



MMTA BAY STATE PIANO CONTEST 2024 OFFICIAL RULES

Established in 1968, the **MMTA Bay State Piano Contest** is an annual statewide contest for piano students from age 6 through age 18. The contest gives motivated and hard-working students of Massachusetts the opportunity to perform at a high level, receive written evaluations from judges, and compete for awards..

WHEN: Sunday June 2, 2024

WHERE: 20 Talbot Ave, Medford, MA 02155 Granoff Music Center at Tufts University

ELIGIBILITY

1. For piano students only, age 6 - 18.
2. All current MMTA members (except Collegiate Members) may register their piano students to participate.
3. MMTA membership must be registered by **March 31, 2024**.
4. **Non-members must pay a \$100 non-member fee.**
5. Contestants must have been a Massachusetts resident for six months or more prior to the contest. Current residential address required for registration.
6. Contestants must have studied with the teacher for a minimum of six months preceding the contest.

REGISTRATION & DEADLINES

1. Registrations will be accepted **ONLINE only**.
2. **Teachers must complete the application.** It is the teacher's responsibility to read and follow the 2024 Bay State Piano Contest Official Rules before beginning the online application. To register, go to mmta.tenutoweb.com
3. Teachers must check and agree to the rules of the contest, music release form and make sure all the information is entered correctly. **After teachers complete their students' registrations, teachers must make sure the parents fill in and submit the media release from ASAP, otherwise the contestant would not be able to compete.** The media release form will be available at <https://mmta.tenutoweb.com/media-release-form> . **Parents will need the registration ID for the child(ren) in order to complete and submit that form**
4. Registration **OPENS: Monday April 1, 2024**
5. **Due to limited space and time at the venue, registration will be on a first come first serve basis. Registration will be closed as soon as the capacity is reached, which might be before May 1, 2024**
6. Registration **DEADLINE: Wednesday May 1, 2024.** No registrations will be accepted after the deadline.
7. Following the registration, the teacher will receive a confirmation email.

- The details of the exact time of the contest will be sent approximately one week before the contest to the teacher via email and **the teacher will need to forward the information to the students/parents.**

FEES

- The contestant fees are:
 - Ages 6 – 10 = \$110 per student
 - Ages 11 – 14 = \$125 per student
 - Ages 15 – 18 = \$140 per student
- Non-member teachers must submit a one-time \$100 non-member fee to register students.
- Fees are non-refundable.

AGE DIVISIONS

- Contestants will be assigned to a division based on their age on: **April 1, 2024.**
 - Parents & Teachers must ensure that the contestant's age is entered correctly during registration.
 - Winners may be asked for proof of age.
 - Any age discrepancies will result in the disqualification of the contestant, and both the contestant and their teacher will be ineligible to participate in the Bay State Contest for 1 year.**

- Age Division requirements are:

DIVISION	AGE	TIME LIMIT	REPERTOIRE
1	17-18 years	15 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
2	16 years	12 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
3	15 years	10 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
4	14 years	9 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
5	13 years	9 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
6	12 years	8 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
7	11 years	8 min	MUST perform contrasting pieces, from at least 2 periods
8	10 years	7 min	MAY perform 2 contrasting pieces from any period
9	9 years	7 min	MAY perform 2 contrasting pieces from any period
10	8 years	6 min	MAY perform 2 contrasting pieces from any period
11	6-7 years	4 min	MAY perform 2 contrasting pieces from any period

- Divisions with more than 13 contestants will be split into smaller subdivisions for judging.
- Divisions with less than three contestants will be grouped together for judging.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

1. Check the Age Division chart above for time limits and repertoire.
2. Repertoire may be chosen from the following period classifications:
 - 1) Baroque
 - 2) Classical (including Beethoven)
 - 3) Romantic (up to 1900)
 - 4) Impressionist or Contemporary
3. Good choice of literature will count for much in the judges' evaluations.
4. Contestants cannot repeat a composition with which they won first, second or third prize in any other MMTA contest or competition.
5. All music must be performed from memory.
6. No repeats are to be taken.
7. Solo parts from piano concerti may NOT be used.
8. Transcriptions and paraphrases that are recognized as part of the standard solo canon are acceptable.
9. No arrangements or simplifications will be permitted.
10. **Time limits will be strictly observed.** Teachers and contestants must ensure that the contestant's repertoire fits into the time limit for their division, and does not go over.
 - The contest has strict rules for judges to stop listening at the time limit, and performances that go over the time limit will be stopped by the judges once the time limit has been reached. If the performance is overtime, the contest will risk not having their 2nd required piece heard, which will negatively affect their overall evaluation.

JUDGING & EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Each Division (or sub-division) will have two judges. The judges will work together to evaluate the contestants and determine awards for each division.
2. During the competition, contestants will remain anonymous to the judges (identified only by number), until after awards are determined.
3. Contestants in all Divisions will be evaluated on the following:

Interpretation (as written in the submitted musical score); Tone; Tempo; Dynamics; Phrasing; Technique; Memorization; Stage Presence; Choice of Literature.
4. **DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.**

AWARDS

1. First, Second, Third place awards will be assigned for each division, at the discretion of the judges.
 - Honorable Mention awards may also be given, at the judges' discretion.
 - In the case of ties, duplicate awards will be given.
 - When there are less than six contestants in any one Division, prizes will be limited to First and Second place.
2. If, in their opinion, the judges do not feel that any contestant has performed at the level to receive an award, they may choose not to present those awards.
3. Every contestant will receive a Certificate of Participation, plus written comments from the judges.
4. Winner's names will be posted online as soon as possible, typically within a week.

IMPORTANT : No students, parents or teachers are allowed to access any of the piano rooms at the contest venue at Tufts University except on the day of the contest. **Any violation of this rule will result in the disqualification of the contestant. For any teachers who break this rule, their entire studio will be disqualified from this year's contest. It is the teacher's responsibility to make sure this rule is explained clearly to students and parents.** MMTA only pays for rental for the day of the contest and this violation will jeopardize future use of the facility for the contest. Please take this seriously.

ON THE DAY OF THE CONTEST

1. Students must arrive 30 minutes before their assigned time to check in.
2. **Students must bring a hard copy of score/clean original edition of their music, with numbered measures**, for the judges. Music must be presented at the check-in for approval. No photocopies are allowed. Printouts legally downloaded online are allowed. No student or teacher's name should be on the score. Students without music will not be eligible to compete.* See the Music Release Form below.
3. No warm up rooms will be available at the venue.
4. The contest is open to the public and teachers, parents and students can listen quietly at the back of the room/recital hall. Please respect the judges, monitors, and competitors at all times. In case of any disturbance to the contest, you will be asked to leave the room. Please do not approach and talk to any judges.

Music Release Form

To ensure the student is using the music only for the MMTA 2024 Bay State Piano Contest (for educational purposes in a not-for-profit educational setting), all teachers must agree to abide by those rules in the Music Release Form for their students during registration regardless of

purchased hard copy or legally downloaded online (as from imslp.org). For the Music Release Form, go to [Legal & Business on MMTA.net](http://www.mmta.net).

Media Permission Form

1. Teachers will forward the Media Permission Form to parents of the contestant to fill out.
2. Parents need to fill out the Media Permission Form and submit it in order to compete in the contest.

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. In addition, all participants, teachers and parents are expected to be courteous and respectful to each other while at the contest site.

If you have any questions, please contact the Bay State Piano Contest Chair:

mmtabaystatepiano@gmail.com