



MINNESOTA
MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Handbook

2023-2024

MMTA Office ▪ 10800 Lyndale Ave. S, Ste. 120 ▪ Bloomington, MN 55420

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President's Letter

The MMTA Handbook provides a wealth of information about MMTA programs and personnel. Dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to create enriching and engaging programs to nourish the highest standards of music teaching. With over 600 members, we span six generations. Our backgrounds are wide and varied. We cover many areas of the state, both urban and rural. However, we are all connected because of music and because of the students we teach.

There is something so fresh and rejuvenating about receiving the MMTA Handbook and starting a new school year. Teachers, students and parents are abuzz with excitement and the anticipation of possibilities and opportunities that lie ahead. We make plans, add event dates to our calendars and look forward to learning and growing. Through music, we are all connected.

Here is a little acrostic to help us remember the beauty of our connection as music teachers:

Call up another MMTA member to meet for coffee. This is probably the easiest and most instant way to connect with another teacher. Even just a quick coffee date can invigorate us!

Offer time as a volunteer for various MMTA events. Are you curious about a specific MMTA program? What better way to learn more about it than by volunteering at the event! This is also a great way to network with other teachers and learn more about the programs offered.

Network online. Did you know that MMTA has a members only Facebook group? This group is a great resource to ask a question about a program, get teaching tips and just get to know other teachers. (search for Members of Minnesota Music Teachers Association).

Notice the excitement when students learn new music, discover a new concept or prepare for an MMTA program.

Engage in the possibilities that MMTA offers, whether it be trying a program for the first time, inviting more students to participate or serving on a committee.

Come to the annual MMTA convention. The convention offers stimulating sessions, music to browse and another opportunity to connect with colleagues.

Take time to attend a local association meeting. We can learn so much from each other.

As we begin the new academic year, may we all find joy in connecting our students and ourselves with all the MMTA has to offer!

Musically yours,

Laura Harding, NCTM

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MMTA Mission Statement

The mission of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association is to advance the profession of music teaching through education, certification, networking and advocacy.

MMTA is an affiliate of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA).

MTNA Vision & Values

The mission of MTNA is to advance the value of music study and music-making in society and to support the professionalism of music teachers.

The mission is accomplished by members who teach with competence, act with integrity, volunteer services to MTNA programs, provide professional support for colleagues and communities, and comply with all laws and regulations that impact the music teaching profession.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

We, the members of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA), affirm the Diversity Statement issued by our parent organization, the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA).

In Minnesota, we recognize that our organization has overrepresented certain peoples and musical styles while underrepresenting, overlooking, and/or forgetting others. MMTA is committed to adopting best practices of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in order to:

- Make well-informed decisions that include underrepresented populations;
- Educate and inform our members; and
- Actively implement these practices in our programs.

In our quest to continually educate ourselves about DEI, we pledge to:

- Celebrate and encourage creative expression wherever we find it, both in our shared heritage and as we change and grow.
- Strive to create pathways to student-centered outcomes in our educational programs and teaching studios.
- Center our leadership and decision-making processes on the voices of students, teachers, members, families, volunteers, staff, and communities.

MMTA has a standing DEI committee which acknowledges the evolving nature of this work and the above statement.

We commit to:

- Regular meetings.
- Collaboration with community members.
- Prioritizing this work at our annual convention.
- Our own research and development.

Via these steps, action and change will occur within our organization for the betterment of all.

February 2022

MTNA Code of Ethics

The principles and aspirations found in the Code of Ethics are not conditions of membership, but are goals and ideals that each MTNA member should strive to make an essential part of his or her professional commitment to students, to colleagues, and to society.

Commitment to Students

- The teacher shall conduct the relationship with students and families in a professional manner.
- The teacher shall respect the personal integrity and privacy of students unless the law requires disclosure.
- The teacher shall clearly communicate the expectations of the studio.
- The teacher shall encourage, guide, and develop the musical potential of each student.
- The teacher shall treat each student with dignity and respect, without discrimination of any kind.
- The teacher shall respect the student's right to obtain instruction from the teacher of [their] choice.

Commitment to Colleagues

- The teacher shall respect the reputation of colleagues and shall refrain from making false or malicious statements about colleagues.
- The teacher shall refrain from disclosing sensitive information about colleagues obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
- The teacher shall participate in the student's change of teachers with as much communication as possible between parties, while being sensitive to the privacy rights of the student and families.
- The teacher shall maintain a professional attitude and shall act with integrity with regard to colleagues in the profession.

Commitment to Society

- The teacher shall maintain the highest standard of professional conduct and personal integrity.
- The teacher shall accurately represent [their] professional qualifications.
- The teacher shall strive for continued growth in professional competencies.
- The teacher is encouraged to be a resource in the community.

General Rules and Procedures for All MMTA Programs

1. Teachers registering students for MMTA programs must be MMTA members in good standing. Non-members may register students for MMTA programs by paying an additional entry fee of \$60 per event. A registrant must be a student of the same teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the event date.

Collegiate students may register themselves for the Young Artist Contest regardless of whether they or their teachers are current members of MMTA.
2. Teachers registering students for any MMTA program are expected to assist in some manner or send a studio representative to assist as needed. Studio representative may be a parent or responsible older student.
3. Communication regarding any student program must be between the teacher and the Site Administrator or Program Director. It is inappropriate for a student or parent to contact MMTA program personnel and may result in the student's disqualification.
4. MMTA welcomes students with special needs. Adaptations will be made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Program Director and/or Site Administrator.
5. Event dates, locations, and registration deadlines are subject to change, or may be cancelled. Changes and cancellations will be announced as far in advance as possible. The online Handbook and Events section of the MMTA website will be kept up-to-date. It is the teacher's responsibility to be aware of any alterations.
6. An event may be cancelled/postponed for various reasons, including adverse weather and driving conditions. Registered students may re-register for the rescheduled date or at a different site within six months of the original event, at no additional charge.
7. All registrations must be submitted with payment by the deadline for that event.
 - Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com to register online. Members must log in to register. Deadlines for online registrations are the same as postmark deadlines.

OR

 - Mail or hand-deliver registrations to the MMTA Office at:
MMTA ▪ 10800 Lyndale Ave. S, Ste. 120 ▪ Bloomington, MN 55420
8. An application/registration may not be withdrawn or changed after it has been submitted.
9. Fees for participation in a program must be paid by the teacher (with exception of a collegiate student registering for Young Artist Contest). MMTA will accept Visa or MasterCard, or a single check drawn from the teacher's bank account. Checks will not be accepted from non-collegiate students or parents.
10. No refunds are granted if a student is unable to participate once registered for an event.
11. Schedule requests for general AM or PM times will be honored as time allows. Only those requests submitted at the time of registration will be considered.
12. Requests for schedule changes may be granted at the discretion of the Site Administrator. A surcharge must be paid to MMTA before the student may participate.
13. Event schedules and other information will be sent to teachers with registered students approximately 1-2 weeks prior to the event. Results will be mailed or emailed to teachers following the event.
14. MMTA expects all entrants to abide by copyright law.
15. Decisions of the adjudicators are final.

Failure to comply with these rules and procedures may result in disqualification.

MMTA & MTNA Membership

Full Membership is open to any person actively engaged in the field of music. These members are members of both MMTA and MTNA. They are entitled to vote, hold office, apply for national certification, and enter students in events in both organizations. Membership year is July 1st-June 30th.

- **Senior Membership:** Open to persons age 70 or older who are engaged in any field of musical activity. Senior members receive a 25% discount on state dues.

Collegiate Membership is open to full-time college students currently involved in music study. Collegiate members are members of both MMTA and MTNA but may not vote, hold office, or apply for national certification. They may enter students in MMTA events, but not MTNA. Membership year is October 1st-September 30th.

Student Membership are members of MMTA only and may not vote or hold office. They may enter students in MMTA events. Membership year is October 1st-September 30th.

Retired Membership is open to those who have been active members for at least 20 continuous years in MTNA, are age 65 or greater, and are essentially retired from teaching. A member must request this type of membership from MTNA. Retired members may vote but may not hold office at divisional/national levels, or enter students in MTNA or MMTA events. Membership year is July 1st-June 30th.

Patron and Studio Patron Membership is open to businesses and music schools/large studios. Patron members are members of MMTA only; however, individual teachers within the patron studio join both MMTA and MTNA. Membership year is July 1st-June 30th.

MTNA Member Certification

MTNA offers a certification program which is valid in all 50 states. It is renewable every year. The application process involves writing a philosophy of teaching; writing analysis of specific teaching pieces; and submitting video files of the applicant teaching a student at various times throughout the preparation of a piece. For specific details and requirements, please go to www.mtnacertification.org.

To encourage members to become Nationally Certified Teachers of Music (NCTM), MMTA members who successfully complete the process may receive a \$100 rebate from MMTA (Available to up to 20 newly-certified members per year.) This rebate is to defray the cost of the certification application. To apply for the rebate, please send proof of national certification to the MMTA Office.

Questions about MTNA Certification? Please contact MMTA's National Certification Chair. (*See Handbook p. 48 for contact information.*)

MTNA Performance & Composition Competitions

Purpose

The purpose of the Music Teachers National Association State Competitions are to provide educational experiences for students and teachers and to recognize exceptionally talented young artists and their teachers in their pursuit of musical excellence. (www.mtna.org) Students declared winners at the State Level move on to compete at the Divisional Level. Winners at the Divisional Level compete at the National Level.

State Coordinator

Nancy Van Kampen (651) 315-2197 ▪ craigvk@aol.com

Deadline

September 13, 2023 (by 3:00 PM Central Standard Time)

How to Register

- Register online at www.mtna.org.

Fees

Pay registration fees to MTNA. Additional \$15 administrative fee paid to MMTA.

Location

State: **October 28, 2023** - Fourth Baptist Church, Plymouth
Divisional: Video Submission (*See www.mtna.org for information.*)
National: **March 16-20, 2024** - MTNA National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.



MMTA Foundation

The MMTA Foundation offers Professional Development Grants, District/Local Association Grants, MMTA Foundation State Fellow Award, Travel Grants for Minnesota winners of MTNA Division Performance Competitions, and Monetary Awards for students who have demonstrated superior achievement in MMTA Educational Exams. Additional achievement awards include the Young Artist Winner, Student Composition Winner and Student of the Year. The MMTA Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3), tax-deductible organization. Donations may be made online at www.mnmusicteachers.com/donate-or-submit-payment-mmta-foundation or mailed to the MMTA Office.

Foundation Award Winners Recital

The Foundation celebrates the achievements of Young Artist Contest winners by hosting an annual Winners Recital. Piano, Voice, and Instrumental winners are invited to participate. The recital is held on the Sunday evening of the MMTA Convention in June.

This year's recital will be held on **Sunday, June 2nd at 7:30 PM** at Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina.

Student Awards

The MMTA Foundation celebrates the achievements of students who receive high scores on upper-level exams. Awards are mailed to the teacher, usually between December and July of the current academic year. (For a list of awards, visit www.mnmusicteachers.com/mmta-foundation.)

Grants

The MMTA Foundation offers two opportunities for grants:

- The *Robert P. Schmitt Professional Development Grant* provides financial assistance for music teachers undertaking projects which enhance their professional development. Funding provided through a generous gift from Schmitt Music Company.
 - Application deadline is April 15th of the current academic year.
- The *District/Location Association Grant* provides assistance in funding educational programs at the district level.
 - Application deadline is July 1st of the current academic year.
- Apply online at www.mnmusicteachers.com/mmta-foundation.

State Fellow

The MMTA Foundation State Fellow Award recognizes and honors music teachers and members (current and former) of MMTA for their outstanding, long-lasting, and inspiring contributions to music education in the state of Minnesota.

- A minimum of \$500 is needed for each nominee per year.
- Nominations open each academic year from July 1 until the following May 1.
- The MMTA State Fellow may be nominated by anyone and will be recognized during the annual MMTA Convention at the Foundation Award Winners Recital.
- Funds collected will be available for small teacher grants.
- Learn more online at www.mnmusicteachers.com/mmta-foundation.

Student of the Year Award

Given to a High School Senior, the Student of the Year Award honors a music student who demonstrates involvement in MMTA programs. The candidate should display a strong record of service to his or her community through music, participation in musical ensembles, and skill as a performer and creative musician.

The award is presented at the MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital.

Bravo Advertisements

Parents, teachers, and friends of Honors Concert participants are encouraged to congratulate their student with a Bravo Ad. Ads include a photo of the performer, and a brief congratulatory message which will be displayed in a slide show prior to the annual Honors Concert. A payment of \$25 is to accompany each ad.

To make a payment and submit an ad, visit www.mnmusicteachers.com/mmta-foundation.

MMTA Convention

The 2024 MMTA Convention will be held June 2-4 at Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina. The MMTA Convention is open to the public and is a great way for music teachers to connect, get inspired, and learn about MMTA programs.

