

HANDBOOK for Student Competitions

Available in pdf format with application forms at www.sdmta.org



2017

- SDMTA competitions provide opportunities for musical growth for member teachers and their students through recognition of high performance standards. They are held in November of each year.
- MTNA competitions at the state level are separate from SDMTA competitions but are held concurrently at the state conference. Rules for MTNA competitions are NOT printed here. Please consult the *American Music Teacher* and www.mtna.org for MTNA competition rules and applications.
- Questions concerning competitions should be submitted directly to the respective competition chairs.
- Members who enter students in the state competitions are required to monitor or to secure a substitute.

2017 COMPETITIONS COORDINATORS

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2017 SDMTA COMPETITIONS CHAIRS

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SDMTA Piano Duet Chair

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SDMTA Senior Piano Chair

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SDMTA Elem., Jr., Sr., Coll. String Chair

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SDMTA Collegiate Piano Chair

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2017 MTNA COMPETITIONS CHAIRS

MTNA Junior & Senior Performance Competitions

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MTNA Young Artist Performance Competitions

John Walker
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MTNA & SDMTA Composition Competitions

Deanna Wehrspann
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GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

The following rules apply to all entrants of SDMTA Competitions

Student Competition Application and Teacher Registration Form

- Application deadline for SDMTA competitions is September 21st.
- Each participating student must be studying with a current member of SDMTA/MTNA.
- Students register and compete in the category determined by their age on September 1. They may compete at a higher age level, but not a lower one.
- No contestant may enter both the SDMTA and MTNA performance competitions on the same instrument or voice in a given year. In the area of composition, a student may not enter both the SDMTA and MTNA competitions.
- All entry fees are non-refundable. Amounts are listed on the online application form.
- Teacher & students will find the appropriate competition application at www.sdmata.org. There will be drop-down boxes for each instrument and each age group. ALL of the blanks must be filled in.
- The form has to be submitted online **no later than September 21st**.
- As soon as the form is submitted a confirmation email will be generated to the teacher/student.
- On September 22nd the competition application form will be removed from the website so no late entries will be allowed.
- Simultaneously the teacher should download the Teacher Registration Form (pdf) at www.sdmata.org and fill in the information about students entered from that studio and about monitoring. That form plus a **single check for all entered students** should be mailed to the SDMTA Treasurer and must be postmarked by September 24th.
- Both Student Competition Application and Teacher Registration Form will be available in mid to late summer.

Participating Teachers:

- In order to enter students, teachers must pay current membership dues for both SDMTA and MTNA before registering students. This policy conforms to the MTNA competition guidelines. If the teacher's membership dues are not paid before entering students, there will be a \$50 late fee assessed to the teacher. This late fee **MUST** be paid before their student(s) will be allowed to compete.
- If a student has more than one teacher, all teachers must satisfy teacher eligibility and be listed on the application form.
- Teachers are responsible for checking the age and repertoire requirements for each of their student entrants.
- Teachers may not accompany their own students.

Awards:

- First place and second place awards are given in each of the SDMTA categories. The number of honorable mentions is at the discretion of the judge. If there is only one student in a category, then the judge will decide whether or not to declare a winner.
- Students who are declared winners of SDMTA competitions do not advance to another level.
- Decisions of the judges are final.

Repertoire:

- Repertoire requirements are listed below for each competition division.
- Anyone not meeting repertoire requirements will automatically be disqualified.
- Contestants may not make any repertoire changes after the entry deadline.
- The choice and quality of repertoire may influence the judge's decision.
- Style period classifications are determined by the MTNA *Composer Classification List* published in the *American Music Teacher* and online at www.mtna.org.

Performance Time:

- Performance Time Limits are indicated below for each competition division and age category. The stopwatch starts with the first note and ends at the allotted time, not stopping between pieces.
- The contestant's performance will be stopped at the Performance Time Limit for the respective category. If the contestant's program is longer than the time allowed, the judge is encouraged to hear at least a representative portion of each selection.
- Three (3) minutes will be scheduled between all contestants to allow for set-up and for the judge to write comments.

Scores and Copyrights for Competition:

- SDMTA competitions will abide by the copyright rules handed down by the national MTNA organization. Those guidelines are included in the attached Music Release Form. Please note that the use of photocopies is strongly discouraged. When it is not possible to use the originals, the attached Music Release Form MUST accompany the music. The correct use of photocopying will become the responsibility of the person making the copies, not holding MTNA or SDMTA legally responsible for infringements. CD Sheet Music is still acceptable as an original.
- Contestants must provide one complete score for the judge. The music must not have identifying marks. Measures must be numbered at the beginning of each system.

Recording, Pictures and Videotaping:

- No flash photography is permitted in any of the competitions.

COMPETITION DIVISIONS and SPECIFIC REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION: PIANO

Age Categories

- For *Elementary, Junior and Senior* Piano, each age category is a separate competition.
- *Elementary*: Age 10, Age 11
- *Junior*: Age 12, Age 13
- *Senior*: Age 14, Age 15, Age 16, Ages 17-18 (one category, non-collegiate)
- *Collegiate*: one category—undergraduate students enrolled in South Dakota colleges and universities

Repertoire

- **The required selections must be contrasting in period *and* style.** Students must choose selections from the five style categories: Baroque—Classical—Romantic—Impressionistic—Contemporary. Students may perform additional selection(s) from any of the listed style periods to fill but not exceed the Performance Time Limit.
- *Elementary and Junior*: Two (2) required selections.
- *Senior and Collegiate*: Three (3) required selections.
- All music must be originally composed for piano. No arrangements, transcriptions or popular music.
- All selections must be memorized.

