

# **Northeast Wisconsin Piano Teachers Forum**

## **Festival Rules, Regulations, and Procedures**

Revised 2022

### **Festival Descriptions:**

#### **Baroque Festival**

1. Held annually
2. Dedicated to the study and performance of works from the Baroque Era (1600-1750)
3. Students compete in 9 levels for scholarships and presentation at a public honors recital, performing a Baroque selection by memory
4. Competitive and non-competitive options

#### **All Star Festival**

1. Held annually in winter
2. Noncompetitive event
3. Students try for their personal best in one or more events, including: solo performance, duet and ensemble performance, music fair, composition, theory/history exam, and technique challenges

#### **Classical Festival**

1. Held annually in late spring
2. Dedicated to the study and performance of works from the Classical Era (1750-1825)
3. Students compete in 10 levels for scholarships and presentation at a public honors recital, performing 2 pieces by memory, a technical demonstration, and completing a theory/history exam
4. Competitive and non-competitive options

### **Supporting Documents available on web site:**

Baroque Repertoire List

Classical Repertoire List

Forms and instructions for filling out forms

Syllabus (including technical requirements for each level)

Theory worksheets (coordinated with syllabus levels)

## **General Rules for All Festivals (See below for specific rules for each festival)**

1. Teachers entering students must be members of NEWPTF to be eligible for Forum member discount, awards and scholarships. In 2019 special eligibility was granted to non-members. Non members pay a higher entry fee (see entry forms) and are not eligible for scholarships or Star Point Trophies. They are eligible to be awarded a place on the honors recital.
2. Fees are listed on the specific entry forms (see separate). Forms and fees must be submitted by the due date listed on the current calendar. Entry forms will not be accepted after the due date.
3. Teachers must be available to work the day of the festival or contribute in some capacity determined by the festival committee.
4. All competitive events are open to the public. Non-competitive entries are closed except for parents. Teachers are not allowed in the room when their own student performs.
5. Teachers, students and parents may not contact a judge regarding a performance or score before or after the festival. Doing so may result in disqualification for the current and future festivals.
6. Students must provide an original copy of each selection for the judge. The judge's copy must be numbered. No photo copies are allowed.
7. Theory tests may be viewed after the contest. To view a theory test, teachers must request it in writing when submitting an entry. The tests must be returned within a week. The exams may not be distributed to students or copied.
8. Theory tests must be started by the time announced in the teacher instructions/schedule
9. All results are final
10. Teachers are responsible for keeping records of earned star points and requesting awards
11. Winners of Baroque and Classical Festivals will be announced the day of the festival. Teachers will be notified in the late afternoon. Teachers are then responsible for notifying their students if they are winners. If a teacher cannot be contacted the student will not perform or receive an award at the recital.
12. Failure to comply with these rules may result in teacher disqualification for future events.
13. Non-competitive students are not required to memorize. They may perform any level regardless of age. They are not eligible for prizes or the honors recital.

## **Specific Rules for Baroque Festival**

1. Competitive students must meet the grade requirements as listed on the chart below.
2. Competitive students must perform a memorized selection from the repertoire list for their level.

3. Non-competitive students do not have to memorize and may perform on any level.
4. All repeats are required in Levels 1-5
5. Students who place first in a level must move up a level the next year
6. Winners must commit to performing on the Honors Recital and staying for its entirety. Students who do not comply will lose their place and scholarship.
7. Students are judged in four areas: Fundamentals, Technique, Interpretation and Presentation
8. Bowing and Performing Procedure: (Bowing is part of the Presentation score)
  - Student may warm up before starting and will remain seated at the piano.
  - The judge will say, "You may bow and begin"
  - The student will bow, perform the selection, and bow afterwards.
9. Non-competitive students are not required to memorize. They may perform any level regardless of age. They are not eligible for prizes or the honors recital.

If your student is in grade 6, they must be in level 1 or above

grade 7	level 2 or above
grade 8	level 3 or above
grade 9	level 4 or above
grade 10	level 5 or above
grade 11	level 6 or above
grade 12	level 7 or above

### **Specific Rules for Classical Festival**

1. Competitive students must meet grade requirements as listed on the chart below
2. Competitive students must
  - A. Perform a memorized selection from the repertoire list for their level.
  - B. Perform a second memorized selection of contrasting style of their choice.
  - C. Perform the required technique for their level as listed in the NEWPTF syllabus.
  - D. Complete the theory/history test for their level

3. Non-competitive students have no memory requirement. The second piece, technique and test are optional. They are not eligible for prizes or the honors recital.

