

## Approaching the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the OSM Standard Life competition Registrations until October 1<sup>st</sup> 2014

**Montreal, Friday, September 12, 2014** – With the application process well under way for the [OSM Standard Life Competition](#), the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is feverishly preparing to offer a very special edition of the Competition to candidates who are accepted. Created in 1940, during the years of the OSM's founding, Canada's most prestigious national performance competition will hold its 75<sup>th</sup> edition this year – devoted to voice, brass and woodwinds – from November 18 to 22.

### **New scholarships for the 75th anniversary!**

The Competition, which makes it possible to offer candidates over \$100,000 in scholarships and awards, is pleased to announce that additional scholarships will be offered this year:

-**Four \$1,000 scholarships offered by the OSM Volunteer Association** to mark the 75th anniversary of the Competition. These scholarships will be awarded to contestants who distinguish themselves during mentorship activities given by OSM musicians;

-**A \$2,500 “Audience Award” scholarship courtesy of Galaxie Stingray**, a new Competition partner.

### **A more accessible and interactive edition**

The semifinals and finals of the Competition are completely free of charge and accessible. The semifinals will take place at the Tanna Schulich hall of the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, while the finals will be held once again at Maison symphonique de Montréal. For those who prefer the comforts of home, performances will be offered for a second year in free transmissions on [osm.ca](#)! The audience enjoying the experience of a high-status competition and discovering classical music beneath the fingers of some of the most talented young artists of their generation is becoming more and more numerous.

A new feature this year: the **Galaxie Stingray “Audience Award”**, will enable the audience to vote for the candidate of their choice, both in the concert hall and online. All details will be released soon. Follow the candidates on the OSM platforms!

### **The experience of the OSM Standard Life Competition**

The Competition offers an essential and formative experience that will contribute to the development of competitors' careers by affording them the opportunity of very special contact with the musicians of the OSM and a preeminent international jury.

### Mentorship

For a number of years the Competition has included a mentorship program wherein competitors can benefit from the expertise of OSM musicians. That distinctive constituent of the Competition this year includes a roundtable on the occupation of professional musician as well as a chamber-music component, two activities much appreciated by candidates.

### Masterclasses

Faithful to tradition, the Competition is offering masterclasses once again this year given by members of its elite international jury. Soprano **Miah Persson**, Orchestre de Paris principal flute **Vincent Lucas** and solo trumpeter **Jens Lindemann** will share their advice with semifinalists. Additionally, the Competition has collaborated with higher-education music institutions so that classes can be held at the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal by oboist **Louise Pellerin**, professor at the Zurich University of Arts, and by **Johannes Dengler**, principal horn player with the Bayerische Staatsorchester; at the Université de Montréal Faculty of Music by clarinetist **Yehuda Gilad**, professor at the USC Thornton School of Music and the Colburn School, as well as by tenor **Michael Schade**; and at McGill University's Schulich School of Music by **Ian Bousfield**, former principal trombone of the Vienna Philharmonic and London Symphony Orchestra. The schedule for these activities will be posted shortly on [osm.ca](http://osm.ca).

### **Reminders**

The **deadline for applications to the OSM Standard Life Competition, the most prestigious national performance competition in Canada, is October 1, 2014**. The application form and all details are available on [www.osm.ca/en/osm-standard-life-competition](http://www.osm.ca/en/osm-standard-life-competition). In total, the Competition bestows more than \$100,000 in awards and scholarships. Among the many awards, it should be mentioned that the Grand Prize winner will perform with the OSM under the direction of **Sir Roger Norrington** on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, and that one of the winner's concerts will be broadcast on ICI Musique. The complete list of awards and scholarships as well as all details about the Competition can be found on [www.osm.ca/en/osm-standard-life-competition](http://www.osm.ca/en/osm-standard-life-competition).

Consult the complete programming of the OSM's 81<sup>st</sup> season  
and reserve your tickets online: [osm.ca](http://osm.ca). Tickets on sale now: 514 842-9951

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

The OSM Standard Life Competition is presented by Standard Life.

The OSM Standard Life competition is presented in collaboration with Galaxy.

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