contemporary production and songwriting, showcasing technical excellence and authentic expression

Rap/Hip-Hop Artist of the Year – This award recognizes excellence in recorded music across the landscape of rap and hip-hop. Eligible styles include, but are not limited to, trap, boom bap, gangsta rap, freestyle rap, mumble rap, melodic rap, crunk, grime, drill, alternative hip-hop, conscious rap, lo-fi hip-hop, experimental hip-hop, and regional or fusion styles such as dancehall, alté, and reggaetón-infused rap.

Rock Artist of the Year – This award recognizes excellence in recorded music across the wide spectrum of rock genres. These can include but are not limited to: alternative rock, garage rock, glam rock, hard rock, punk rock, indie rock, progressive rock, psychedelic rock, roots rock, southern rock, surf rock, classic rock, grunge, shoegaze, noise rock, math rock, post-rock, post-punk, new wave, folk rock, blues rock, soft rock, and experimental rock.

Are you applying for genre awards?

Yes

No

Select the genre award that best represents your work.

▼

Alternative

Traditional

Classical

Country

Electronic

Folk

Instrumental

Jazz

Loud

Pop

...

Please upload your first eligible single



You will provide at least three eligible singles

Your music will be streamed directly by our jury within the Good Grants platform and cannot be downloaded, ensuring your work is protected throughout the review process.

Please upload your second eligible single



You will provide at least three eligible singles

Your music will be streamed directly by our jury within the Good Grants platform and cannot be downloaded, ensuring your work is protected throughout the review process.

Please upload your third eligible single



You will provide at least three eligible singles

Your music will be streamed directly by our jury within the Good Grants platform and cannot be downloaded, ensuring your work is protected throughout the review process.

I confirm that the applicant's membership is active until October 30, 2026

I attest that the information about the applicant or artist is complete and up-to-date.

I acknowledge and agree to abide by MusicNL's **Code of Conduct**

I attest that I have signing authority for the above-named applicant or artist, and that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is accurate.