Session proposals are due in the fall. **Master class audition videos** are due in early spring. **Convention registration** begins in March, with early bird discounts running through early Spring. The most comprehensive source of information is the **MMTA website** (mnmusicteachers.com/convention) which will be updated continually as information becomes available.

See you at the MMTA Convention!



MusicLink Foundation

Program Director

Sue Wege, NCTM ▪ (651) 458-0143 ▪ swege71@comcast.net

How it Works

Teachers may volunteer to teach a student that they know has financial need or they can express their interest in being linked with a qualifying student. Neighborhood schools are contacted to assist in identifying potential students for the program. Financial need is determined by inclusion in the free or reduced school lunch program or evidence of other financial hardship. Qualifying students must show an interest in learning music and must have parental support. The MusicLink Foundation assists in getting a practice instrument for the student. MusicLink teachers receive an I.D. number which qualifies them for discounts on music and materials for their MusicLink students. MusicLink students also qualify for various scholarship opportunities.

MMTA Support

MMTA shows its support for the MusicLink program by:

1. Waiving program fees for MusicLink students.
2. Offering a 50% discount on educational materials for MusicLink students.
3. Extending a \$10 discount on the Syllabus Package to MMTA member MusicLink teachers.
4. Sponsoring the MusicLink Playathon at the Mall of America.
5. Offering 2 free Honors Concert tickets for the families of MusicLink student performers.

MMTA Event Registration

To register a MusicLink student **online** for an MMTA event (MMTA members only):

1. Complete the registration process as outlined on Handbook p. 14.
2. Contact the MMTA Office by email. Inform office personnel a MusicLink student has been registered so a refund can be requested.
 - Include MusicLink teacher number, date of registration, Order Number, event, and registration fee amount for that student.
 - MMTA will issue a refund to your credit card within 1-2 weeks.

To register a MusicLink student **by mail**:

1. Complete a registration form.
2. Write your MusicLink teacher number at the top of the form.
 - If registering a student for Ensemble Festival, indicate which student(s) are MusicLink student(s).



MusicLink Playathon

Purpose

The MusicLink Foundation believes that anyone who shows musical potential should be given the opportunity to nurture this musical promise to its full extent. MMTA and Schmitt Music sponsor an annual Playathon at the Mall of America to raise funds to benefit the MusicLink Foundation. Students of all ages and their teachers are invited to perform at this exciting venue demonstrating how their music can benefit others.

Program Director

Sue Wege, NCTM ▪ (651) 458-0143 ▪ swege71@comcast.net

Location/Dates

February 3-4, 2024

Macy's Court, Mall of America, Bloomington, MN

Deadline

January 24, 2024

How to Register

- Register online by going to www.mnmusicteachers.com/events. You do not have to be an MMTA member to register online for the Playathon.

OR

- Download forms for MusicLink Playathon from MMTA website, or obtain a form from Sue Wege. Send completed form to: Sue Wege, NCTM ▪ 8811 Hillside Trail S. ▪ Cottage Grove, MN 55106 OR swege71@comcast.net

Fee

Participants collect donations from family and friends.

Procedures

- All instrumental and voice students of all ages (including adult students), and MMTA member and non-member teachers are invited to participate.
- Performances may be solos or ensembles.
- Performers may perform 1 or 2 pieces as desired.
- A grand piano, CD/MP3 player, microphone and music stand will be provided.

Scheduling:

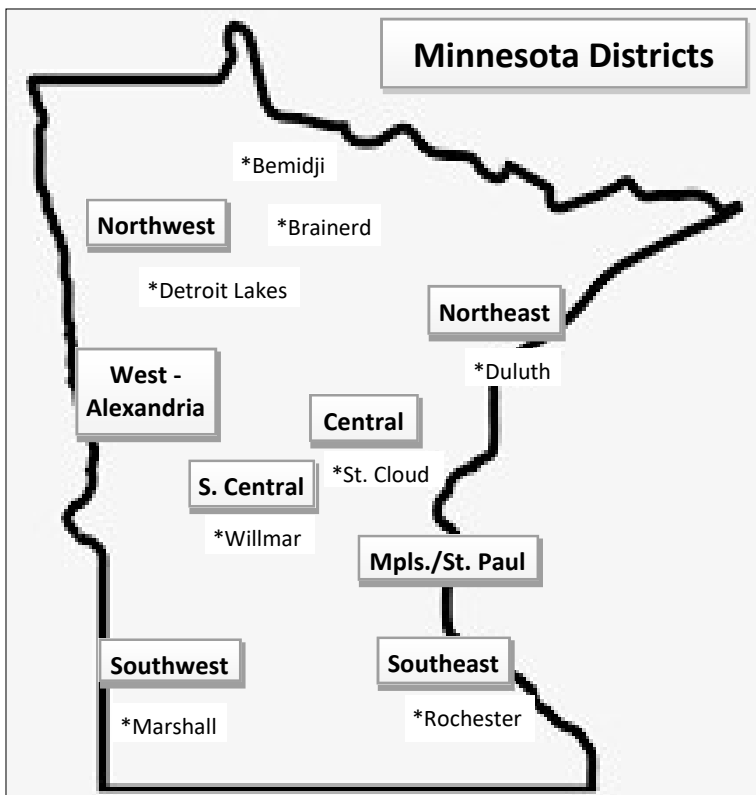
- Performers may request to play on either Saturday or Sunday. Performance times will be sent to a student's teacher after the registration deadline has passed and all performers have been scheduled.
- There will also be a Popular Styles Hour on Saturday evening.

Donations:

- Each performer is expected to collect donations from friends, family and their community.
- Donation amount may be set by the donor.
- Donations and donation cards should be brought to the Playathon to be turned in at Check-In.
- Donations are tax-deductible. A receipt will be given on the day of the Playathon at Check-Out.
- Donations can also be made online through the MusicLink Foundation website (www.musiclinkfoundation.org.) Click "Donate", then specify the donation is for the MN Playathon. Please include the performer's name.
 - ❑ Donations will also be accepted at the Playathon. (Check, cash, or credit card.)

Awards

- Participants who collect donations totaling specific amounts receive the following:
 - ❑ \$25 or more = MusicLink Prize
 - ❑ \$50 or more = MusicLink Tote Bag
 - ❑ \$100 or more = Recognition and Photograph in MusicLink e-newsletter
 - ❑ \$250 or more = \$50 Target gift card
- Challenge Award Points: 100 (*See p. 20 for more information.*)



**Map is not to scale. District/city placements are approximations.*

NOTE →

Students may be registered in any event, anywhere in the state, regardless of where they live. Program prerequisites must still be adhered to.

District/Site Abbreviations*

C	Central - St. Cloud	TCH	TC - Hastings
SCW	S. Central - Willmar	TKS	TC - K&S Studios, Woodbury
M	Minneapolis	TCLL	TC - Lino Lakes
NE	Northeast - Duluth	TCM	TC - Minneapolis
NW	Northwest	TCN	TC - Normandale Com. Coll.
NWB	NW - Bemidji	TCNC	TC - Univ. of Northwestern-St. Paul
NWBR	NW - Brainerd	TCP	TC - Plymouth
NWDL	NW - Detroit Lakes	TCSC	TC - Univ. of St. Catherine
SE	Southeast - Rochester	TCSE	TC - Southeast
SP	St. Paul	TCSJ	TC - St. Joseph's School of Music
SW	Southwest	TCST	TC - St. Thomas U, St. Paul
SWM	Southwest - Marshall	TCU	TC - U of MN, Ferguson Hall
SWW	Southwest - Windom	TCUCC	TC - United Church of Christ
TC	Twin Cities	WA	West - Alexandria
TCB	TC - Bethel University		
TCBL	TC - Bloomington		
TCCC	TC - Concordia Univ.		
TCCS	TC - Cyprus School		
TCDC	TC - TU Dance Center		
TCE	TC - Eagan		
TCED	TC - Edina		
TCEP	TC - Eden Prairie		

*Note: Other designations may exist for Twin Cities locations. The location will always be listed to the right of an abbreviation on program pages in this Handbook.

Program/Committee Abbreviations

PREPRI	Pre-Primary	YA	Young Artist	MTNA	Music Teachers Nat'l. Assn.
PRI	Primary	JYA	Junior YA		
JRA	Junior A	SYA	Senior YA		
JRB	Junior B	CYA	College YA	ML	MusicLink
INA	Intermediate A	HS	High School	IMTF	Independent Music Teachers Forum
INB	Intermediate B	PE	Piano		
SRA	Senior A	KS	Keyboard Skills	JEC	Judge Education Committee
SRB	Senior B				
Vo	Voice	SP	Sightplaying		
Gr	Guitar	TH	Theory		
Org	Organ	PS	Popular Styles		
Str	Strings	EF	Ensemble		
WW	Woodwinds		Festival	MMTAF	MN Music Teachers Assn. Foundation
SF	Solo Festival	MB	Music Bridges		

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are the lifeblood of MMTA! Our organization does have a small staff; but the majority of the programs and events are run by volunteers. To sign up, visit www.mnmusicteachers.com/events.

Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

Members

- Become a member of the Board of Directors
- Coordinate an Event Site
- Become a Judge
- Welcome students at the Event Registration Desk
- Serve on a Program committee
- Develop and maintain curricula
- Market MMTA to the Community
- Provide technological support to members in your area

Students, Parents, and Non-Members

- Be a Doorkeeper for Piano Contest (Welcome students to their contest room and assist the judge)
- Welcome students at the Registration Desk on an Event Day
- Be a Door/Hall Monitor on an Event Day
- Assist with mailings and general clerical work

MMTA Event Prices

Prices listed below reflect the price per student per event. The only exception is Ensemble Festival - the price listed is paid by the ensemble as a group, regardless of the size of the group. Fees must be paid by a student's teacher, with the exception of College Young Artist.

Piano Programs

Piano Contest Preliminaries	\$25.00
Piano Contest Finals	\$25.00
Piano Solo Festival	\$25.00
Piano Young Artist Contest	\$50.00
Piano & Young Artist Contests	\$10.00
Time Request Change	
Comprehensive Piano, Keyboard Skills, Sightplaying, and Theory Exams	(See chart below.)
Exam Time Request Change	\$10.00

Voice & Instrumental Programs

Voice & Instrumental Contest	\$25.00
Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival	\$25.00
Voice & Instrumental Young Artist Contest	\$50.00
Voice & Instrumental Exams	(See chart below.)

Piano, Voice & Instrumental Programs

Student Composition Contest and Festival	
Primary	\$27.00
Elementary	\$27.00
Junior High	\$30.00
Senior High	\$30.00
Ensemble Festival	\$26.00 (per ensemble)
Music Bridges	
Short	\$30.00
Medium	\$38.00
Long	\$45.00
MTNA Competition Admin Fee	\$15.00
(in addition to MTNA fees)	

MusicLink Students

All event registration fees waived when registered by an active MusicLink teacher.

(MusicLink Teachers: See MMTA Handbook for information.)

Non-Members

Non-members may register students for MMTA events. Add \$60 per event. (One date/location = one event)

MMTA Exams

Exam Level	Piano	Keyboard Skills	Sightplaying	Theory	Popular Styles	Voice	Flute (Woodwind)	Guitar	Organ	Violin/ Viola
Prep	\$29.00	\$17.00	\$16.00						\$29.00	
1	\$32.00	\$17.00	\$16.00	\$28.00	\$44.00	\$25.00	\$37.00	\$25.00	\$44.00	\$25.00
2	\$37.00	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$25.00	\$37.00	\$32.00	\$44.00	\$25.00
3	\$44.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$32.00	\$37.00	\$37.00	\$44.00	\$25.00
4	\$50.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$32.00	\$44.00	\$44.00		\$32.00
5	\$50.00	\$17.00	\$19.00	\$32.00		\$44.00	\$44.00	\$50.00		\$32.00
6	\$50.00	\$17.00	\$19.00	\$43.00			\$44.00	\$55.00		\$37.00
7	\$55.00	\$19.00		\$45.00			\$44.00	\$61.00		\$37.00
8	\$61.00	\$21.00		\$48.00				\$66.00		\$44.00
9	\$66.00	\$22.00						\$66.00		
10	\$77.00	\$22.00						\$77.00		
11	\$77.00							\$77.00		
Capstone	\$150.00							N/A		
12								\$77.00		

MMTA Event Registration

Before completing the registration process, see **General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7**. All teachers must comply with general rules and procedures. Additional important information can be found at the end of this section.

MMTA Members

Current members may register students for events online or by mail. Instructions for online registration are below. Paper forms are available for download from the MMTA website or by request from the MMTA Office - see the "Non-Member" section below. See p. 10 for information on how to register MusicLink students.

