

LAUNCH OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OSM STANDARD LIFE COMPETITION

Announcing the semi-finalists and the timetable of the two rounds and activities accessible to the general public. An even more interactive edition!

Montreal, Tuesday, November 18, 2014 – On the occasion of the **launch of the 75th anniversary of the OSM Standard Life Competition**, which took place at Montreal’s city hall, the names of the **24 semi-finalists** for this edition, devoted to woodwinds, brass and voice, were unveiled in the presence of **Denis Coderre**, Mayor of Montreal, **Pierre A. Goulet**, President of the OSM Standard Life Competition, **Michel Fortin**, Senior Vice-President, Marketing and Customer Solutions at Standard Life, **Stéphane Lemelin**, chair of the department of performance at McGill University’s Schulich School of Music, and **Kent Nagano**, music director of the OSM and a member of the grand jury for this 2014 edition. **From November 18 to 22**, the candidates in the most prestigious performance competition in Canada will be vying for one or more prizes and scholarships worth a total of over \$100,000, including the Competition Grand Prize.

The 24 semi-finalists

The semi-finalists for the 2014 edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition, hailing from right across Canada, are:

In the “Woodwinds” category (8)

Eric Abramovitz (QC), clarinet
Ron Cohen Mann (BC), oboe
Lara Deutsch (ON), flute
Julia Harguindey (QC), bassoon
Nicholas Kerr Barr (QC), clarinet
François Laurin-Burgess (QC), clarinet
Jeffrey Leung (ON), saxophone
Lucy Song (ON), flute

In the “Brass” category (7)

- Raymond Carruthers (ON), trombone
- Mikolaj Debowski (ON), trombone
- Carson King-Fournier (MB), trombone
- Brian Mangrum (ON), horn
- Jarrett Mccourt (ON), tuba
- Scott Reynolds (QC), trumpet
- Gabriel Trottier (QC), horn

And in the “Voice” category (9)

Laurent Deleuil (QC), baritone
Marcel d’Entremont (NS), tenor
Claire de Sévigné (QC), soprano
Monika Dongmo (QC), soprano
Olivier Gagnon (QC), baritone
Arminè Kassabian (ON), mezzo soprano
Hugo Laporte (QC), baritone
Marie-Andrée Mathieu (QC), mezzo soprano
Florine Valiquette (QC), soprano

All information about the semi-finalists, as well as clips introducing them, can be consulted on the website of the [Competition](#).

An unforgettable week for the candidates and for the general public

The candidates – and the general public – are preparing to enjoy the unique experience of the OSM Standard Life Competition during the **semi-finals in Tanna Schulich Hall at McGill University’s Schulich School of Music**, as well as the **grand finale, which will be held for the third year at Maison symphonique** thanks to a generous donation made to the OSM by **Mrs. Barbara Bronfman and family**. In addition to their performances, candidates have the opportunity of being coached by **mentors of the Competition, these being musicians from the OSM**, as well as participating in master classes offered by **members of the jury**.

Grand finale at Maison symphonique de Montréal on November 22

On the occasion of the Competition’s grand finale, the public is invited to attend the finalists’ performances at **Maison symphonique**, and completely free of charge. This day constitutes a one-of-a-kind opportunity to see and hear superb performances by the rising musical generation in Canada, to visit or rediscover Maison symphonique and to experience in real time the unfolding of one of classical music’s most prestigious competitions.

An even more interactive edition!

For those who prefer the experience of the OSM Standard Life Competition in the comfort of home, it will be possible, for a second consecutive year, to **follow the [finals](#) live on the OSM website**. A new feature this year, spectators may vote online or in the hall for the **Stingray Music audience award** during the grand finale. Different exclusive video-clips, produced thanks to the support of Standard Life, will also be broadcast on social networks to make this edition even more compelling.

A remarkable international jury

The jury for this anniversary edition will be chaired by **Jesse Rosen, president and CEO of the League of American Orchestras**. The grand jury, which will determine the winner of the OSM Standard Life Grand Prize, will be made up of **Kent Nagano**, music director of the OSM, and **Welz Kauffman**, president and CEO of the Ravinia Festival.

The judges by category

Candidates in the “Voice” category will be judged by

- Swedish soprano **Miah Persson**,
- Canadian tenor **Michael Schade** and
- **Georges Delnon**, intendant of the Hamburg Opera.

Candidates in the “Woodwinds” category will be judged by

- **Vincent Lucas**, principal flute with the Orchestre de Paris,
- clarinetist **Yehuda Gilad**, teacher at the USC Thornton School of Music
- and oboist **Louise Pellerin**, teacher at the Zurich University of Arts.

And candidates in the “Brass” category will be judged by

- trumpeter **Jens Lindemann**, soloist and teacher at UCLA,
- **Johannes Dengler**, principal horn with the Bayerische Staatsorchester
- and trombonist **Ian Bousfield**, soloist and former principal with the Vienna Philharmonic and the London Symphony Orchestra.