Performance Time Limits

- *Elementary*: Five (5) minutes
- *Junior*: Eight (8) minutes
- *Senior*: Twelve (12) minutes
- *Collegiate*: Seventeen (17) minutes

PIANO DUET DIVISION

Age Categories

- *Elementary*: Ages 10-11
- *Junior*: Ages 12-13
- *Senior*: Ages 14-15, Ages 16-18
- *Collegiate*: One category—undergraduate students enrolled in South Dakota colleges and universities.
- Groups may mix ages, but the entry must be listed with the **older** student.
- Two teachers may jointly enter a duet team, but both teachers must be listed on the entry form.
- Entry fees are per person, not per entry.

Repertoire

- *Elementary*: two selections contrasting in style to fill, but not exceed the Performance Time Limit.
- *Junior, Senior, and Collegiate*: two selections which must be **contrasting in period and style** from any of the listed style periods. Students may perform additional selection(s) from any of the listed style periods to fill but not exceed the Performance Time Limit.
 - Baroque—Classical—Romantic—Impressionistic—Contemporary
- No arrangements of popular music may be used.
- Memorization is not required.
- Page turners are allowed as long as they are not the teacher(s) of the students.

Performance Time Limits

- *Elementary*: Five (5) minutes
- *Junior*: Eight (8) minutes
- *Senior*: Twelve (12) minutes
- *Collegiate*: Seventeen (17) minutes

INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION: NON-PIANO

Age Categories

- *Elementary*: one category for strings only—ages 10-11
- *Junior*: one category for each instrument group in brass, strings and woodwinds--Ages 12-13
- *Senior*: one category for each instrument group in brass, strings and woodwinds--Ages 14-18 (non-collegiate)
- *Collegiate*: one category for each instrument group in brass, strings and woodwinds—undergraduate students enrolled in South Dakota colleges and universities

Repertoire

- Repertoire selections must be contrasting in style.
- Students may perform additional selection(s) to fill but not exceed the Performance Time Limit.
- *Elementary Strings*: Two (2) required selections
- *Junior*: Two (2) required selections
- *Senior and Collegiate*: Three (3) required selections
- Transcriptions are allowed.
- Memorization is optional.

Performance Time Limits

- *Elementary Strings*: Five (5) minutes
- *Junior*: Eight (8) minutes
- *Senior*: Twelve (12) minutes
- *Collegiate*: Seventeen (17) minutes

VOCAL DIVISION

Age Categories

- *Senior*: one category--Ages 14-18 (non-collegiate)
- *Collegiate**: undergraduate students enrolled in South Dakota colleges and universities
 - Category I: no more than 4 semesters of collegiate voice study, maximum age: 20
 - Category II: Ages 20-23, regardless of length of study.
 - Category III: undergraduate students 24 years of age or older, regardless of length of study

*Previous first place winners may not compete in the same category the following year, but may advance regardless of age or length of study.

Repertoire

- *Senior*: Students must perform selections from at least three of the six style classifications listed below. Students may perform additional selection(s) from any of the listed style periods to fill but not exceed the Performance Time Limit.
- *Collegiate*: Style classification (1) is mandatory for all collegiate singers. The remainder of the time requirement shall be filled and include at least five of the six style classification listed below.
 - 1) Aria from opera or oratorio in the original language and in the original key
 - 2) Music before 1800, sung in the original language of composition, generally Italian or English
 - 3) German Lied, sung in German
 - 4) French mélodie, sung in French
 - 5) American, Canadian or British art song of the 20th-21st century, sung in English
 - 6) An art song in a language or performance style not represented by the contestant's other selections. This style classification is intended to showcase languages not represented in the traditional study of voice (e.g. Spanish, Russian, Czech, Norwegian)
- Memorization is required.

Performance Time Limits

- *Senior*: Nine (9) minutes
- *Collegiate Category I*: Twelve (12) minutes
- *Collegiate Categories II & III*: Fifteen (15) minutes

Please check repertoire lists carefully--the application **MUST** match what is performed in the competition! If repertoire does not match, the student will perform for comments only.

COMPOSITION DIVISION

Age Categories

- *Elementary*: Ages 10-11
- *Junior*: Ages 12-13
- *Senior*: Ages 14-18
- *Collegiate*: One category--undergraduate students enrolled in South Dakota colleges and universities.

Repertoire

- A student may submit only one entry.
- The composition must be in the composer's handwriting or engraved using software such as Finale or Sibelius. Measures of the composition must be numbered.
- No change may be made to the score once it is submitted.
- All materials must be labeled with the name of the composition, the name of the student, and the category (Elementary, Junior, Senior, Collegiate).
- A composition that makes use of a copyrighted text must be accompanied by a written statement from the copyright holder giving permission to use the text. If the text is in public domain, a statement signed by the student and teacher indicating this fact must accompany the entry.
- Two (2) copies of the composition must be sent to the composition chair by postal mail; OR, one (1) copy may be sent electronically as PDF by email.
- A recording (live or MIDI) may be submitted, but is not required. If submitted, use only MP3 format.

Performance Time Limit: The performance time must not exceed ten (10) minutes.