



MMTA JUDGED FESTIVAL

2024 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 with a piece from the Required Repertoire List. The event is a piano competition in a recital format.

Competition Date

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Registration Period

January 2, 2024 to February 2, 2024

Registration Deadline

February 2, 2024, 11:59 PM

Location

Salem State University, 352 Lafayette St., Salem, MA 01970

Required Repertoire Theme for 2024

“Folk-Inspired” Piano Music - Go to [MMTA 2024 Judged Festival Required Repertoire List](#)

Eligibility

- All current MMTA members (except Collegiate members) may register piano students to participate.
- MMTA membership must be registered by **December 31, 2023**.
- Non-members must pay a **\$100 non-member fee**.
- **Each teacher may enter a total of 7 students**.
- Students must have studied with the current teacher since September of the current academic year.
- Students must be available for any recital between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on March 2, 2024. No special scheduling accommodations will be made. No exceptions.

Registration

- Online registration only.
- Before beginning the online application, the teacher must read and follow the 2024 Judged Festival Official Rules.
- Teachers must complete the application.
- Go to mmta.tenutoweb.com

Note:

- To register students, teachers must check and agree to the contest rules, lesson acknowledgment, and music release form.
- Following the registration, teachers will receive a confirmation email.
- The teacher will also receive the students' recital time a week before the event via email.

The teacher is responsible for forwarding the email to their students and parents.

Student Registration Fee

- \$75.00

Fees are non-refundable. However, if a group has less than four entrants, then that division of the festival will be canceled, and all fees will be refunded.

Requirements

- Repertoire MUST be chosen from the [MMTA 2024 Judged Festival Required Repertoire List](#).
- Students are required to play ONLY ONE SELECTION from the list in their AGE GROUP.
- Students must be within the age of their respective group on **February 1, 2024**.
- No repeats unless the special instructions are indicated on the Required Repertoire List.
- Students must perform from memory.
- Students cannot repeat a composition with which she/he won first, second, or third prize in any other MMTA contest or competition.

Note: Ensure students play the correct piece from the correct age group. Repertoire changes will not be accepted after the deadline.

How are students assigned to an age group?

Groups are organized by age. For the competition, each age group is split into smaller recital divisions. Students are randomly assigned to perform in one recital division from their age group.

- 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

Judging

- Each division will be evaluated by two judges. They will work together to evaluate the students and determine awards for each recital.
- Students in all age groups will be evaluated on the following: Interpretation, Tone, Tempo, Dynamics, Phrasing, Techniques, Memorization, and Stage Presence.
- During the competition, students will remain anonymous to the judges (identified only by number) until after awards are determined.
- Judges shall have absolute privacy at all times. No one may speak to them under any circumstances or conditions except members of the supervisory committee and monitors until after the awards have been given.
- Contestants, teachers, parents, or friends who violate this rule will cause immediate disqualification of the contestant.
- Questions or concerns during the recital should be brought to the monitor or the chair, not the judges.
- Judges' decisions are final. Teachers and students may not contact the judges.

Awards

- First, Second, and Third place awards and Honorable Mention awards will be presented for each division at the judges' discretion.
- Every student will receive a Certificate of Participation, written comments from the judges, and any awards after their recital.
- Winners' names will be posted online within a week.

About the day of the festival

- Students must arrive at least 30 minutes before their recital begins to check-in.
- Students must bring a hard copy of the score/clean original edition of their music for the judges.
 - Music must be presented at the check-in for approval.
 - **Measures must be numbered.**
 - No student or teacher's name should be on the score.
 - No photocopies of scores are allowed. Printouts legally downloaded online are permitted.
 - Students do not need to bring the Music Release Form on the event day.
 - *See the Music Release Form below.
 - Students without music will not be eligible to compete.
- Limited warm-up rooms will be available for students to use before their recital.
- Students may bring their own footstool or pedal extender; these will not be provided.
- Students must stay for their entire recital to hear all the other contestants perform.
- Teachers and parents may listen quietly at the back of the room/recital hall.
- Wearing a mask is optional.

Music Release Form

To ensure the student is using the music only for the MMTA 2024 Judged Festival (for educational purposes in a not-for-profit educational setting), all teachers are required to agree to abide by those rules in the Music Release Form for their students during registration regardless of whether purchased hard copy or legally downloaded online (as from imslp.org). See [Legal & Business](#) on MMTA.net for the Music 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 at judgedfestival@mmta.net