Online Event Registration

1. Log in to the MMTA website.
2. Click "Events" on the menu.
3. Find the desired event date:
 - Events are listed by the date they occur, NOT the date of the deadline.
 - Click on the right arrows next to the name of the month to move forward in the calendar. Use arrows on the left to move backward in the calendar.OR
Filter by location, event type, or program type.
4. Click the "View Details" for the desired event date.
5. Type in how many students you'd like to register for that event, then click "Add registration to cart".
6. Click "Cart", then click "Checkout".
7. Fill in the registration information for each student. When finished, click "Continue to next step".
8. Fill in or select billing/shipping address(es), then click "Continue to next step".
9. For Shipping Service, select "Local Pick-up: \$0.00", then click "Continue to next step".
10. Review registration and personal information, then enter credit card information. When finished, click "Continue to next step".
11. The checkout process is then complete. Watch for a confirmation email in your Inbox.

MMTA Members, Collegiate Students, and Non-Members

Paper forms may be downloaded from the MMTA website (on any event page for an MMTA event) or obtained from the MMTA Office. Mailing instructions are below. See p. 10 for information on how to register MusicLink students. See p. 16 for information about Virtual Events. Performance videos required for select virtual events must be submitted with registration or prior to/on the date of the deadline.

Piano Contest, Piano Solo Festival, and Honors Concert

- Piano Contest Preliminaries & Piano Solo Festival
 1. Complete the 2024 **Preliminaries** Registration form, OR **Piano Solo Festival** form, one per student entry.
 2. Mail one (1) copy of each student's form and one check for all student entry fees or credit card information to the MMTA Office.
- Piano Contest Finals
 1. Complete the 2024 Piano Contest **Finals** Registration form, one per student entry.
 2. Mail one (1) copy of each student's form and one check for all student entry fees or credit card information to the MMTA Office.
- Honors Concert
 1. Send forms to **Honors Concert Chair**. (*Forms will be provided to teachers with winning students' critiques.*)

Voice & Instrumental Contest, Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival

1. Complete the 2024 Voice & Instrumental Contest **OR** Solo Festival Registration form, **one** per student entry.
2. Non-Members: Mail one (1) copy of each student's form and one check for all student entry fees or credit card information to the MMTA Office. Payment must come from the teacher, including the \$60 non-member fee.

Young Artist Contests (Piano OR Voice & Instrumental)

1. Complete the 2024 **Young Artist** Registration form for the desired contest, one per student entry.
2. Non-Members: Mail one (1) copy of each student's form and one check for all student entry fees or credit card information to the MMTA Office. Payment must come from the teacher, including the \$60 non-member fee.

Ensemble Festival

- List ensembles with scheduling and/or carpool requests on the same registration form. If registering other ensembles that do not share the same request, list those on a separate form.
- See Ensemble Festival program information on p. 44 for additional registration procedures.

All Other Programs

- Send completed registration form, appropriate fee(s), and/or other materials to the MMTA Office.

Following Registration Submission *(See next page for information about MMTA Virtual Events)*

Scheduling Information

- Teachers can generally expect to receive performance times for registered students approx. 1-2 weeks before the event date. Information is most often sent by email. If information is not received by mail or email by three days prior to the event, please contact the Site Administrator.
- When schedule information is sent to you by the Site Administrator or MMTA Office, please do the following:
 - Give schedule information to student.
 - If schedule and/or a copy of the form is mailed to you rather than emailed, send the paper form with the student to present on the day of the event.

Music Release Form



If the student will be using copyrighted music printed from a legal, online source, a music release form must be completed and presented at registration on the day of the event. Forms are available on the MMTA website under Programs/Piano. www.mnmusicteachers.com/program/piano

Illness or Family Emergency

If a student is unable to attend the event they are registered for, the teacher is asked to contact the Site Administrator as soon as possible.

- Contests and Festivals:
 - Individual appointments with a judge are not available. The only time a student may participate is on the day of the contest or festival.
- Exams:
 - If student is absent from exam due to illness, the Program Director will need to give permission for a student to be re-registered for a later exam date. Doctor's note must be submitted with the registration.

Results

- Results will be sent to the teacher during the week following the exam date.
 - Exception: Student Composition Contest results will be returned to the teacher 6-8 weeks following the submission deadline.
- The Judge Education Committee (JEC) welcomes both positive feedback and grievances in written form. Please see Handbook p. 18 for information about submitting feedback.

Cancellation Policy

A site administrator may cancel an MMTA event under circumstances if the conditions of the facility or its equipment cannot accommodate the program, if the conditions to run the program become hazardous, or if the personnel cannot adequately administer it. Before cancelling, the site administrator must consult the program director and the supervising VP. The site administrator makes the final decision to cancel the event.

Under no circumstances does MMTA provide refunds or credits for cancelled programs. Teachers may enter students in the rescheduled date, or enter students at a different location within six months of the cancelled event for no charge. If a site administrator cancels an event, MMTA personnel will make all reasonable efforts to reschedule that event and accommodate reschedule requests. Site administrators should try to hold rescheduled events within one month of the cancelled date.

MMTA Virtual Events

What are virtual events?

MMTA offers some events in virtual form to give students and their families an alternative option beyond in-person events. While MMTA strives to keep the virtual format similar to what a student would experience at in-person events, there are some notable differences. Specific instructions will be sent to teachers prior to the event date; but a general overview of virtual events is provided below.

Virtual Contests & Solo Festivals *(Piano Contest/Solo Festival, Voice & Inst Contest/Solo Festival, Young Artist Contests)*

If any or all of these events are held virtually, students would record themselves playing their piece(s) and submit video(s) to MMTA through the MMTA website. A judge reviews each student's video(s) and provides written feedback and a grade just as they would at the in-person contest. After all judging has been completed, results are either emailed or mailed to teachers, and certificates are mailed to teachers.

Virtual Piano Exams

Prior to the Piano Exam event date, information will be sent to teachers which they then share with their students.

- Student number (if applicable)
- A link to exam materials available for viewing or download from the MMTA website
- Exam submission instructions and other relevant information

Students record video(s) of themselves playing their exam(s) as if they were at an exam site with a judge. Video(s) are then submitted to MMTA through the MMTA website. A judge reviews each student's video(s) and provides written feedback and a score just as they would at an in-person exam. After judging has been completed, e-critiques will be emailed to teachers, and certificates will be mailed to teachers.

Virtual Theory Exams

The written and aural portions of the Theory Exam will be done by students in their home. Students will meet with a judge by FaceTime or Google Meet on the exam date to play the keyboard portion of the exam. Teachers will be asked to provide an email address and phone contact information for each student at the time of registration.

Prior to the Theory Exam event date, information will be sent to teachers which they then share with their students.

- Student number (if applicable)
- A link to exam materials available for viewing and download from the MMTA website
- Exam submission instructions and relevant information

Completed written and aural exam papers are to be mailed to the MMTA Office, postmarked no later than the Tuesday following the exam date OR submitted online through the MMTA website. After grading has been completed, score sheets will either be emailed or mailed to teachers, and certificates/graded exam materials will be mailed to teachers.

Popular Styles Exams

Students will meet virtually with a judge on the day of the event. The judge will guide the student through the skills portions of the exam in live in a video conference, and will review the guided listening report and pre-recorded performances offline. The judge will fill out an online scoring form. The Popular Styles exam director will email a read-only copy of the online scoring phone to the teacher within a week of the exam and will also provide a paper exam certificate.

Voice & Instrumental Exams

Online and on-demand. Teachers will need to register their student(s) with the office. The Program Director and/or VP Voice & Inst Programs will set up the exam, coordinating with both the judge and the teacher. The Program Director should then send exam materials to the teacher for their student(s). Prior to the exam date, the student will make a video of the performance section and upload it to YouTube (Unlisted). The student will then meet with the judge over Zoom to do the sections that must be done live. The judge will critique the performance video and submit the scores.

Music Bridges

Students will meet virtually with a judge on the day of the event. The judge will review the student's performance and complete an e-critique. The e-critique will be emailed to the teacher following the exam, along with a certificate.

MMTA Theory Prerequisites

MMTA requires students to have passed certain levels of theory in order to participate in contests and to receive a Comprehensive Piano Exam Certificate.

- Students need not start at Level 1. They may start at any level they are ready for in their musical development.
- Levels listed are minimums. Students may take a higher level exam to fulfill the requirement.
- Exams from other states or other Minnesota organizations do not fulfill this requirement.

Requirements:

- **Piano Contest:** Students must pass the required Theory Exam level prior to preliminary contest.
- **Voice & Instrumental Contest:** Students must pass the required exam(s) level prior to registration.
- **Young Artist Contests:** Piano students must pass the required Theory Exam prior to registration. Voice/Instrumental students must pass the required Voice/Instrumental Exam prior to the registration date.

Contest Prerequisites	Categories	Theory	Voice/Inst.
Piano	INA, INB	2	—
Piano	SRA, SRB	3	—
Voice	Division 2, 3, 4, 5	1	1
Organ	Junior, Senior	2	—
Flute	Senior	2	—
Strings	SRA, SRB, College	2	2
Young Artist	Junior Piano	4	—
Young Artist	Senior Piano	5	—
Young Artist	College Piano	College	—
Young Artist	Junior Voice	—	2
Young Artist	Senior Voice	—	3
Young Artist	Junior/Senior Organ	2	—
Young Artist	College Voice	College or 4	4
Young Artist	Junior String	2	3
Young Artist	Senior String	3	4
Young Artist	College String	College	4

- **Piano Comprehensive Exams:** Students must pass the required Theory Exam level prior to registration to earn a full certificate (*see p. 19*), and to be eligible for a monetary award if applicable.

Piano Exam Level	Theory
Prep	None
1	None
2	1
3	2
4	3
5	3
6	4
7	4
8	5
9	5
10	6
11	6

Judge Education Committee

The Judge Education Committee (JEC) nurtures and supports the professional development of new and experienced judges, and oversees all aspects of the adjudication process for MMTA programs.

Becoming an MMTA Endorsed Judge

An MMTA Endorsed Judge is an MMTA member and experienced teacher who is passionate about music and music education.

MMTA Endorsed Judges are “endorsed” by completing a training process consisting of: submitting an application, attending an overview of philosophy and current program judging directives, receiving a favorable evaluation of their written critiques. MMTA Endorsed Judges periodically attend judge continuing education sessions.

Steps Toward Becoming an MMTA Endorsed Judge

1. Submit an application to become an MMTA Endorsed judge. <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/mmta-judge-application>
2. Attend a JEC orientation for Endorsed Judge Candidates. This may be offered at convention, in a small group, or by appointment.
3. In preparation for the first judging assignment, the Endorsed Judge Candidate will be provided with a playlist for writing practice critiques. Feedback on practice critiques will be provided.
4. Judge at an MMTA site (or for a virtual event) as an Endorsed Judge Candidate, have critiques evaluated by the JEC.
5. Become an Endorsed Judge after receiving a favorable evaluation.
6. Attend at least one Endorsed Judge Continuing Education session every four years.
7. As part of continuing education, each judge’s critiques will be reviewed at roughly five-year intervals and written feedback provided.

Benefits of Becoming an Endorsed MMTA Judge

1. In recognition of the extra effort taken to become endorsed and maintain that status, endorsed judges are paid at a higher rate than those who are not endorsed.
2. Names of MMTA Endorsed Judges are provided to the site administrators for MMTA program events and will be the first to be contacted for judging.
3. MMTA Endorsed Judges are invited to participate in an online availability survey each quarter of the program year.

Maintaining Endorsed Judge Status

MMTA is an organization with a wide variety of adjudicated events. Our programs experience updates to meet the needs of today’s teachers and students. Endorsement as a judge gives recognition to the evolving challenges that we face in our organization. Continuing Education is a well-established practice in professional fields.

1. Attend at least one Endorsed Judge Continuing Education session every four years.
2. As part of continuing education, each judge’s critiques will be reviewed at roughly five year intervals and written feedback provided.

Teacher Feedback Regarding Adjudication

From time to time, teachers and students may wish to provide feedback to the JEC regarding a judging issue or a particular judge. The JEC welcomes both positive feedback and grievances.

Please provide, in writing:

- A copy of the critique in question
- A statement giving an account of the particular experience or issue you wish the committee to address

Send both documents to the JEC Chair. *(See Handbook p. 50 for contact information.)*

Judge Education Committee Members

See Handbook p. 50 for committee information.

Certificates & Awards

Certificates

- Most MMTA programs award certificates to students who have completed an event as a way to celebrate their accomplishments.

Certificate Upgrade - Piano Exams

- If a student has not passed the appropriate theory level prior to or on the same day as their Comprehensive Piano Exam, a small Performance certificate is awarded. Once the student passes the Theory Exam, a copy of the Theory Exam score sheet may be sent to the Piano Exam Program Director with a request for a large Comprehensive certificate. *(See Handbook p. 51 for Program Director contact information.)*

Duplicate Certificates

- Replacement certificates are available for all programs listed above for a small replacement fee. Contact the Program Director to request replacement(s). *(See Handbook pp. 50-51 for Program Director contact information.)*
 - Contests - \$2 replacement fee
 - Exams - \$5 replacement fee

Other Awards

Several programs offer awards in addition to achievement certificates.

