

NMTA Performance Competitions Manual

Competitors perform a varied solo program using the following NMTA Performance Competitions requirements and guidelines. A first-place winner will be named in each division.

Categories: Solo Piano, Brass, Woodwind, String and Voice.

Entry Levels and Repertoire Requirements:

- **Junior Division:** Students must be 11-14 years of age at the date of the competition. Repertoire program should include at least two pieces of contrasting style with a maximum performance time of 10 minutes.
- **Senior Division:** Students must be 15-18 years of age at the date of the competition. Repertoire program should include at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 15 minutes.
- **Collegiate Level 1:** Students must be enrolled in a college or university as an undergraduate at the date of the competition. Repertoire program should include at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 20 minutes.
- **Collegiate Level 2:** Students must be enrolled in a college or university at the graduate level at the date of the competition. Repertoire program should include at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 20 minutes.

Entry Eligibility:

- **Students who enter the MTNA Competitions may not enter the NMTA Performance Competitions in the same category.**
- Students are eligible to enter the competition if they study with a teacher who is (1) a member of MTNA or (2) has paid the Non-member Teacher Fee.
 - Member teacher dues must be paid by August 31 of the current year to enter students.
 - The Non-member Teacher Fee is an additional fee for teachers who are not members of MTNA. This fee will be equal to the member student fee.
- Students must be a U.S. citizen or must hold a U.S. visa or have permanent residence (green card), which is valid throughout the competition year.
- District Festival participation is not required.

Repertoire:

- The program must contain compositions from at least two different periods of music (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, Contemporary.) Transcriptions are allowed.

- Questions concerning repertoire must be submitted to the chair prior to submission of the entry form.
- No changes in repertoire are allowed following the submission of the entry form.
- Individual movements of suites, sonatas or other groupings that can be performed as musical units are permitted.
- Cuts in solo parts are not permitted. Play D.C. and D.S. but omit all other repeats.
- Cuts in tutti (piano accompaniment) parts of concerto movements are allowed and encouraged.
- All repertoire must be performed with single instrument accompaniment except for works written specifically for unaccompanied solo instrument.
- Recorded accompaniments are not permitted. Works written using supplemental sounds, including those either electronically or acoustically produced or pre-recorded, are not permitted.
- Compositions using extended techniques (i.e. introducing foreign objects into the workings of the piano to change the sound quality, strumming or plucking of strings) are not permitted at the request of competition hosts and piano companies providing instruments.

Competition Music:

- Entrants in the solo performance competitions must provide the judge one score for each work listed. Solo instrumentalists may submit either the solo part or the complete score.
- Measures must be neatly numbered.
- Entrants and accompanist must abide by the [Federal Copyright Law](#). **Photocopies are strongly discouraged.**
- Entrants using photocopies or PDF files that have been downloaded from the Internet must complete the [MTNA Competition Music Release Form](#) verifying that they have permission to use this music. This form must be **printed** and mailed to the chair with the entry fee payment.

Performance Procedure:

- The performances may be longer or shorter than the time allowed. If the program is more than the maximum time allowed, the judge will hear some of each piece listed.
- The student may choose the first piece to perform and the judge will choose the order for the remainder of the repertoire.
- In order to remain on schedule, judges may find it necessary to stop a performance before its completion. This will not affect the judge's final decision.

General Information

- Entries are made online. [Login to enter](#)
- Piano and Voice entries must perform all repertoire from memory.
- Performing from memory is optional for Brass, Orchestral Strings and Woodwind entries.

- Entry in multiple performance categories is allowed, but each entrant is allowed only one entry within a category.
- There are no scale, sight reading, ear training or written theory requirements.
- Only one judge will be provided for each level of competition.
- A link to the Online Entry Form can be found at [nebmta.org/Students Activities/NMTA Performance Competition](http://nebmta.org/Students%20Activities/NMTA%20Performance%20Competition).

Recognition

- One winner will be selected in each category at each level. A Second Place and possible Honorable Mention may be named.
- If there is only one entry in a division or Collegiate level, a winner cannot be declared because there is no competition. In this case, the entrant may choose to either play for comments only or have the entry fee refunded.

Competition Agreement

- Decisions of competition judges are final.
- Entrants, parents/guardians and teachers have read, understand and agree to the Guidelines for the Nebraska Performance Competitions.
- Failure to abide by these rules and regulations will make the entrant ineligible to receive recognition or awards.
- Entrants under age 18 must have parent/guardian permission to enter Nebraska Performance Competitions.
- **All entry fees are nonrefundable** (unless there is only one entry in a category).