Prizes and grants totaling more than \$100,000

In addition to benefiting from outstanding recognition, a number of candidates will be rewarded with prizes and scholarships worth over \$100,000. The winner of the Grand Prize will additionally have the chance to appear with the OSM under the direction of **Sir Roger Norrington**, on Tuesday, April 14, 2015.

[Complete list of prizes and scholarships](#)

Background

The OSM Standard Life Competition came into being in 1940, on the initiative of Wilfrid Pelletier, the first music director of the Société des Concerts symphoniques de Montréal, which in 1954 would become the OSM. Over the years, close to 300 prize-winners have made a name for themselves at this performance competition, among them Angela Hewitt, James Ehnes, Alexandre Da Costa, André Laplante, Karina Gauvin, Jonathan Crow, Stéphane Tétréault, Jan Lisiecki and Andrew Wan.

Standard Life – Partner since 1992

Standard Life is an important supplier of financial services. It supports the development of the potential of young Canadians, in among other ways by sponsoring the OSM Standard Life Competition since 1992.

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The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank
Loto-Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts
and the Conseil des arts de Montréal for their generous support.

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec.

The OSM Standard Life Competition is presented by
Standard Life in association with Stingray Music.

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APPENDIX

2014 edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition

Detailed schedule

Semi-final round

Tanna Schulich Hall, McGill University

527 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal

Wednesday, November 19

Semi-finals – Woodwinds

9:30 a.m.	Eric Abramovitz, clarinet
10:10 a.m.	Ron Cohen Mann, oboe
10:55 a.m.	Jeffrey Leung, saxophone
11:30 a.m.	Nicholas Kerr-Barr, clarinet
1:15 p.m.	François Laurin-Burgess, clarinet
2 p.m.	Julia Harguindey, bassoon
2:45 p.m.	Lucy Song, flute
3:30 p.m.	Lara Deutsch, flute
4:15 p.m.	Deliberations, followed by announcement of the results
7 p.m.	Masterclass for woodwinds: Vincent Lucas, flute

Thursday, November 20

Semi-finals – Brass

10 a.m.	Gabriel Trottier, horn
10:35 a.m.	Brian Mangrum, horn
11:20 a.m.	Carson King-Fournier, trombone
11:50 a.m.	Jarrett Mccourt, tuba
1:30 p.m.	Raymond Carruthers, trombone
2:10 p.m.	Scott Reynolds, trumpet
2:45 p.m.	Mikolaj Debowski, trombone
3:15 p.m.	Deliberations, followed by announcement of the results
6 p.m.	Masterclass for brass: Jens Lindemann, trumpet

Friday, November 21
Semi-finals – Voice

10 a.m.	Arminè Kassabian, mezzo-soprano
10:30 a.m.	Marcel d'Entremont, tenor
11:25 a.m.	Florie Valiquette, soprano
11:55 a.m.	Marie-Andrée Mathieu, mezzo-soprano
1:30 p.m.	Laurent Deleuil, baritone
2:05 p.m.	Monika Dongmo, soprano
2:35 p.m.	Olivier Gagnon, baritone
3:35 p.m.	Hugo Laporte, baritone
4:05 p.m.	Claire de Sévigné, soprano
4:35 p.m.	Deliberations, followed by announcement of the results
6:30 p.m.	Masterclass in voice: Miah Persson, chant

Saturday, November 22

Final round*

Maison symphonique de Montréal

1600 Saint-Urbain St., Montreal

9:30 a.m.	Doors open to the public
10 a.m.	Finals, Brass category (3 finalists)
11:30 a.m.	Activities for the general public
1 p.m.	Finals, Woodwinds category (3 finalists)
2:30 p.m.	Activities for the general public
3:30 p.m.	Finals, Voice category (3 finalists)
5 p.m.	Deliberations
8 p.m.	Awards ceremony (open to the public)

*Also broadcast live over osm.ca

Master class schedule

In the context of the Competition, a number of masterclasses open to the public will be given by members of the prestigious international jury:

Wednesday, November 19

7 p.m. WOODWIND masterclass with Vincent Lucas, flute
Tanna Schulich Hall, McGill University

Thursday, November 20

9:30 a.m. WOODWIND masterclass with Louise Pellerin, oboe
Conservatoire de Musique de Montréal

2 p.m. VOICE masterclass with Michael Schade, tenor
Faculty of Music, Université de Montréal

6 p.m. BRASS masterclass with Jens Lindemann, trumpet
Tanna Schulich Hall, McGill University

7:30 p.m. BRASS masterclass with Ian Bousfield, trombone
Tanna Schulich Hall, McGill University

Friday, November 21

9:30 a.m. BRASS masterclass with Johannes Dengler, horn
Conservatoire de Musique de Montréal

1:30 p.m. WOODWIND masterclass with Yehuda Gilad, clarinet
Faculty of Music, Université de Montréal

6:30 p.m. VOICE masterclass with Miah Persson, soprano
Tanna Schulich Hall, McGill University