



## **MMTA JUDGED FESTIVAL OFFICIAL RULES**

The purpose of the Judged Festival is to provide piano students of high school age and under, at varying levels of playing, a chance to perform and compete. The event is typically held each year in a live recital format, however: during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Judged Festival for 2021 will be held on-line. Students will submit individual performances via video.

**WHEN: Online Judging takes place Sunday, April 25, 2021**

**REPERTOIRE THEME for 2021: NATURE.**

### **Who can participate?**

1. All current MMTA members (except student members) may register piano students to participate. Please note that MMTA membership must be registered by January 31, 2021. This event is for piano students only.
2. Non-members must pay a \$70 non-member fee. To avoid the fee, MMTA/MTNA membership must be completed by January 31, 2021.
3. Registration is limited to a maximum of 12 students per teacher. Teachers may register less than 12 students, but not more than 12 total.
4. Students must have studied with the current teacher for a minimum of six months preceding the event.

### **Registration & Deadlines:**

1. Registrations will be accepted ONLINE only. Go to: [www.mmta.net](http://www.mmta.net).
2. Registration period: Wednesday, February 20, 2021, to Saturday, March 20, 2021.
  - No registrations will be accepted after Saturday, March 20, 2021.
3. Video Recordings (YouTube link) Deadline: Saturday, March 20, 2021. Please see below for how to submit your video recording link via YouTube.
4. Students may request changes to their registration (repertoire or video link) until the registration deadline. No changes will be made after the deadline, Saturday, March 20, 2021. To request a change, please contact the Judged Festival Chair, [judgedfestival@mmta.net](mailto:judgedfestival@mmta.net).

### **Video Submission Rules:**

1. Video recordings must be unedited and in one take, with a horizontal camera angle in a fixed position.
2. The competitor's hands and face must be clearly visible at all times.
3. The video must be made within 3 months of the submission date.
4. The recording does not need to be professional studio quality.
5. At the start of the recording, the student should announce the composer and complete title of the piece being played.
  1. Do NOT say your name.
  2. NO additional text/titles, transitions or additional effects in the video.
6. Please visit the Judged Festival event page for further instructions on uploading a video for registration.

## **What are the Fees? How are students assigned to an age group?**

1. Student fees are:
  - Group A, B, C = \$35 per student
  - Group D, E, F = \$45 per student
2. Fees are non-refundable. Exception, if a group has less than four entrants, that group will be cancelled and all fees will be refunded.
3. Groups are organized by age. **Students must be within the age of their respective group on February 1, 2021.**
  - Group A: Ages 8 and under
  - Group B: Ages 7 - 10
  - Group C: Ages 9 - 12
  - Group D: Ages 11 - 14
  - Group E: Ages 13 - 16
  - Group F: Ages 15 - 18
4. Please ensure that students select their music from the correct age group, as any discrepancies will result in the disqualification of the student.
5. Students may register in only one age group each year.
6. For the competition, each age group is split into smaller divisions. Students will be randomly assigned to one division from their age group.

## **What are the repertoire requirements?**

1. Repertoire **MUST** be chosen from the Required Repertoire List. Go to [www.mmta.net](http://www.mmta.net) and the Judged Festival event page to view the Required Repertoire List.
2. Students are required to play **ONLY ONE SELECTION** from the list in their AGE GROUP. PLEASE read the Required Repertoire List CAREFULLY:
  - Ensure students are playing the correct piece from the correct age group.
  - Follow special repertoire instructions.
  - NO REPEATS should be taken unless stated on the list.
  - If repeats are required, then 1st and 2nd endings, plus any D.C. al Fine, shall all be taken.
3. Students not playing from the Required Repertoire List will not be allowed to perform.
4. Students cannot repeat a composition with which she/he won first, second or third prize in any other MMTA contest or competition.
5. Music must be performed by memory.

## **How is judging done?**

1. Each division will be evaluated by two judges. The judges will view the submitted videos for a division, and will work together to evaluate the students and determine awards for each division.
2. Students in all age groups will be evaluated on the following: Interpretation, Tone, Tempo, Dynamics, Phrasing, Technique, Memorization, Stage Presence.
3. Judges are experienced at evaluating and judging students, and are fully prepared to provide high quality evaluations in the online format. Regardless of the potential limitations of online sound and variable instrument qualities, the judges will be able to judge according to the environment and ensure a fair evaluation for all.

**What awards are given?**

1. First, Second, Third Places and Honorable Mentions will be presented for each division, at the discretion of the judges. Winners will be notified in 1-3 days. Winner's names will be posted online as soon as possible.
2. Every student will receive a Certificate of Participation, plus a written comments from the judges via email within two to three weeks.

**Can we watch any of the performances?**

Yes: Winners' performance videos will be posted on YouTube within a month. Winners will be asked to submit a Video Release Form.

**CODE OF CONDUCT:**

MMTA members must adhere to the standards of behavior as stated in the MTNA Code of Ethics. Those who are proven to have violated this code by such actions as recruiting students or parents, or harassing students, judges, parents or other teachers, will be subject to disciplinary action by the MMTA Board.

**If you have any questions, please contact the Judged Festival Chair.**

[judgedfestival@mmta.net](mailto:judgedfestival@mmta.net)