



Interest in orchestral music is growing among young Canadians, and the National Youth Orchestra is highly regarded abroad. The summer camp of Les Jeunesses Musicales at Mount Orford, Quebec, and the Banff School of Fine Arts are also developing young Canadian musicians.

Canada possesses three professional ballet companies of international repute—the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada (Toronto), and les Grands Ballets Canadiens. These companies are making an important contribution to the musical and artistic development of the nation.

Canada's leading opera companies are le Théâtre Lyrique de Nouvelle-France (Quebec), the Vancouver Opera Association and the Canadian Opera Company (Toronto). None of these companies, however, can operate all year round. Operas are produced occasionally by other organizations, notably the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

A number of music and drama festivals take place each year, the most famous of which is the Stratford Shakespearean Festival at Stratford, Ontario. Other noteworthy festivals are held annually at Montreal, Vancouver and Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

Canada's most original contribution to the arts has probably been in painting, which, from the pioneer work of the Group of Seven to that of numerous contemporary artists, has manifested a vigour hardly surpassed by the artistic output of any other nation of comparable size. Of first importance in providing a public and a market for Canadian painters and sculptors have been the purchasing and exhibiting policies of the National Gallery in Ottawa. The Federal Government also buys Canadian works of art for many of its buildings.

Since the Second World War, the literature of Canada has acquired international stature. Many literary prizes are won each year by Canadians. Besides the many books published in Canada, the works of