- **Piano Contest**
 - Pianists with the highest scores in the Final Contest are selected for ensemble performance in the Honors Concert at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
- **Piano Young Artist Contest**
 - Pianists with the highest scores in the Contest may be selected for additional performance opportunities, including ensemble performance in the Piano Contest Honors Concert at the Minneapolis Convention Center, or the MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital at the MMTA annual convention.
- **Piano Exams**
 - Monetary awards are given to the highest scoring students Level 4 and above after each academic year. Students are eligible for monetary awards only if:
 - The required theory level is passed prior to or on the same day as the piano exam
 - Students take all parts of the comprehensive exam the same day
- **Theory Exam**
 - Monetary awards are given to the highest scoring students in Levels 5-8 at the end of each academic year.
- **Voice & Instrumental Contest & Solo Festival**
 - Participants are assigned an ensemble part to be prepared for the Finale Concert. All performing students will participate in the concert.
- **Voice & Instrumental Young Artist Contest**
 - Participants are assigned an ensemble part to be prepared for the Finale Concert. All performing students will participate in the concert.
- **Voice & Instrumental Exams**
 - Monetary awards are given to the highest scorers at some levels at the end of each academic year.
- **Student Composition Contest**
 - First, Second, and Third Place winners and Honorable Mention are chosen in each category. Winners receive a special certificate and a monetary award, and are invited to play in the Student Composition Contest recital at the annual MMTA Convention.
- **Teacher Original Duet Composition Contest**
 - The winning composition will be programmed as one of the pieces for the Piano Honors Concert at the end of the current academic year.
- **Logowear Contest**
 - Winner of the contest will receive a free t-shirt with their design printed on it.



MMTA Challenge Awards

Purpose

The MMTA Challenge Award provides an incentive for participation in the MMTA programs. The intention is to reward students at every level of ability.

Guidelines

- Teacher must keep accurate record of each student's events and provide documentation if requested by the MMTA Office.
- A teacher may begin recording points earned as of Fall 2010, *with exception of events starred in the list below - only points earned after Fall 2015 may be counted.
- Points are cumulative indefinitely.
- Points may be transferred between studios. Parents may provide documentation to a new teacher.
- Points may be combined from piano, instrumental and voice activities with different teachers.
- Only MMTA events qualify for points. (*Local Association and MTNA events do not qualify.*)

Points are awarded as outlined below:

- **100 point events:**
 - Piano Contest Preliminaries
 - Piano Solo Festival
 - Piano Contest Finals
 - Honors Concert*
 - Voice & Instrumental Contest
 - Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival
 - Voice & Instrumental Finale Concert Ensemble Performance
 - String Recitals
 - MMTA Convention Master Classes
 - MMTA Convention Cabaret
 - Student Composition Contest
 - Student Composition Solo Festival
 - Keyboard Skills Exam
 - Sightplaying Exam
 - Theory Exam
 - MusicLink Playathon
 - Popular Styles Exam
 - Ensemble Festival – 100 pts. per student, per registered ensemble; Limit: 200 pts. per student, per year
- **200 point events:**
 - Music Bridges
 - Young Artist Contest*
- **300 point events:**
 - Comprehensive Piano Exam, Flute, Guitar, Organ, String or Comprehensive Voice Exam

Awards

300 Points - Rosette Ribbon	3500 Points - Raised Bronze Star Pin
700 Points - Bronze Pin	4500 Points - Raised Silver Star Pin
1200 Points - Silver Pin	6000 Points - Grand Challenge Award Trophy
1800 Points - Gold Pin	8500 Points - Raised Gold Star Pin
2500 Points - The Challenge Award Trophy	10,000 Points - Ultimate Challenge Award Trophy

How to Obtain Awards:

- The cost of the awards is included in event registration fees.
- Ribbon and pin awards are available through the MMTA website and for pick up during MMTA office hours. These awards may also be shipped - Shipping & Handling fees are listed on the order form on p. 54.
- Trophies will be custom engraved and are ordered through the MMTA online store. Orders must be received by **November 15, March 20 or May 20** and will be ordered only on those dates regardless of when the trophy request is submitted. Finished trophies will be available approximately 4-6 weeks after the order date - teachers will be notified upon arrival. Trophies may then be picked up during MMTA office hours; or may be shipped - Shipping & Handling fees are listed on the order form on p. 54.
 - Complete the customization form in the online store prior to the deadline. If trophies are to be shipped, add them to your shopping cart and complete the checkout process.
- Teachers may purchase a Display Package and/or other display items and posters for their studios. (*See Handbook p. 54.*)

Website Information

Customization form: <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/challenge-award-trophy-student-information>



Piano Contest

Purpose

To encourage high performance standards, MMTA sponsors an annual Piano Contest. Pianists select repertoire from an annual list. Students with the highest scores in the Final Contest are invited to an ensemble performance in the Honors Concert. The concert is a gala event involving 500 young performers playing on 20 grand pianos in ensemble groups.

Challenge Award

Preliminary Contest: 100 points; Final Contest: 100 points; Honors Concert*: 100 points.
(See p. 20 for more information.)

**Only Honors Concert points earned after September 2015 may be counted.*

Locations/Dates

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Should the contest need to change from in-person to virtual, student video submissions are due the day of the contest or as announced.

Preliminary Contest:

January 20-21, 2024

TC (Twin Cities)

Bethel University, Arden Hills

January 21, 2024

All Districts

Virtual (Video submission due by 11:59 pm)

January 27, 2024

C (Central): TBD

College of St. Benedict, St. Cloud - Benedicta Arts Center

NE (Northeast):

College of St. Scholastica, Duluth - Tower Hall

NW (Northwest):

First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes

SE (Southeast):

Rochester Community & Technical College, Rochester

WA (W Alexandria):

Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria

January 28, 2024

SWM (SW Marshall):

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Marshall

Final Contest: Saturday & Sunday, March 2-3, 2024 University of MN, Ferguson Hall

Honors Concert: Saturday, June 1, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Minneapolis Convention Center
Rehearsal Dates: April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as Preliminary and Final Contest procedures outlined below.

Deadlines*

Preliminary Contest: All Districts: **Friday, December 1, 2023**
Final Contest: Twin Cities: **Sunday, January 28, 2024**
All Other Districts: **Sunday, February 4, 2024**
Honors Concert: All Districts: **Thursday, March 14, 2024**

(*Mailed registrations for Preliminary Contest should be posted by December 1st.

Deadline for Final Contest for online and mailed registrations are the same as listed above.)

← NOTE

Fees

- Preliminary Contest: \$25 per student
- Final Contest: \$25 per student
- Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event (in addition to student registration fees)
- Time Change: \$10 per student, per change (paid to MMTA)

Procedures - Preliminary Contest

- See **General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.** All teachers must comply with general rules and procedures.
- A registrant must be a student of the same teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the Preliminary Contest date.
- Each student may be entered in any one district only, with one piece, for Preliminary Contest. This includes Twin Cities-Saturday and Twin Cities-Sunday, which are two separate contests.
- Students may perform in both Piano Solo Festival and Piano Contest or Piano Solo Festival and Piano Young Artist Competition in the same year. Participation must be at different levels with different pieces.

- Time requests must be submitted with registration.
- Teachers can generally expect to receive schedule information approximately 1-2 weeks before the date of the Piano Contest.

Doorkeepers

- Doorkeepers are volunteers who check in each performer at the door of the performance room. They track all participants by number and help the judge stay on schedule. Snacks and lunch are provided for Doorkeepers. Student volunteers receive a small monetary payment. Please indicate names of any and all available doorkeepers at the time of registration.

Category

- Category is determined by age as of September 1, 2023:

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Primary (PrePri):	7 or under	<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate A (INA):	age 13 - 14
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary (Pri):	age 7 - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate B (INB):	age 15 - 16
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior A (JRA):	age 9 - 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior A (SRA):	age 17 - 18
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior B (JRB):	age 11 - 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior B (SRB):	age 19 - 20

NOTE →

- Students 6 years old or under on September 1 may enter only the Pre-Primary Category with a Pre-Primary piece. Pre-Primary students play only at Preliminary Contest.
 - Pre-Primary students **must** remain in Pre-Primary until they reach the correct age for Primary, even if declared a winner. (See "Category Advancement" below.)
- A student 7 years or older may play in a higher age category if determined appropriate by their teacher; however, the student may not enter the contest in a younger age category the following year. All category advancement rules would apply should the student be declared a winner.

Category Advancement

- A student who competed in Primary-Senior A must advance one category higher in the following year's contest if they were:
 - ☐ Declared a winner and performed in the Honors Concert.
 - ☐ Declared a winner but did not perform in the Honors Concert, for any reason.
 - ☐ Declared an alternate, called to perform in the Honors Concert and accepted the ensemble. (An alternate is not required to advance to a higher category if called to perform, but did not accept the ensemble assignment.)
- A student who has been declared as a winner in the Senior B category must move on to the Young Artist Piano Contest. (See p. 27)
- A Pre-Primary age student may continue to compete in the Pre-Primary level as long as they meet the age requirement, even if they have been declared a Pre-Primary winner in previous years. They may only move to Primary if they are 7 years old.

Theory Requirement

NOTE →

- All piano students in levels Intermediate A and Intermediate B must pass MMTA Theory Exam Level 2 or higher before preliminaries.
- All piano students in levels Senior A and Senior B must pass MMTA Theory Exam Level 3 or higher before preliminaries. See handbook p. 17 for detailed information.

Repertoire & Performance

- **Music must be memorized for both Preliminary and Final Contest.**
- A student must perform one memorized selection from the current Piano Contest/ Piano Solo Festival Materials List according to the age categories above.
- The current list and updates are available online. <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/program/piano>
- The piece performed at Preliminaries may be changed from the one registered to another piece in the same category without approval.
- The same selection must be performed at both Preliminary and Final Contests.
- Updates to the Materials List (if any) will be announced in MMTA weekly emails and newsletters and on the website. Teachers are responsible for taking note of any and all updates.
- If using a source other than the one listed, you as the teacher need to compare the different source to the one recommended, to assure the content is the same.

- Repeats, Da Capos, and Dei Segnos must be observed as indicated on the Piano Contest/Piano Solo Festival List and list updates.
- Students must bring music to Contest with measures numbered. (Please note: The first full measure of a piece is considered measure #1. If a piece begins with a pick-up measure, disregard it when numbering.)
- A critique will be issued without a score if the music is not present.
- Students using music purchased or legally downloaded from the internet must present an MMTA Contest Music Release Form, signed by a legal adult, to the registration table. Photocopies of music are not allowed. <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/sites/default/files/files/pdf/1217-466-mmta-piano-contest-music-release-form.pdf>
- Only the judge and the student are allowed in the Piano Contest room. Recording of the entrant's performance is not allowed.
- 30-60 seconds of warm-up time is allowed in which students may play any memorized chords, scales, a glissando, or some portion of another piece, and/or may test the pedals.
No portion of their Contest piece may be played as a warm-up.
- No apparatus, such as a pedal box, may be used at the Piano Contest. Students must use the benches in the room. A student may bring a footstool or a pillow but must carry it in by themselves.

Changing a Time Request

- Time Change requests must be made by a student's teacher. Fee is \$10 per student.
- Time change requests for Preliminaries will be allowed until **January 2, 2024.** ← NOTE
 - In Greater MN, contact the Site Administrator.
 - For SE, NW, and TC-Saturday/TC-Sunday, please email the MMTA Office at mmta@mnmusicteachers.com; or call 952-345-0629.
- No day or district changes are allowed.

Procedures - Final Contest

- **See General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.** All teachers must comply with general rules and procedures.
- Procedures listed under Preliminary Contest are the same for Final Contest
- Changes to time requests will be allowed until **February 16, 2024.** ← NOTE

Disqualification - Final Contest

- Performers may receive a non-winning score for these reasons:
 - Playing a different piece than the one that was performed at Preliminary Contest.
 - Not following Repeat in piece, or *D.C. al Fine* or *D.S. al Fine* as indicated on the Contest List.
 - Playing for contest without providing music for the judge; or for providing incorrect or photocopied music.
 - Music is not memorized.

Honors Concert

- Students selected as winners at the Final Contest are invited to play in the MMTA Honors Concert.
 - Students play an ensemble with others in their category. A conductor will lead the performance of each ensemble.
 - Each student is assigned a ensemble part which they are to learn prior to the first rehearsal. Music must be memorized by the second or third rehearsal, depending on the student's category.
 - Ensemble assignments will be sent with grades after the Final Contest.
- Students selected as alternates will be invited to play in the Honors Concert as needed. The Honors Concert Chair will contact a student's teacher if the need arises.
- All students who participate in the Honors Concert **MUST** attend both the third rehearsal and the dress rehearsal to be eligible to perform in the concert.
 - Absence requests in cases of emergency for the first and second rehearsals may be submitted in writing to the Honors Concert Chair prior to the rehearsal. Requests may approved or denied at the discretion of the Chair.

