

Northeast Wisconsin Piano Teachers Forum

Festival Rule, Regulations and Procedures

Revised 2023

Festival Descriptions

Baroque Festival

1. Held annually in late fall
2. Dedicated to the study and performance of works from the Baroque Era (1600-1750)
3. Students compete in five levels for scholarships and presentation at an Honors Recital.
4. Requirements for competition: Audition with a memorized selection from the repertoire list for their age and ability level. (See separate document under Baroque repertoire list)
5. There are competitive and non-competitive options. (See details below)

All Star Festival

1. Held annually in midwinter
2. Non-competitive festival
3. Students aim for their personal best in the choice of **one or more** of these events: solo performance, duet and ensemble performance, music fair, composition, theory/history knowledge test, The Technique Challenge 88 or Composition. (See details below for information on the specific events).

Classical Festival

1. Held Annually in Spring
2. Dedicated to the study and performance of works from the Classical Era (1750-1825).
3. Students compete in five levels for scholarships and presentation at an honors recital.
4. Requirements for competition: Performance of two memorized selections, a technical demonstration and completion of a theory/history test.
5. There are competitive and non-competitive options.

Supporting Documents Available on the Web Site:

Baroque Repertoire and Source List
Classical Repertoire and Source List
Forms and instructions for all festivals
Syllabus including technical requirements for all levels
Theory worksheet tutorials for all levels
Guidelines for taking the tests

General Rules for All Festivals (Specific Rules Follow)

1. Eligibility

Teachers entering students must be members of NEWPTF to be eligible for a member discount, awards and scholarships. Special eligibility is granted to non-members at an additional fee. Students of non-members are not eligible for scholarships or awards but are eligible to perform on the honors recital.

2. Fees and Entry Forms

Fees are listed on the specific entry forms (see web site), and are updated each year. Forms and fees must be submitted by the due dates on the current calendar. Incomplete or late entries are not accepted.

3. Teacher Requirements

Teachers must be available to work on the day of the festival or in some capacity determined by the festival needs, and the day of the Honors Recitals. (If they have winners).

4. Open and Closed Auditions

All competitions are open to the public. Non-competitive and All Star entries may opt for a closed audition. Students may have only the performance portion of their audition recorded.

5. Judging

Students, parents and teachers are not allowed to discuss the performance or rating of their students with the judge. Doing so may result in disqualification.

6. Scores

Students must supply an original score of the music with measures numbered. If not performing for memory they must have a score for themselves and the judge. No photo copies are allowed.

7. Tests

Theory tests must be started by the time announced in the teacher instruction letter. Teachers will receive the test after the festival is over. Tests must be destroyed after viewing them.

8. Results

All results are final. Winners will be announced when the festival is done in time for the Honors Recital. Teachers must be available for notification or the student will not perform on the recital or receive their scholarship. The teacher is responsible for contacting the student if they are a winner. All Star performance results will be posted throughout the day at All Star.

9. Honors recital. The top three winners of Baroque and Classical Festivals are required to perform on the Honors recital. Dates are on the annual calendar. Failure to perform results in no scholarship or award. The Honors Recital for the All Star Festival is not required.

Specific Rules, Regulations and Procedures for Baroque Festival

A. Competitive Entries

1. Students must meet the grade requirements listed on the chart below.
2. Students must perform a memorized selection from the repertoire list for their level.
3. All repeats are required for Early Intermediate and Intermediate levels.
4. Winners must commit to performing on the Honors Recital and staying for its entirety.
5. Judging is in four areas: Fundamentals, Technique, Interpretation and Presentation.
6. Students who place first must move up a level the next year.
7. Bowing and warm-up. Bowing is required and is part of the presentation score. Procedure:
Warm-up
Bow
Perform the Selection
Bow

B. Non-competitive entries

There is no memory requirement. Repertoire may be from any level regardless of age. Bowing is required. Students are not eligible for scholarships or performance on the Honors Recital but will receive rating and comments from the judge.

C. Level Requirements for Baroque Festival

These are the lowest levels that students in these grades may enter. Students in grades that are earlier than these minimums may perform in any level. Students do not have to wait to grade 8 to start Baroque.

If student is in grade 8	they must perform at least level	Early Intermediate or above
grade 9		Intermediate or above
grade 10		Late Intermediate or above
grade 11		Early Advanced or Advanced
grade 12		Early Advanced or Advanced

Specific Rules, Regulations and Procedures for Classical Festival

A. Competitive Entries

1. Students must meet the grade requirements listed on the chart below
2. Students perform a memorized classical selection from the repertoire list (see separate document), a second memorized piece of contrasting style and period (their choice), a technique demonstration, (see syllabus and appendix), and complete a theory/history test for their level.
3. All repeats are required for levels Early Intermediate and Intermediate.
4. The top three winners must commit to performing on the Honors recital and staying for its entirety.
5. Judging is in four areas: Performance = 70% (fundamentals, technique, style and presentation)
Theory = 20%
Technique = 10% (see syllabus and appendix) for specific technique requirements
6. Students who place First must move up a level the next year.
7. Bowing and warm-up. Bowing is required. No warm-up other than the technique demonstration is allowed. Procedure:
Bow
Technique Demonstration
Classical Selection
2nd Selection
Bow
8. Advanced level Theory: Students have 2 options:
 - A. Take the theory test as is.
 - B. Write an essay and take the vocabulary section of the test only. Essay question will be announced in September. Essays must be turned in with the entry form. (See question and specific rules on the web site).

