

FESTIVAL OF PIANOS

The Festival of Pianos is an annual multi-piano activity open to all NWSMTA members, their students, and their students' families. Steinway of Chicago provides six grand pianos for our use at Northbrook Court in Northbrook, Illinois. The event is usually held on the first weekend in October.

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

The repertoire, the date and specific location of the event, and any changes to these guidelines will be available in the spring.

FESTIVAL OF PIANOS GUIDELINES

- 1. 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 Rule #17 below).**
- 2. Entries for the festival must be postmarked by June 30th.**
- 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. Parents should not sit with the performers.
- 5. Scheduling will be done on a first come-first served basis.** You may request either 11 a.m.-2 p.m. or 2 p.m.-5 p.m., but there is no guarantee that you can be assigned a specific time. No time changes will be made after you have received your schedule.
- 6. Students and their duet partners will be scheduled first.** Duets played by two teachers will only be assigned to fill in empty pianos.
- 7. There is a limit of 30 entries (songs) per teacher.** Note that some entries are two songs to be played back-to-back by the same duet pairs.
- 8. You may enter each student a maximum of three times.** However, 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 do this.

9. Remember to assign pieces easier than the student's playing level.

Only use the books listed on the repertoire list. Check the required tempo (on the list, not on the music) when assigning the song. Be sure your student will be able to learn that tempo as well as slightly slower and faster tempos. Teachers are not permitted to help a student by playing over the student's fingers.

10. You may assign the same song more than once. However, you may then have more than one set of players playing at the same time.

11. Assign both parts of each song. You may use students, parents, other NWSMTA member teachers, and yourself.

12. The scheduler's goal is to schedule family members in the same program, if possible. To make this easier, please list family members consecutively. If a family takes lessons from more than one NWSMTA member teacher, one teacher should put all family members on the same registration form.

13. Do not bring your own/your student's music. All music for the rehearsal and performance will be provided at the event.

14. New Scheduling guideline

Note that songs are scheduled in the order in which the registrations are received. If, for example, 7 duet pairs request a song, the first 6 received will be scheduled and the extra pair will need to select another song if we can't fill the other 5 pianos. We had too many open pianos last year that had to be filled by the same people.

15. Teachers will be assigned jobs for times when they are not playing.

16. Teachers are responsible for providing page turners and piano monitors for their own students, as needed. Otherwise, the committee will help.

17. Entry fee is \$30 per participant for NWSMTA members with a \$50 maximum per family. Entry fee is \$55 for students of non-NWSMTA members, with a \$110 maximum per family. Teachers do not have to pay an entry fee for themselves. Send your entry form, along with one check payable to NWSMTA to:

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