Materials & Website Information

- Required repertoire is found on the 2024 MMTA Piano Contest Materials List. The current list is available online. Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com, then look under “Programs” for the “Piano” page.
 - Updates to the list (if any) will be announced in MMTA newsletters and emails. Updates will also be posted to the Piano Programs web page.
- To diversify the MMTA Piano Contest and Piano Solo Festival repertoire list and provide more opportunities for MMTA members and students, the Piano Contest Committee is seeking submissions from MMTA member composers.
 - Each year, the Minnesota district in charge of selecting the repertoire, the Piano Contest Committee, and the Piano Exam Syllabus Committee will be able to access the submitted pieces.
 - Compositions submitted before June 1st will be considered for the MMTA Piano Contest and Piano Solo Festival repertoire list in two years. All submitted compositions will be added to a library/repository of submissions and will be available for future repertoire considerations.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel), or Handbook p. 50.



Piano Solo Festival

Purpose

To encourage performance for all ages by using the State Contest repertoire, MMTA sponsors an annual Piano Solo Festival. Students who cannot or do not wish to compete in Piano Contest may perform for written comments from a judge. Students who participate in Piano Solo Festival are not eligible to participate in Piano Contest Finals with their Piano Solo Festival piece.

Challenge Award

100 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations/Dates

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Should the festival need to change from in-person to virtual, student video submissions are due the day of the contest or as announced.

January 20-21, 2024

TC (Twin Cities)

Bethel University, Arden Hills

January 21, 2024

All Districts

Virtual (Video submission due by 11:59 pm)

January 27, 2024

C (Central):

College of St. Benedict, St. Cloud - Benedicta Arts Center

NE (Northeast):

College of St. Scholastica, Duluth - Tower Hall

NW (Northwest):

First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes

SE (Southeast):

Rochester Community & Technical College, Rochester

WA (W Alexandria):

Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria

January 28, 2024

SWM (SW Marshall):

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Marshall

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as the procedures outlined below.

Deadline*

All Districts: **Friday, December 1, 2023**

Fees

NOTE >

- Solo Festival: \$25 per student
- Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*
- Time Change: \$10 per student, per change (paid to MMTA)

Procedures

- See **General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7**. All teachers must comply with general rules and procedures.
- A registrant must be a student of the same teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the Festival date.
- Each entrant may be entered in any one district only, with one piece. This includes Twin Cities-Saturday and Twin Cities-Sunday, which are two separate events. *(See "Performance" and "Materials" below for more information on contest piece selection.)*
- Students may perform in both Piano Solo Festival and Piano Contest or Piano Solo Festival and Piano Young Artist Competition in the same year. Participation must be at different levels with different pieces.
- Students may not participate in both Piano Contest and Piano Young Artist Competition in the same year.
- Time requests must be submitted with registration. *(See below for procedure for changing a time request.)*
- Teachers can generally expect to receive schedule information approximately 1-2 weeks before the date of the Piano Solo Festival.
- Doorkeepers are volunteers who check in each entrant at the door of the festival room. They track all participants by number and help the judge stay on schedule. Snacks and lunch are provided for Doorkeepers. Student volunteers receive a small monetary payment. Please indicate names of any and all available doorkeepers at the time of registration.

Doorkeepers

Category

There is no age or category requirement or restriction.

Theory Requirement

There is no theory requirement for Piano Solo Festival.

Repertoire & Performance

- An entrant must perform one selection from the current Piano Contest/Piano Solo Festival Materials List.
- The piece performed for Piano Solo Festival may be changed from the time of registration to another piece in the same category without approval.
- Updates to the Materials List (if any) will be announced in MMTA weekly emails and newsletters and on the website. Teachers are responsible for taking note of any and all updates.
- The current list is available online <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/program/piano>
- Piano Solo Festival entrants participate at the same venue and have the same judges as students who participate in the Piano Contest.
- Memorization in the Piano Solo Festival is encouraged but not required. Memorized performances will receive a critique with rating; non-memorized performances will receive a critique.
- Providing a second score is preferred when a student uses their music; otherwise, the judge may look over the student's shoulder.
- Students must bring music to Piano Solo Festival with measures numbered. (Please note: The first full measure of a piece is considered measure #1. If a piece begins with a pick-up measure, disregard it when numbering.)
- Students should discuss with their teacher and parents to balance personal factors and participation goals when making a decision on whether or not to memorize.
- Repeats, Da Capos, and Dei Segnos must be observed as indicated on the Piano Contest/Piano Solo Festival List and updates.
- Students using music purchased or legally downloaded from the internet must present an MMTA Contest Music Release Form, signed by a legal adult, to the registration table. Photocopies of music are not allowed. <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/sites/default/files/files/pdf/1217-466-mmta-piano-contest-music-release-form.pdf>
- Only the judge and the student are allowed in the Piano Solo Festival room. Recording of the entrant's performance is not allowed.
- 30-60 seconds of warm-up time is allowed in which students may play any memorized chords, scales, a glissando, or some portion of another piece, and/or may test the pedals. **No portion of their Solo Festival piece may be played as a warm-up.**
- No apparatus, such as a pedal box, may be used at the Piano Solo Festival. Students must use the benches in the room. A student may bring a footstool or a pillow but must carry it in by themselves.

Materials & Website Information

- Required repertoire is found on the 2024 MMTA Piano Contest/Piano Solo Festival Materials List. The current list is available online. Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com, then look under "Programs" for the "Piano" page.
 - Updates to the list (if any) will be announced in MMTA newsletters and emails. Updates will also be posted to the Piano Programs web page.
- To diversify the MMTA Piano Contest and Piano Solo Festival repertoire list and provide more opportunities for MMTA members and students, the Piano Contest Committee is seeking submissions from MMTA member composers.
 - Each year, the Minnesota district in charge of selecting the repertoire, the Piano Contest Committee, and the Piano Exam Syllabus Committee will be able to access the submitted pieces.
 - Compositions submitted before June 1st will be considered for the MMTA Piano Contest and Piano Solo Festival repertoire list in two years. All submitted compositions will be added to a library/repository of submissions and will be available for future repertoire considerations.



Piano Young Artist Contest

Purpose	To encourage high performance standards, MMTA sponsors a Young Artist Contest . Competition categories include Junior (Gr. 7-9), Senior (Gr. 9-12) and College.
Challenge Award	200 points <i>(See p. 20 for more information.)</i>
Locations/Dates <i>(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)</i>	Preliminary Contest: Saturday, February 17, 2024 University of Northwestern, St. Paul Call Backs: Sunday, February 18, 2024 Schmitt Music—Bloomington Honors Concert: Saturday, June 1, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Minneapolis Convention Center Rehearsal Dates: April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1 Foundation Awards Winners Recital: June 2, 2024 - 7:30 p.m. Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina
Event Registration	See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.
Deadline*	December 17, 2023 <i>(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)</i>
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registration \$50 per student entry• Non-members: \$60 per teacher per event <i>(in addition to student registration fees)</i>
Procedures	See General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A registrant must be a student of an MMTA teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the Preliminary Contest date.• A student may not enter both the Piano Preliminary Contest and the Young Artist Contest playing the same instrument.• Students who competed, but did not win First Place, may compete in the same category providing they meet the grade/age requirement. Performing in the ensemble at the Honors Concert is not considered 1st place.
Junior Young Artist (JYA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are expected to perform a solo program for 7 minutes, representing at least two different style periods. Performances are timed. Students will not be disqualified for performing less, but the goal is to perform for at least 7 minutes and it is to their advantage to do so.• Junior Young Artist is recommended for students in 7th, 8th, or 9th grade. Students in 9th grade have the option of competing as Junior Young Artist or Senior Young Artist.
Senior Young Artist (SYA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are expected to perform a solo program for 15 minutes, representing at least two different style periods. Performances are timed. Students will not be disqualified for performing less, but the goal is to perform for at least 15 minutes and it is to their advantage to do so.• Senior Young Artist is for students in 9th through 12th grade. Students in 9th grade have the option of competing as a Junior Young Artist or Senior Young Artist.
College Young Artist (CYA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are expected to perform a solo program for 30 minutes, representing at least three different style periods. Performances are timed. Students will not be disqualified for performing less, but the goal is to perform for at least 30 minutes and it is to their advantage to do so.
Theory Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Handbook p. 17 for detailed information.• Theory requirement must be achieved prior to the contest event.

Repertoire

- Students registering in the same category as the previous year must perform new repertoire.
- Once the student has been registered with specific repertoire, it cannot be changed or added to for any reason without permission from the Young Artist Site Administrator.
- Students using music purchased or legally downloaded from the internet must present an MMTA Contest Music Release Form, signed by a legal adult, to the registration table. Photocopies of music are not allowed. www.mnmusicteachers.com/sites/default/files/files/pdf/1217-466-mmta-piano-contest-music-release-form.pdf
- Young Artist event repertoire no longer needs approval. Sources for repertoire are recommendations only and do not limit the choices for students. Repertoire may be taken from:
 - ❑ Past Piano Young Artist Repertoire Lists
 - ❑ Current and Past Annual Piano Contest Lists
 - ❑ Suggested Young Artist Repertoire can be found online www.mnmusicteachers.com/program/piano
 - Choose selections representing different periods, contrasting styles, and different composers.
 - Choose repertoire demonstrating the student's musical ability, versatility, and technical facility.
 - Repertoire must be learned in its entirety. Excerpts of entire pieces may be heard at the judge's discretion.
 - Students may select single movements of multi-movement works.
 - Individual movement(s) are allowed and must be indicated at the time of registration. If specific movement(s) are not indicated, it will be assumed that the student is prepared to perform any part of the piece.
 - Repeats may be included to meet the minimum time. (In such a case, the student must be prepared to perform with repeats to ensure minimum time is met.)
 - All contestants must perform from memory. Students are required to bring one score of each work for the judges; two scores of each are preferred, if possible.
 - Concertos and arrangements are not admissible selections. Transcriptions by major arrangers and composers such as Busoni, Liszt, etc. are allowed.

Changing a Time Request

- Time Change requests must be made by a student's teacher. Fee is \$10 per student.
- Time change requests will be allowed until **February 2, 2024**. Please email the MMTA Office at mmta@mnmusicteachers.com; or call 952-345-0629.

← NOTE

Disqualification

- Performers may be disqualified for these reasons:
 - Playing different repertoire than the selections listed on the repertoire form.
 - Not performing a piece or indicated movement in its entirety.
 - Playing for contest without providing music for the judge; or for providing incorrect or photocopied music.
 - Music is not memorized.

Honors Concert & Winners Recital

- Students selected as winners at Call-Backs and other high-scoring participants are invited to play in the MMTA Honors Concert. *(See Handbook p. 21 for more information.)*
- Select winners may be invited to play in the MMTA Foundation Award Winners Recital at the annual MMTA Convention. *(See Handbook p. 10 for more information.)*

Materials & Website Information

Information about repertoire lists and selection criteria are outlined in the above sections, and on the MMTA website under Programs/Piano.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel), or Handbook p. 50.



Comprehensive Piano, Keyboard, & Sightplaying Exams

Purpose

To develop proficiency and musicianship through twelve levels of curriculum encompassing keyboard skills, sightplaying and repertoire (*Levels Preparatory-11:Capstone*). Keyboard Skills include scales, chords and arpeggios from elementary to advanced (*Level Preparatory-Level 11: Capstone*). Sightplaying helps students gain proficiency in playing at sight at the keyboard through seven levels of exams (*Level Preparatory-6*).

Challenge Award

Comprehensive: 300 pts; Keyboard or Sightplaying Only: 100 pts (*See p. 20 for more information.*)

Locations & Deadlines

Generally five weeks before exam date. (*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.*)

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Virtual Exams:
Video submissions due on date of exam.

On-site Exams changed to Virtual Exams:
Video submissions due one week after original exam date.