B. Non-competitive Entries

There is no memory requirement. Students may play classical repertoire from any level regardless of grade. The technical demonstration and second selection are optional. Bowing is required. Non-competitive students are not eligible for the Honors Recital or scholarships.

C. Level Requirements for Classical Festival

These are the lowest levels that students in these grades may enter. Students in earlier grades may perform in any level. Students do not have to wait until grade to begin classical festival. (See on next page)

If student is in Grade 4 or 5	they must enter at least level Early Intermediate
6 or 7	Intermediate
8 or 9	Late Intermediate
10 or 11	Early Advanced
12	Advanced

Specific Rules, Regulations and Procedures for All Star Festival

1. **Events:** Students may enter all or any of the following events: (Descriptions and requirements are below)

1. Solo Performance
2. Duet and Ensemble Performance
3. Theory/History Test
4. Music Fair
5. Composition
6. Technique Challenge 88

2. Eligibility

There are no grade, age or level requirements for any performance event. The Music Fair and Composition have grade requirements.

3. Classification

Teachers should designate their students as Elementary, Intermediate or Advanced. Time allotment for judging of performance events:

- Elementary: 6 minutes
- Intermediate: 8 minutes
- Advanced: 10 minutes

3. **Honors Recital:** Students who receive 5 stars (excluding the additional star for memory) are invited to perform on the Honors Recital. It is not required.

4. **Bowing and warm-up.** Students are encouraged to bow before and after they perform

A typical procedure is: Warm-up

Bow

Perform technique (this is optional)

Perform selection(s)

Bow.

5. Rewards

Students receive stars for different activities and accomplishments. The stars go towards prizes. Pictures of the prizes are on the web site. Teachers are required to keep track of the amount of stars a student has and to tell the committee when a student has earned a prize. Points are cumulative. It is expected the student will take several years to reach 100 stars.

15 stars = ribbon

25 stars = medal

50 stars = small trophy

75 stars = medium trophy

100 Stars = grand trophy

Description of Events and Specific Requirements

Solo Performance

Students should perform traditional teaching material and standard repertoire (no pop). Elementary students may perform arrangements such as those found in method books. More than one selection is allowed if time permits (See chart above). Students will receive a comment sheet from the judge and a rating of 1-5 stars. (5 being the top award). An additional star will be given for memory. If a student receives 5 stars on their performance (excluding the additional star for memory), they will be invited to perform on the Honors Recital. The Recital is optional.

Duet and Ensemble Performance

Students should perform traditional teaching material and standard repertoire (no pop). Arrangements are acceptable at all levels. The event should be all students (no teachers). Students will receive a comment sheet and a rating of 1-5 stars and an additional star for memory. If the student receives 5 stars on the performance (excluding the additional star for memory), they will be invited to perform on the Honors Recital. The Recital is optional. Students are encouraged to enter ensembles as well as duets. This could include vocal or instrumental solos they are accompanying. Multiple piano works are welcome if the facility can accommodate them. Check in advance.

Theory/History Test

Students may take any level test regardless of grade. The tests are based on the levels of the NEWPTF Syllabus and are the same test required at Classical Festival. A rating of 1-3 stars will be awarded depending on the percentage. Students with perfect scores will be recognized at the Honors Recital.

Music Fair

Students may create projects to be displayed on the day of the festival. This could include posters, time lines, games, puzzles etc. Students are invited to be creative. This is like a science fair but with music projects instead. Teachers will designate the student by age on the entry form. Students are responsible to set up and take down their project or they may ask someone to do it for them if they are not present that day. Projects that are not removed will be discarded. Judges will award 1-2 stars on the quality of the project and an extra star for special merit. Students with special merit projects will be

invited to display them at the Honors Recital. There will also be a voting by all the participants in All Star for the student favorite. Details on set up and times will be sent out to participating teachers after scheduling.

Composition

Compositions must be submitted with the entry forms. They must be original works written for any instrument or group of instruments or voice. Elementary level (grade 5 and under) must have a minimum of 16 measures. Intermediate level (grades 6-9) must have a minimum of 32 measures. Advanced level (grades 10-12) must have a minimum of 64 measures. Students will receive 1-5 stars on their composition. Students with top ratings may arrange to have their composition performed on the Honors Recital.

Technique Challenge 88

This is an advanced demonstration of scales and arpeggios. Students completing the challenge will receive \$88.00.

Requirement: Complete all four-octave major and minor scales and arpeggios.

Procedure: Scales and arpeggios must be performed in order of the circle of fifths. The starting point is optional. They must be performed in this order: All major scales, all minor scales, all major arpeggios, all minor arpeggios. A small break between the 4 sections is allowed.

Metronome and Tempo: A metronome will be used for the challenge and set at the tempo designated on the entry form by the teacher. Scales must be at a minimum of 120 (two notes per tick). Arpeggios must be set at a minimum of 60 (3 notes per tick). 4 ticks are allowed between each scale and 3 ticks are allowed between each arpeggio. The metronome will be reset between the scales and arpeggios.

Judging: Students are allowed one mistake. A second mistake results in elimination. Mistakes include wrong notes, hesitations, getting out of sync with the metronome, taking too long between keys, inconsistent fingering, notes that don't sound and double notes. If a mistake occurs, the student will be stopped. Then they will then continue at the key they are currently on.