4. Scores are weighted as follows:

Performance = 70%. This is divided evenly between the 2 selections. Students are rated on fundamentals, technique, interpretation and presentation. Bowing is part of the presentation score.

Technique = 10%. Technique must be performed exactly as the example in the appendix of the NEWPTF syllabus. All scales and arpeggios should be played legato and with consistent fingering.

Test = 20%

5. Students who place 1<sup>st</sup> in their level must move up a level the following year.

6. Winners must commit to performing on the honors recital and staying for its entirety.

Students who do not comply will lose their place and scholarship.

7. Bowing and Performing Procedure: (Bowing is part of the Presentation score)

Students will be seated at piano and remain there for the entire adjudication.

No warm up is allowed.

Judge will say "You may bow and begin"

Student will bow, perform technique requirement, classical selection, second selection, and bow when they are done.

8. Level ten essays must be submitted with application on the due date

If your student is in grade 4 they must be in level 1 or above

grade 5	level 2 or above
grade 6	level 3 or above
grade 7	level 4 or above
grade 8	level 5 or above
grade 9	level 6 or above
grade 10	level 7 or above
grade 11	level 8 or above
grade 12	level 9 or above

## Specific Rules for All Star Festival

1. Students may enter in any or all of the following events:

Solo Performance

Ensemble Performance

Theory/history exam

Music Fair

Composition

Technique Challenge 88

2. There are no age, grade or level limits for any event

3. Performance on the Honors Recital is not required. Students who receive 5 stars on the performance (not counting the additional star for memory) will be invited to perform in the honors recital.

4. Bowing and Performing Procedure: (Bowing is expected but not judged)

Students will be seated at the piano and they may warm up while the judge is finishing with the last student.

The judge will say "You may bow and begin"

The student will bow, perform technique (optional) perform selection(s), and bow when they are done.

5. There is no list of required repertoire. The student may present what ever they would like to be critiqued within the time limits. Teachers designate their students as Elementary, Intermediate or Advanced. (level not grade in school)

For Performance: Elementary = 6 minutes

Intermediate = 9 minutes

Advanced = 12 minutes

6. Solo performance may include a technical display (see form) of their choosing but it is not required. Elementary students may perform more than one selection as time permits. Intermediate and Advanced students should perform traditional teaching material and standard repertoire. Popular music is not allowed. Elementary students may perform arrangements such as those in method books.

7. Ensemble and Duet Events. Students may perform arrangements but not pop. Ensembles may include and combination of voice, piano and instruments. Ensembles requiring more than one piano must have permission prior to the event and will be dependent on facility. Duets should be two students (no teacher/student)

8. Music Fair entries will be displayed on the day of the festival. Students are evaluated on creativity, originality and accuracy of information. Students are responsible for set up and take down of their project at the times listed in the instructions their teachers receive after scheduling. Projects not removed will be discarded. All festival participants will receive a ballot to vote on outstanding projects. Adjudicated winners and student choice winners will be invited to display their project at the Honors recital.

8. Compositions must be submitted with the application on the due date. Compositions must be original works written for any instrument or ensemble including voice. Elementary level (grades k-5) must be a minimum of 16 bars, intermediate (grades 6-9) must be a minimum of 32 bars, advanced must be a minimum of 64 bars. Students receiving high honors may arrange to have their compositions performed at the Honors Recital.

#### 9. Technique Challenge 88.

##### Requirements:

Complete 4 octave major scales, 4 octave harmonic minor scales

Complete 4 octave major arpeggios, 4 octave minor arpeggios.

##### Procedure:

Scales and arpeggios must be performed in the above order and follow the circle of fifths. Students may start at any point in the circle as long as all keys are performed in order.

A metronome will be used for the challenge and set at the tempo designated on the entry form by the student. The scales must be at a minimum of 120 (2 notes per tick) and arpeggios must be at a minimum of 69 (3 notes per tick). 4 ticks between scales are allowed, 3 ticks between arpeggios are allowed. The metronome will be reset between the scales and arpeggios.

##### Judging:

Students are allowed 1 mistake; the second mistake results in elimination. When a mistake is called, the student may restart the current key. Mistakes include wrong notes, hesitations, getting out of sync with the metronome, taking too long between scales or arpeggios, inconsistent fingering, keys that don't sound and double notes.

##### Award:

Students completing the task will receive a cash scholarship of \$88.00.

#### 10. Theory/history test

Students may take any of the 10 levels of theory tests regardless of age. The tests are based on the 10 levels of theory in the NEWPTF syllabus. Students with perfect scores will be recognized at the Honors Recital.