

2021 MMTA Biennial Pine Tree Competition

Purpose: To offer piano and string students of Maine a state-level competition that will encourage them to work toward their highest potential by recognizing and rewarding their excellence in musical performance.

Where: Virtual Competition

When: Videos must be submitted by Friday April 30th, 2020, 12:00PM. Winners will be announced on Saturday May 8th and a Virtual Winners Recital will be presented at 12:00PM.

Application deadline is March 1st, 2021
Registration will start on January 1st, 2021

Eligibility: All students of MaineMTA teachers are eligible to participate. Teachers who are not MaineMTA members will be assessed a \$50 fee for their students to participate.

Entrance: Application and photo consent form will be made available on Jan. 1st.

Fees: \$30 for Elementary Divisions, \$50 for Junior and Senior Divisions, \$50 for non-MaineMTA teachers.

- **Please make checks payable to Maine Music Teachers Association and include the student's full name on the memo line.**
- **Send checks to Jacqueline Savage, 400 US-1 North, Suite A, Falmouth, ME 04105**

AWARD CATEGORIES

Early Elementary--Open to students through grade 3. Program not to exceed 5 minutes.

Late Elementary--Open to students in grades 4-6. Program not to exceed 8 minutes.

Junior--Open to students in grades 7-9. Program not to exceed 13 minutes.

Senior--Open to students in grades 10-12. Program not to exceed 18 minutes.

Note: Monetary awards will be awarded based on sponsorship.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

PIANO:

Early Elementary and Late Elementary Division- Competitors will be required to perform, from memory, two contrasting pieces: one composition from either the Baroque, Classical, or Romantic/Impressionistic period and one Contemporary composition of any genre. (No prepared piano, please.)

Junior and Senior Division - Competitors will be required to perform, from memory, three contrasting pieces: two compositions from two different periods, Baroque, Classical, Romantic/Impressionistic, and one Contemporary composition of any genre. (No prepared piano, please.)

For composer suggestions, please *visit--*
>https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/Composer_Classification_s/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/Composer_Classifications.aspx?hkey=258f6312-467f-4aea-b1d0-f0b562bbe07b

STRINGS:

String Requirements, Repertoire:

Early and Late Elementary: Competitors will be required to perform, from memory, two contrasting pieces: one composition from either the Baroque, Classical, or Romantic/Impressionistic period and one Contemporary composition of any genre.

Junior and Senior: Competitors will be required to perform, from memory, three contrasting pieces: two compositions from two different periods, Baroque, Classical, Romantic/Impressionistic, and one Contemporary composition of any genre.

String Requirement, Accompaniment:

At least one work must be performed with piano accompaniment. If students need to hire an accompanist for the competition, they may make arrangements with Patricia Boyle-Wight at pboylewight@gmail.com . Ms. Wight is the organist at the Congregational Church where the competition is being held. Alternatively, due to COVID, students may use pre-recorded accompaniment tracks.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CONTESTANTS

Please read the following section carefully before applying to the competition.

- All contestants must provide the judges with an original copy of their music. No photocopies of music in publication will be allowed.
- Scores downloaded from IMSLP are allowed
- Any names or other identification marks on the music should be covered for the purpose of anonymity.
- Judges reserve the right to hear only a portion of the program prepared.
- First, second, and third place winners will be chosen and will be announced at the end of the competition.
- Judges decisions are final.
- All awards will be judged upon the day's performance only. Judges' comments will be provided to individual entrants following the competition.
- By submitting students into the competition, teachers are committing to volunteer in some capacity on the competition day. All participating teachers will be assigned a task.
- Winners are invited to perform in the Winner's recital at the end of the day and all participants are expected to stay for the recital, showing good sportsmanship and support for the winners. Teachers are expected to remind their participating students of this.
- Due to COVID, this is subject to change. It is our intention to hold this event in person. We will be monitoring conditions and complying with restrictions required by Gould Academy. Potential changes may include limiting audiences to each student's family and teacher and having the Winner's Recital be an online presentation of videos. Should the virus prevent us from gathering in person, the competition will be entirely online with students submitting videos.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Must students present a complete work or is a single movement allowed?
As long as the total program does not exceed the time limit, teachers may use their discretion on whether to choose a single movement or combine multiple movements.

- Is ragtime allowed for contemporary?
Yes, ragtime or a jazz piece (e.g. Gershwin's Prelude) is allowed.
- For purposes of the competition, what constitutes a contemporary composition?
This musical time period is broad and still being defined. Some early 20th century music is romantic in nature, some non-classical compositions are quite demanding to perform and work well for a competition. The intent of this repertoire requirement is to ensure students can demonstrate a command of 20th century or current compositional techniques. Teachers may use their discretion to select a work that showcases their student's technical and musical abilities. Unless a case can be made, pop music or film scores are discouraged.
- Can a student perform several short pieces from a larger set? *Yes, several short pieces from a larger collection (Baroque Suite, Starer Colors, Prokofiev Vision Fugitives, etc.) can be considered "one work" as long as the total amount of music does not exceed the time limit.*
- Can cuts be allowed in order to keep within the time limit? *For piano and strings, repeats may be avoided to save time. For string concertos only, orchestral expositions and orchestral interludes may be omitted, though preferably with a flowing transition. **No string materials should be omitted.***
- Can string players play fiddle tunes? *Fiddle Tunes are not allowed.*

**For general questions, please contact Jacqui Savage at
jacquispianostudio@gmail.com or (207) 232-9893.
For string questions, please contact Patricia Stowell at pastowell@gmail.com
or (207) 232-9893.**