Comprehensive Piano & Keyboard Skills - Levels Prep-11; Sightplaying - Levels Prep-6				
Event Date	District	Site	Reg. Deadline	Video Deadline
11/4/2023	C	College of St. Benedict, St. Cloud	10/1/2023	
11/11/2023	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	10/8/2022	
11/11/2023	NE	College of St. Scholastica, Duluth	10/8/2023	
11/17/2023	All	Virtual	10/15/2023	11/17/2023
11/18/2023	NWDL	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	10/15/2023	
12/3/2023	TCKS	K&S Studios, Woodbury	10/29/2023	
1/20/2024	SE	Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester	12/17/2022	
3/8/2024	All	Virtual	2/4/2024	3/8/2024
4/13/2024	C	St. Ben's, St. Cloud	3/10/2024	
4/14/2024	TCKS	K&S Studios, Woodbury	3/10/2024	
4/20/2024	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	3/17/2024	
4/20/2024	NWB	Headwaters Music & Arts, Bemidji	3/17/2024	
4/27/2024	SE	Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester	3/24/2024	
4/27/2024	SCW	TBD, Willmar	3/24/2024	
4/27/2024	NWDL	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	3/24/2024	
5/4/2024	NE	College of St. Scholastica, Duluth	3/31/2024	
5/19/2024	TC	St. Joseph's School of Music, St. Paul	4/14/2024	
5/31/2024	All	Virtual	4/28/2024	5/31/2024
8/9/2024	All	Virtual	7/7/2023	8/9/2024
8/17/2024	WA	Shalom Lutheran Church, Alexandria	7/14/2024	
Comprehensive Piano Level 11 : Capstone				
5/19/2024	Location TBA		repertoire approval: TBD registration deadline: TBD	

Fees

<u>Comprehensive Piano*:</u>											
Prep	\$29	2	\$37	4	\$50	6	\$50	8	\$61	10	\$77
1	\$32	3	\$44	5	\$50	7	\$55	9	\$66	11	\$77
Level 11: Capstone \$150											
<u>Keyboard Skills*:</u> <i>(if taken prior to the Comprehensive Exam)</i>											
Prep	\$17	2	\$17	4	\$17	6	\$17	8	\$21	10	\$22
1	\$17	3	\$17	5	\$17	7	\$19	9	\$22		
<u>Sightplaying*:</u> <i>(if taken prior to the Comprehensive Exam)</i>											
Prep	\$16	2	\$17	4	\$18	6	\$19				
1	\$16	3	\$18	5	\$19						

*Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event (in addition to student registration fees)

Procedures & Repertoire

- See **General Rules & Procedures, p. 7**; and **MMTA Challenge Awards, p. 20**.
- The Comprehensive Piano Exam includes keyboard skills, sightplaying, and repertoire.
 - For Levels Prep - 10: Keyboard Skills (Prep - 10), and Sightplaying (Prep - 6) may be taken separately if taken on an earlier test date. \$2 is deducted from the comprehensive fee for each separate exam. Score(s) must be submitted when registering for the comprehensive exam or the student will be retested.
 - If the student has not taken Keyboard Skills or Sightplaying exam(s) before taking the comprehensive piano exam, register for the Comprehensive Piano Exam ONLY. Registrations and additional fees for the Keyboard Skills and Sightplaying portions of the exam do not need to be submitted.
- Each level’s requirements can be found in the 2020 Piano Syllabus.
- Students can be entered at any exam level, and may skip a level. (Levels Prep -9)

Piano Exam - Level 10, Level 11, Level 11: Capstone

NOTE ➡

- A student must have a passing grade for Level 10 exam before Level 11 exam may be taken.
- Repertoire for Piano Exam Level 10 & 11 must be approved by the Level 11 Program Director prior to registration. The approval must be included as part of the online registration, or attached to the piano exam registration form if registration is submitted by mail.
- Students have two options at the highest level, Level 11 and Level 11: Capstone.
- Students taking Level 11 now have the option, as at previous levels, of taking the exam for the Comprehensive Certificate or the Performance Certificate. Level 11 will be offered at all exam sites/dates.
- Students taking Level 11: Capstone will meet specific requirements as outlined on p. 151 of the syllabus. Level 11: Capstone is designed to showcase the student’s comprehensive musicianship in a recital format and will be offered once per year.

Materials & Website Information

- 2020 Piano Exam Syllabus
- 2021 Diversity Addendum
- 2020 Resource Reference
- 2020 Preparation Packet
- Keyboard Skills Levels Prep-3
- Keyboard Skills Levels 4-6
- Sightplaying Syllabus
- Sightplaying books Levels Prep-6
- Sightplaying Sample Tests

To order, visit the MMTA online store: www.mnmusicteachers.com/products

Theory Requirement

- The MMTA Theory Exam is a separate exam requiring a separate registration and fee. See Handbook p. 17 for detailed information.
 - Students may take a Piano Exam without having passed the required level of theory. However, they will not be eligible for a monetary award and will receive a Performance certificate in place of a Comprehensive certificate.
 - See Handbook p. 19 - Certificates & Awards for information about obtaining a Comprehensive certificate after a student has passed the required theory level.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 51.



Theory Exams

Purpose

To develop skills in music theory notation; ear training; analysis of structure and form; and integration of these elements in repertoire and keyboard facility.

Challenge Award

100 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations & Deadlines

Generally five weeks before exam date. *(Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Completed Written and Aural Exam papers for Virtual Theory Exams are to be mailed to the MMTA Office. Envelope must be postmarked by the Tuesday following the exam date. Exam papers for virtual exams may alternatively be submitted through the MMTA website.

Levels 1 - 8			
Test Date	District	Site	Deadline
10/14/2023	All	Virtual	9/10/2023
11/4/2023	C	St. Ben's, St. Cloud	10/1/2023
11/11/2023	TCNC	University of Northwestern-St. Paul, Roseville	10/8/2023
11/11/2023	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	10/8/2022
11/11/2023	NE	College of St. Scholastica, Duluth	10/8/2023
11/18/2023	NWDL	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	10/15/2023
12/9/2023	All	Virtual	11/5/2023
1/20/2024	SE	Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester	12/17/2024
3/17/2024	TCKS	K&S Studios, Woodbury	2/11/2024
4/13/2024	C	College of St. Benedict, St. Cloud	3/10/2024
4/13/2024	TC	Normandale Lutheran Church, Edina	3/10/2024
4/20/2024	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	3/17/2024
4/20/2024	NWB	Headwaters Music & Arts, Bemidji	3/17/2024
4/27/2023	SCW	TBD, Willmar	3/24/2024
4/27/2024	NWDL	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	3/24/2024
4/27/2024	SE	Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester	3/24/2024
5/4/2024	NE	College of St. Scholastica, Duluth	3/31/2024
5/11/2024	All	Virtual	4/7/2024
8/17/2024	WA	Shalom Lutheran Church, Alexandria	7/14/2024
8/24/2024	All	Virtual	7/21/2024

**Event date may change depending on site availability.*

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

1	\$28	3	\$30	5	\$32	7	\$45
2	\$30	4	\$30	6	\$43	8	\$48

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

Materials & Website Information

- See **General Rules and Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- Theory Syllabus and Theory Workbooks Levels 1-8 are available from the MMTA Office or www.mnmusicteachers.com/products. Free aural exam practice examples are available to both teachers and students through the online store on MMTA Website.
- Theory Workbooks Levels 1, 2, 7, and 8 are 1st edition. Theory levels 3, 4, 5, and 6 are 2nd edition.
- Level 6 testing will be based on the first edition book through August 2024. Students who use the 2nd edition book will be able to take the exam since the concepts and skills remain the same between the two editions. In the 2nd edition, layout, clarity of explanations, and the diversity of the composers in the analysis chapter have been improved.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel), or Handbook p. 51.



Popular Styles Exams

Purpose

Students learn to: play and recognize melodic and harmonic patterns essential to popular music; listen critically to folk, blues, jazz, rock, pop and other popular styles; sing/clap short melodies they have just heard; play solo arrangements of popular tunes; and arrange, play, and improvise from lead sheets (melody and chords).

Challenge Award

100 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations & Deadlines

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Generally five weeks before the exam. *(Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*

Levels 1-4			
Test Date	District	Site	Deadline
11/11/2023	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	10/8/2023
4/14/2023	TCKS	K & S Studios, Woodbury	3/10/2024
4/20/2024	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	3/17/2024
8/17/2024	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	7/14/2024

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

1 \$44 2 \$44 3 \$44 4 \$44

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

- See **General Rules and Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- Students can be entered at any exam level, and may skip a level, depending upon a student's individual facility.

Repertoire

- Lead sheet performance: Students are strongly encouraged to submit a recording rather than play live during the exam, so the judge doesn't have to bring sound equipment and MP3 to the exam. Backing track may be used as usual, but live accompaniment is also encouraged. (Bass & drums, rhythm guitar, or any ensemble that works with the piece.)
- Lead sheet AND solo arrangements: Repertoire selection is not limited to the lists on the MMTA website. Any level-appropriate arrangement or lead sheet may be used.
- Harmonic Patterns (Levels 2, 3, and 4): Students will no longer be required to perform triad, dominant 7th, and minor 7th chord inversions in tempo. It will be sufficient to demonstrate knowledge of the inversions by playing them accurately.

Materials & Website Information

- Popular Styles Exam Workbooks, Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4. Students may use either the original 2014 edition, or the new revised edition, published in June 2015.
- Online resources including: workbooks for teacher use; guided listening resources; repertoire lists; improvisation resources; and sample exam scripts and scoring forms.
 - ❑ Go to www.mnmusicteachers.com, then look under Programs/Popular Styles.
 - ❑ Additional resources are available to teachers: under Materials/Popular Styles.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 51.



Voice & Instrumental Contest

Purpose

To encourage high performance standards for students and teachers in voice, guitar, organ, strings, and woodwinds, MMTA sponsors an annual Voice and Instrumental Festival, Solo Contest, Young Artist Contest and Finale Concert. This event provides students with a written critique and showcases them at the Finale Concert. Please note, teachers **may request a mentor** to learn about these programs by contacting the MMTA Office or the Vice President-Vocal & Instrumental Programs.

Challenge Award

- 100 points;
- Finale Concert Ensemble Performance*: 100 *(See p. 20 for more information.)*
**Only Finale Concert/Performance Festival points earned after September 2015 may be counted.*

Date

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Contest & Finale Concert: April 13, 2024 Messiah United Methodist Church - Plymouth

All Contest, Solo Festival, and Young Artist students will perform in the Vocal and Instrumental Finale Concert in an ensemble following the Contests & Solo Festival. See below for more information.

Deadline

(Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)

March 3, 2024

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

Contest: \$25 per student
Non-Members: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

- See **General Rules & Procedures, p. 7.**
- This is an in-person event. No video performances will be accepted.
- A registrant must be a student of the same teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the Contest date.
- Students may not perform the same repertoire in any consecutive years.
- A student may enter only one contest event performing with the same instrument.

Schedule

- Contest solos will be judged in the morning.
- Vocal and instrumental performers will rehearse their ensemble piece before the Finale Concert. The ensemble piece will be given to teachers after they register their student(s).
- Afternoon Finale Concert: First place winners in each age group and in each category (voice, guitar, organ, strings, woodwinds) will perform in the concert. Each category of performers will perform in their instrument-specific ensemble.

Accompanist Etiquette

- Accompanist is to play only the printed music and not add “helping notes.”
- Accompanist is not to coach the performer in any way including the use of gestures.
- Accompanist will allow and encourage the student to lead the performance musically and expressively.
- Voice, string and woodwind teachers may accompany their own students.

Voice Contest

Levels and Ages: *(Age is determined as of September 1, 2023.)*

- Level I Age 12 & under
- Level II Ages 13-14
- Level III Ages 15-16
- Level IV Ages 17-18
- Level V Ages 19-23

Guitar Contest	Categories and Ages: <i>(Age is determined as of September 1, 2023.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary Level Ages 6-8• Junior Level Ages 9-13• Senior Level Ages 14-18
Organ Contest	Categories and Ages: <i>(Age is determined as of September 1, 2023.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Junior Level Ages 13-15• Senior Level Ages 16-18
String Contest	Categories, Age and Theory Requirements* <i>(Age is determined as of September 1, 2023.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary I Age 8 & under• Elementary II Ages 9-10• Junior A Ages 11-12• Junior B Ages 13-14• Senior A Ages 15-16• Senior B Ages 17-18 (must still be enrolled in High School)• College Ages 19-23 (High School graduate, college degree not completed)
Woodwind Contest	Categories, Age and Theory Requirements <i>(Age is determined as of September 1, 2023.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary Level Age 12 & under No theory required• Junior Level Ages 13-15 No theory required• Senior Level Ages 16-18 See Handbook p. 17 for more information
Repertoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The MMTA Vocal and Instrumental Repertoire Lists are available through the MMTA Office or online at www.mnmusicteachers.com; and/or from the appropriate Program Director. The Materials Lists are to be used as a guide in selecting music.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voice: Repertoire selection may be chosen by the student's teacher. No musical theatre, pop or heavy opera selections are allowed. Memorization is encouraged but not required. Students may enter both Voice & Instrumental Contest OR Young Artist Contest & Solo Festival, but must perform from a different genre for each.• Guitar: Memorization is optional.• Organ: Memorization is encouraged by not required. Organ students may have an assistant to turn pages and/or help with the stops. The assistant <i>may not</i> be the student's teacher.• Strings: Music must be memorized.• Woodwinds: Memorization is not required.• Measures are to be numbered in both the judge's and the accompanist's copy.• MMTA expects all entrants to abide by the copyright law.
Disqualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performers may be disqualified if they and/or their accompanist use illegally photocopied music. If using legally downloaded music, a signed copy of the Music Release Form must be submitted prior to the contest.
Theory Requirement	See Handbook p. 17 for detailed information.
Materials & Website Information	Repertoire lists for voice, flute, guitar, and organ are available on the MMTA website under Programs. Voice & Instrumental syllabi are sold at the MMTA Office, or through the online store: www.mnmusicteachers.com/products .
Personnel	See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival

Purpose

To encourage performance for students and teachers in woodwinds, organ, strings, and voice, MMTA sponsors an annual Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival and Finale Concert. Students who cannot or do not wish to compete in Contest may perform for written comments from a judge. Solo Festival students are not eligible to perform a solo performance in the Finale Concert, but they are expected to participate in their ensemble for the Finale Concert.

