

2019 NWSMTA FESTIVAL OF PIANOS GUIDELINES

GENERAL

The Festival of Pianos is an annual multi-piano activity open to all piano teachers, their students, and their students' families. Steinway of Chicago provides six grand pianos for our use at Northbrook Court in Northbrook, Illinois. New for 2019, the Northbrook Symphony Orchestra and the Meemic Foundation are also pleased to be sponsors. The event is held the last weekend in September.

Performers learn duets from the Festival Committee's repertoire and play in ensembles under the direction of a conductor. The same performers play on both Saturday and Sunday. More than 250 pianists participate each year in this festival.

The repertoire, date, specific location of the event, and any changes will be posted on the website and in the NWSMTA newsletter.

GUIDELINES

1. **Entries for the festival must be postmarked by June 30th.**
2. **Only teachers who have paid the next year's MTNA, ISMTA, and NWSMTA dues by June 30th will be permitted to enter students as NWSMTA members.** Higher fees apply to non-members (see #18 Fees below).
3. **Fees are nonrefundable.** Be sure your students (and you) are making a commitment. If students cancel, you are responsible for filling their spots.
4. **Attendance on both Saturday and Sunday is mandatory.** Students must stay for their entire Saturday and Sunday programs and return to their seats after they have played. This is a courtesy to the other performers.
5. **Only use the books listed on the "Repertoire for NWSMTA'S 26th Annual Festival of Pianos".**

6. **Scheduling will be done on a first received-first scheduled basis.** You may request either 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., but there is no guarantee that you can be scheduled for a specific time. The scheduler will let you know if your request cannot be filled, so that you may approve the new time or choose another song in your requested time slot.
7. **There are six pianos to fill for each song.** If seven duet pairs request a song, the first six received will be scheduled. If we cannot fill the other five pianos, the extra duet pair will need to select another song.
8. **Students and their duet partners will be scheduled first.** Duets played by two teachers will only be assigned to fill empty pianos.
9. **There is a limit of 30 entries per teacher.** Students may play as many times as they want to make up the 30-entry limit. Also, older students may be asked to play additional songs to fill in empty pianos. Please note at the bottom of the registration form if you have students who would be willing to fill in.
10. **Remember to assign duets easier than a student's solo playing level.** Students must learn both hands for their parts. Teachers are not permitted to help students by playing over the students' fingers.
11. **Check the required tempo (on the repertoire, not on the music) when assigning a duet.** Be sure your student will be able to play at that tempo as well as slightly slower and faster.
12. **Assign both parts of each song.** You may use students, parents, other NWSMTA teachers, and yourself. Younger students must have an adult or older student playing with them.
13. **You may assign the same song more than once.** However, you may then have more than one set of players performing at the same time. If this happens, be sure to assign someone to play with each student.

14. **Please list family members consecutively.** This will help the scheduler place family members in the same program whenever possible. If a family takes lessons from multiple teachers who are entering students, one teacher should put all family members on the same registration form.
15. **Do not bring your own or your students' music to the event.** All music for the event will be provided.
16. **Teachers will be assigned jobs** for times when they are not playing.
17. **Teachers are responsible for providing page turners** and piano monitors for their own students, as needed.
18. **FEES: NWSMTA members: \$30 per participant with a \$50 maximum per family.** NWSMTA members do not have to pay an entry fee for themselves.

Non-NWSMTA members: \$60 per participant, including teacher, with a \$100 maximum per family.

19. **Send your registration form, along with one check payable to NWSMTA, to:**

Diane Adamek
530 Killarney Pass Circle
Mundelein, Illinois 60060-1260

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