Challenge Award

- 100 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*
- Finale Concert Ensemble Performance: 100 points

Date

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Festival & Finale Concert: April 13, 2024 Messiah United Methodist Church - Plymouth

Voice & Instrumental Solo Festival performances may be submitted virtually via recording within two months before the Festival Performance date.

All Contest, Solo Festival, and Young Artist students will perform in the Vocal and Instrumental Finale Concert in an ensemble following the Contests & Solo Festival. See below for more information.

Deadline

(Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)

March 3, 2024

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

NOTE >

Solo Festival: \$25 per student

Non-Members: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

- See **General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- This is an in-person and virtual event. The deadline for video submission is between 30 days prior to the Solo Festival event date and two days prior to the event date.
- There are no age or theory requirements for Solo Festival.
- Students may not perform the same repertoire in any consecutive years
- A student may enter only one event performing with the same instrument.
- Repertoire information is detailed in the section below.
 - If no repertoire materials list is available for an instrument the student wishes to play at the Festival, repertoire selections need approval from the appropriate Program Director by **December 1st**.

Schedule

- Festival solos will be judged in the morning.
- Vocal and instrumental performers will rehearse their ensemble piece before the Finale Concert. The ensemble piece will be given to teachers after they register their student(s).
- Afternoon Finale Concert: Each category of performers will perform in their instrument-specific ensemble.

Accompanist Etiquette

- Accompanist is to play only the printed music and not add “helping notes.”
- Accompanist is not to coach the performer in any way including the use of gestures.
- Accompanist will allow and encourage the student to lead the performance musically and expressively.
- Voice, string and woodwind teachers may accompany their own students.

Disqualification

- Performers may be disqualified if they and/or their accompanist use illegally photocopied music. If using legally downloaded music, a signed copy of the Music Release Form must be submitted prior to the contest.

Repertoire

- One repertoire selection is to be chosen by the teacher. The MMTA Vocal and Instrumental Repertoire Lists are available through the MMTA Office or online at www.mnmusicteachers.com; and/or from the appropriate Program Director. The Materials Lists are to be used as a guide in selecting music.
 - Voice: Repertoire selection may be chosen by the student's teacher. Students may enter both Voice & Instrumental Contest OR Young artist Contest & Solo Festival, but must perform from a different genre for each.
 - Guitar: Memorization is optional.
 - Organ: Memorization is encouraged by not required. Organ students may have an assistant to turn pages and/or help with the stops. The assistant *may not* be the student's teacher.
 - Woodwinds: Memorization is not required.
- Measures are to be numbered in both the judge's and the accompanist's copy.
- MMTA expects all entrants to abide by the copyright law.

Materials & Website Information

Repertoire lists for voice, flute, guitar, and organ are available on the MMTA website under Programs. Voice & Instrumental syllabi are sold at the MMTA Office, or through the online store: www.mnmusicteachers.com/products.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



Voice & Instrumental Young Artist Contest

Purpose

To encourage high performance standards for student and teachers in voice, guitar, organ, strings, and woodwinds, MMTA sponsors an annual Young Artist and Finale Concert. This event provides students with a written critique and showcases them at the Finale Concert.

Challenge Award

- 200 points
 - Finale Concert Ensemble Performance*: 100 (See p. 35 for more information.)
- *Only Finale Concert/Performance Festival points earned after September 2015 may be counted.*

Date

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Contest & Finale Concert: April 13, 2024 Messiah United Methodist Church - Plymouth

All Contest, Solo Festival, and Young Artist students will perform in the Vocal and Instrumental Finalé Concert in an ensemble following the Contests & Solo Festival. See below for more information.

Deadline

(Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)

March 3, 2024

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

NOTE >

- Registration \$50 per student entry (Voice paid by Dr. Shirley Holzer Endowment Fund)
- Non-members: \$60 per teacher per event (in addition to student registration fees)

Procedures

See **General Rules & Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**

- This is an in-person event. No video performances will be accepted.
- A registrant must be a student of the same teacher for the current year, for at least three months prior to the Contest date.
- A student may not enter both the Voice & Instrumental Contest and the Young Artist Contest playing the same instrument.

Schedule

- Contest solos will be judged in the morning.
- Vocal and instrumental performers will rehearse their ensemble piece before the Finale Concert. The ensemble piece will be given to teachers after they register their student(s).
- Afternoon Finale Concert: First place winners in each age group and in each category (voice, guitar, organ, strings, woodwinds) will perform in the concert. Each category of performers will perform in their instrument-specific ensemble.
- Young Artist students MUST perform in the concert to be eligible for a monetary award.

Accompanist Etiquette

- Accompanist is to play only the printed music and not add "helping notes."
- Accompanist is not to coach the performer in any way including the use of gestures.
- Accompanist will allow and encourage the student to lead the performance musically and expressively.
- Voice, string and woodwind teachers may accompany their own students.

Junior Young Artist (excludes guitar)

- A solo program of 7 minutes minimum performance time.
- Students must be in 7th through 9th grade. Students in 9th grade have the option of competing as a Junior Young Artist or a Senior Young Artist.

Senior Young Artist

- A solo program of 15 minutes minimum performance time.
- Students must be in 9th through 12th grade.

College Young Artist

- A solo program of 25 minutes minimum performance time.
- Students must be a High School graduate, 23 years of age or under, and have not yet obtained a college degree.

Repertoire

- Students must perform different repertoire each year.
- Once the student has been registered with specific repertoire, it cannot be changed or added to for any reason.
- No substitutions will be allowed.
- Proposed program must be sent to appropriate Program Director by **January 31, 2024** of the current academic year.
- A student who is awarded first place may compete in the same category in subsequent years, providing they meet the grade/age requirement.
- If a student will be using music downloaded from the internet, or legally reproduced from any source, student over 18 years of age or a parent must sign a Music Release Form confirming compliance with copyright law.
- See the following category sections for specific repertoire requirements for each instrument.

Voice Repertoire

Voice Junior and Senior Young Artist:

- Select repertoire representing different periods; contrasting styles; a variety of languages, including English, German, Italian and French; and different composers. No pop, musical theater selections or heavy operatic arias are allowed. Junior Young Artist repertoire should be similar to levels 2-4 in the MMTA Voice Syllabus.

Voice College Young Artist:

- Repertoire guidelines are the same as High School Young Artist, with the exception that operatic arias - such as those listed in the MMTA Voice Syllabus - may be utilized, keeping in mind the student's Voice development.
- *Suggestions* for appropriate Voice literature may be obtained by consulting the Voice Contest List and/or Voice Syllabus. These are available through the MMTA Office or online at www.mnmusicteachers.com under "Member Resources." It is recommended that Levels 3-5 be used. Please select literature appropriate to the student's vocal development.

Guitar Repertoire

- At least two repertoire selections must be chosen from the Materials List available from the MMTA Office; online at www.mnmusicteachers.com under "Member Resources"; and/or from the Guitar Program Director.

Organ Repertoire

- Organ Junior Young Artist:
 - No materials lists are available. Please submit desired repertoire selections to the Organ Program Director for written approval by **December 1, 2023**. Include approval with student's registration.
- Organ Senior and College Young Artist:
 - An Organ Young Artist repertoire list can be found online at www.mnmusicteachers.com. This list is also available from the MMTA Office.
 - Please submit a list of each student's repertoire to the Organ Program Director for approval by **December 1, 2023**. Include approval with registration.
- Editions listed are not required - students may use other sources.
- Organ students may have an assistant to turn pages and/or help with stops. The assistant may not be the student's teacher.

Strings Repertoire

- No materials lists are available. Please submit desired repertoire selections to the Strings Program Director for written approval by **December 1, 2023**. Include approval with student's registration.

Woodwind Repertoire

Flute Junior Young Artist:

- ❑ No materials lists are available. Please submit desired repertoire selections to the Woodwind Program Director for written approval prior to **December 1, 2023**. Include approval with student's registration.

Flute Senior and College Young Artist

- ❑ A repertoire list can be found online at www.mnmusicteachers.com. This list is also available from the MMTA Office.
- ❑ Editions listed are not required - students may use other sources.

All Other Woodwinds:

- ❑ No materials lists are available. Please submit desired repertoire selections to the Woodwind Program Director for written approval prior to **December 1, 2023**. Include approval with student's registration.

Theory Requirement

See Handbook p. 17 for more information.

Materials & Website Information

Repertoire lists for voice, flute, guitar, and organ are available on the MMTA website under Programs. Voice & Instrumental syllabi are sold at the MMTA Office, or through the online store: www.mnmusicteachers.com/products.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52



Strings Programs - Recitals

Purpose

Provide opportunities for students to perform music learned during the current year.

Challenge Award

100 points per student per recital. *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations

November 11, 2023 from 1:30 to 4:00 PM Schmitt Music, Bloomington
Watch the weekly update or website events page for any additional recitals

Event Registration

Contact the String Program Director for more information - see Handbook p. 52.



Comprehensive Voice & Instrumental Exams

Flute, Guitar, Organ, Violin, Viola, and Voice

Purpose

To develop proficiency and musicianship, the Flute, Guitar, Organ, Violin, Viola, and Voice. Exams encompass several levels from beginning to advanced.

Challenge Award

300 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations

In various districts around the state, throughout the year. See below for details.

Deadlines*

(Dates subject to change. See MMTA website for up-to-date information.)

- Generally five weeks before exam date. *(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*
- In addition to the exam dates listed below, exams are given in-person, virtually, and/or on-demand. For virtual exams, performance video(s) are submitted at the time of registration, and must be recorded no earlier than two months prior to the exam date.

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14-16 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Procedures

- See **General Rules and Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- Each Voice & Instrumental level's requirements can be found in the correlating syllabus.

Materials & Website Information

- Voice & Instrumental syllabi - Flute; Classical Guitar; Pickers & Pluckers (Guitar); Organ; Violin; Viola; and Voice. Available from the MMTA Office or www.mnmusicteachers.com.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.

Voice Exams

Locations/Dates: First Lutheran Church—Detroit Lakes, 11/18/2023 & 4/27/2024 IP & V

Fees:

1 \$25 2 \$25 3 \$32 4 \$32 5 \$44

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Guitar Exams

(Comprehensive and Pickers & Pluckers)

Locations/Dates: TBD

Fees:

1 \$25 3 \$37 5 \$50 7 \$61 9 \$66 11 \$77

2 \$32 4 \$44 6 \$55 8 \$66 10 \$77 12 \$77

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

String Exams

Viola & Violin

Location/Date: K & S Conservatory, March 16, 2024 Deadline February 11, 2024

Fees:

1 \$25 2 \$25 3 \$25 4 \$32 5 \$32 6 \$37 7 \$37 8 \$44

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Organ Exams

Fees: Prep \$29 1 \$44 2 \$44 3 \$44

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Woodwind Exams

Location/Date: On demand at the discretion of the Woodwind Program Directors

Fees: 1 \$37 2 \$37 3 \$37 4 \$44 5 \$44 6 \$44 7 \$44

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*



MMTA Student Composition Contest

Purpose	To encourage students to learn about the art of music composition and creatively apply the principles learned in music study.
Challenge Award	100 points <i>(See p. 20 for more information.)</i>
Location/Date*	Winners Recital: June 2-4*, 2024 Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina <i>*Exact date and time will be provided to winning students following the completion of judging.</i>
Deadline*	March 1, 2024 <i>(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)</i>
Event Registration	Register online at www.mnmusicteachers.com and upload composition (and optional digital recording or video); or send registration form, composition(s) and appropriate fee to the MMTA Office (and optional recording on a CD*). <i>*Note: CDs will not be returned.</i>
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary (Grade 3 and under): \$27 per student• Elementary (Grades 4, 5, 6): \$27 per student• Junior High (Grades 7, 8, 9): \$30 per student• Senior High (Grades 10, 11, 12): \$30 per student• Non-Member Teachers: \$60 in addition to student fee(s)
Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See General Rules and Procedures for All MMTA Programs, p. 7.• Composition Criteria/Requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only one entry per student.• Compositions submitted in previous years may not be re-entered.• Compositions may be written for more than one medium, but for no more than 10 performers.• Multi-movement works are allowable, but must not be more than 10 minutes in length.• Score Presentation Requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The score must be computer generated using music notation software.• Cover art should not be included.• Measures of the composition must be numbered, at the beginning of each system, on the left-hand side of the page.• All materials must be labeled with the name of the composition and level (Primary, Elementary, Junior High, or Senior High).• The score must not include the name, photo, or biography of the student, or the name of the student's teacher.• No change may be made to the composition once it has been submitted.• The entrant certifies that the composition is an original work, and that the score was produced by the entrant.• If submitting by mail, compositions of one page or those that have multiple pages that are not bound should be placed in a mailing envelope. A file folder may be used. Write the level and title of the piece on the outside of this envelope or folder. Do not submit loose pages.• If submitting electronically, the score must be in PDF format.• Teachers should expect to receive mailed results 6-8 weeks after submission.
Theory Requirement	There is no theory requirement for this contest.
Personnel	See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



MMTA Student Composition Festival

Purpose

To encourage students to learn about the art of music composition and creatively apply the principles learned in music study, and have feedback provided in a non-competitive form.

Challenge Award

100 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Deadline*

March 1, 2024 *(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*

Fees

- Primary (Grade 3 and under): \$27 per student
- Elementary (Grades 4, 5, 6): \$27 per student
- Junior High (Grades 7, 8, 9): \$30 per student
- Senior High (Grades 10, 11, 12): \$30 per student

Procedures

- See **General Rules & Procedures, p. 7.**
- **Submission Guidelines:**
 - Students may submit a score, a recording, or both.
 - If submitting only a score, it should be playable on the piano at a level no higher than Piano Contest category Intermediate A.
 - If submitting both a score and a recording, any format can be used.
 - The score, if submitted, does not need to be computer-generated but should be easy to read.

Theory Requirement

There is no theory requirement for this festival.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



MMTA Member Composition Submissions

Purpose

To diversify the MMTA Piano Contest and Piano Solo Festival repertoire list and provide more opportunities for MMTA members and students.

Deadline

May 1, 2024

Event Registration

Submit PDF online at <https://www.mnmusicteachers.com/piano-contest-piano-solo-festival-member-composition-submission-form>

Fee

Current MMTA Members: \$0
Non-Members: No submissions may be submitted.

Procedures

See **General Rules and Procedures for All MMTA Programs, p. 7.**

Composition Criteria/Requirements:

- The composer must be a current member of MMTA.
- The composer will retain ownership and copyright to their music.
- The composition must be written for solo piano.
- The submission must be a computer-generated copy.
- The composition must be easily available for purchase in printed and/or electronic format.
- The composition can be written in any style.
- Include tempo markings and performance notes.
- The composition can be written at any technical level.
- Indicate Age Category (PRI, INA, SRA) at the time of submission.
- Duration should not exceed:
 - Pre-PRI, PRI, JRA, JRB - 2 minutes
 - INA - 3 minutes
 - INB - 4 minutes
 - SRA, SRB - 5 minutes



Teachers Original Duet Composition Contest

Purpose

To encourage MMTA teachers to explore the process of music composition, and to expand the knowledge base they share with their students, each year MMTA holds a Teacher Original Duet Composition Contest. Winning compositions will be programmed at that year's Honors Concert.

Deadline

October 1, 2023

Event Registration

Submit PDF online at www.mnmusicteachers.com

Fee

Current MMTA Members: \$0

Procedures

See **General Rules and Procedures for All MMTA Programs, p. 7.**

Composition Criteria/Requirements:

- Duets should display creativity and contain interesting parts for both secondo and primo, both in terms of melodic and rhythmic content, techniques, and construction.
- The composition should be appropriate for a large ensemble and for students new to performing in a conducted ensemble.
- The composition should be appropriate for the ages of the performers and should have an audience appeal.
- The piece length should run between 1-3 minutes.
- Compositions may be suitable for Primary, Intermediate, or Advanced. The musical and technical demands of the duet should be equivalent to an average solo piano piece at the following levels. See p. 8-10 in the 2020 Syllabus for keyboard skills requirements at each level.
 - PRI = Prep-1 INB = 6-9
 - JRA = 1-3 SRA = 8-9
 - JRB = 2-5 SRB = 9-11
 - INA = 4-7
- Compositions from previous years may be resubmitted, provided they have not been performed in past Honors Concerts.

Score Presentation Requirements:

- Ensembles should be submitted as a PDF in open score format. Winning compositions will need to be published side-by-side.
- Age Category should be listed (PRI, JRA, JRB, etc.)
- Remove all identification information. The Committee Chair will ensure each score is connected with the proper entrant.
- Place the title of the work on each page of the score.
- Measures must be numbered and aligned between primo and secondo.
- Include tempo markings and performance notes.
- You may send a recording of the duet as you would like it performed.

Contest Winners

Contest Winners Agree To

- Make arrangements to have copies available at any or all of these music retailers: Groth, Schmitt Music, and arrangeme.com, so winners and alternates can easily purchase copies.
 - Publish the ensemble in a side-by-side format.
 - Submit publishing information and needed copies to the MMTA Office no later than February 1st.
- Provide a copy for the conductor and any other copies needed by MMTA.
- Provide appropriate cover art prior to printing.
- Be present at the 3rd Honors Concert Rehearsal to meet students and autograph copies of the duet.
- Be present at the Honors Concert to be acknowledged on stage with the performers.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



Ensemble Festival

Purpose

To provide students with the opportunity to make music as part of an ensemble. An ensemble consists of at least two keyboard, Voice and/or instrumental students.

Challenge Award

100 pts. per student per registered ensemble; Limit: 200 pts. per student, per year *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Locations & Deadlines*

*(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Date	District	Site	Deadline
10/28/2023	SWW	Mountain Lake Alliance Church, Mountain Lake	9/23/2023
11/5/2022	SCW	Bethel Lutheran Church, Willmar	10/1/2023
11/5/2023	TCLL	Living Waters Lutheran Church, Lino Lakes	10/1/2023
11/11/2023	TCE	Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Eagan	10/8/2023
11/11/2023	TCM	Prospect Park United Methodist Church, Minneapolis	10/8/2023
11/18/2023	SE	Unitarian Universalist Church, Rochester	10/15/2023
11/18/2023	C	Performing Arts Recital Hall, St. Cloud State University	10/15/2023
11/18/2023	TCBL	Schmitt Music, Bloomington	10/15/2023
11/19/2023	TCEP	Immanuel Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie	10/15/2023
11/19/2023	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	10/15/2023
TBD	NWDL	First Lutheran, Detroit Lakes	TBD

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 7 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

\$26 per ensemble

Non-Member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

- See **General Rules and Procedures for All MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- Generally, ensemble length is 1-4 minutes. An ensemble may not exceed 8 minutes.

Registration

- At least one member of each ensemble must be a student registered by an MMTA member.
 - Teachers may only register students in their own teaching area. For example: A teacher who teaches only voice is to register ensembles with voice students only.
 - The MMTA teacher will coach the group prior to the performance.
- A student may participate in two ensembles if desired. Registration fees are due for each ensemble.
- A teacher may accompany an ensemble if it includes at least two of their students.
- One acoustic piano will be provided unless otherwise notified. Please verify with the site administrator in advance if a second piano is needed. Also, indicate the need for two pianos at the time of registration.
- Contact the Site Administrator prior to registration if an ensemble wishes to use electronic instruments and/or other equipment to ensure apparatus will be permitted and to allow for set-up time.
- Voice and instrumental ensembles are to provide their own music stands, as needed.
- Performers may provide their own page turners.
- The performance room will not be available for warm-ups.
- Requests for schedule changes received up until one week prior to festival date may be granted at the discretion of the site administrator. A fee of \$10 per ensemble must be paid directly to the district site administrator before participation is allowed.

Performance

- Concert attire is expected. Attire that matches the ensemble piece's theme is welcome.

Repertoire

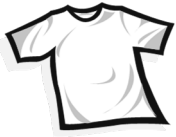
- There are no repertoire restrictions. However, no repertoire substitutions will be allowed after a registration has been submitted.
- Playing from memory is encouraged but not required.

Theory Requirement

There is no theory requirement for Ensemble Festival.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 52.



Logowear Design Contest

Purpose

Students are invited to design a logo for MMTA. The winning design will be printed on MMTA t-shirts. "Logowear" items will be sold to thousands of MMTA contest, exam and convention participants during the next calendar year.

Deadline

October 1, 2023

How to Register

- Submit digital file of artwork (i.e. JPG, PNG, etc.) online at www.mnmusicteachers.com
- OR**
- Submit artwork by mail to:
MMTA Office ▪ 10800 Lyndale Ave. S, Ste. 120 ▪ Bloomington, MN 55420

Fees

Free to all students whose teacher is a current member of MMTA.

Procedures

- Limit of 1 submission per student per year.
- Content of artwork should promote music and musical creativity, including piano, voice, and all instruments.
- If desired, instruction as to where the artwork is to be placed on the apparel items and totes may be included with design submission. For example: "Please place the artwork on the back of the t-shirt instead of the front."
- Please keep design simple so it looks clear no matter what size it is when printed.

Artwork

- Can be hand-drawn or computer designed. (*If hand-drawn, please use black ink.*)
- Must be original and not a reproduction of pre-existing or trademarked logo from another company or artist.
- Must include the words "MMTA [current year]" noticeably within the design.
- Musical symbols, words, instruments, or an abstract design may be used. The shape of the state of Minnesota may also be incorporated into the design.
- Must be initialed by the student somewhere above/below the design.
- Colors in design need to be limited to two. (Black line is considered a color.)

Website Information

To purchase logowear, go to: www.mnmusicteachers.com.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 50.



Music Bridges

Purpose

Music Bridges is open to students of any instrument or voice. It provides a critiqued forum where students can present a performance that features high achievement tailored to each student's individual abilities and interests. This program is one in which students can explore and experience all areas of music and relationships between music and the other arts.

Challenge Award

- 200 points *(See p. 20 for more information.)*

Location

In several districts around the state throughout the year.

Generally 5 weeks before the day of the event. *(*Online and postmark deadlines are the same date.)*

Deadlines*

(Locations/Dates subject to change. Visit the MMTA website, or consult MMTA newsletters, for up-to-date information.)

Date	District	Site	Deadline
11/4/2023	C	St. Ben's, St. Cloud	10/1/2023
11/11/2023	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	10/8/2023
11/11/2023	NE	St. Scholastica, Duluth	10/8/2023
11/18/2023	NW	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	10/15/2023
12/2/2023	All	Virtual (minimum 3 students)	10/29/2023
2/24/2024	All	Virtual (minimum 3 students)	1/21/2024
4/6/2024	TC	Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, Minneapolis - nice piano, small linoleum dance floor	3/3/2024
4/13/2024	C	St. Ben's, St. Cloud	3/10/2024
4/20/2024	WA	Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria	3/17/2024
4/20/2024	NW	Headwaters School of Music, Bemidji	3/17/2024
4/21/2024	TC	TU Dance Center, St. Paul - decent piano, large sprung dance floor	3/17/2024
4/27/2024	SCW	TBD, Willmar	3/24/2024
4/27/2024	TC	United Church of Christ, St. Anthony Park - fantastic performance space, medium wood stage	3/24/2024
4/27/2023	NW	First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes	3/24/2024
5/4/2024	NE	St. Scholastica, Duluth	3/31/2024
5/11/2024	TC	Hastings Art Center, Hastings - fantastic performance space, large wood stage	4/7/2024
5/19/2024	TC	St. Joseph's School of Music	4/14/2024
8/17/2024	WA	Shalom Lutheran, Alexandria - no dance floor	7/14/2024

Event Registration

See Handbook p. 14 for general registration procedures, as well as procedures outlined below.

Fees

Short: \$30 **Medium:** \$38 **Long:** \$45

Non-member: \$60 per teacher per event *(in addition to student registration fees)*

Procedures

- See **General Rules and Procedures for all MMTA Programs, p. 7.**
- Program levels are defined by length:
 - Short Maximum student presentation time is **12** minutes for a 20 minute program.
 - Medium Maximum student presentation time is **20** minutes for a 30 minute program.
 - Long Maximum student presentation time is **30** minutes for a 40 minute program.
- There is no age limit or theory requirement.
- One acoustic piano will be available unless notified otherwise.
- Memorization is optional for all pieces. A second copy of the music should be provided for the judge with measures numbered. The judge will speak with the student at the event, asking questions and discussing the projects.
- All parts of the program need to be related to music in some way.
 - The five events of the program may be, but do not have to be, related to each other.
 - Presentations from other areas of the arts are encouraged, but the student must articulate how their project relates to music.
- Audience members are welcome to observe the student performance.
- Students are encouraged to present their own work in a polished manner.
 - For artwork, this means matting paintings and drawings.
 - For dancers and actors, this means wearing appropriate costumes.
 - For written work this means neat handwriting or a typed format with work in a binder or folder.
 - Be creative and have fun!

Students must select Five Events:

- 2 Required Pieces or movements selected from standard or quality teaching literature, which must be performed in their entirety. Repeats may be omitted.
- 3 Options

For more information about the Music Bridges program, download a free booklet at www.mnmusicteachers.com **OR** contact the MMTA Office to receive the booklet in hard copy format.

Theory Requirement

There is no theory requirement for the Music Bridges.

Materials & Website Information

Information about Music Bridges is available on the MMTA website. Download a free informational booklet at www.mnmusicteachers.com/program/music-bridges.

Personnel

See MMTA website (Resources/Program Personnel) or Handbook p. 51.