

# YOUNG ARTIST AUDITIONS GUIDELINES

**PURPOSE:** The Young Artist Auditions are to promote the performance of American piano music as well as choice piano pieces by non-American composers, and to award competition winners. The intent is to encourage all piano students below the college level to perform, to enjoy and create music, and to make music an important part of their lives as they continue studying piano.

**DATE & PLACE: March 12-13, 2010 at Meredith College.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Deadline: December 9, 2009 during RPTA meeting at Meredith College**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Deadline: January 8, 2010 at Meredith College between 12 PM – 6 PM.**

**Note: All packets will be processed on January 9, 2010. If you mail your application, it MUST be in the chair's hand by 6 PM, January 8, 2010.**

## The 10 Commandments of Young Artist Auditions

- I. Thou shalt not participate until thou hast read the ENTIRE Guidelines.
- II. After reading the Guidelines, read all the contents of the registration packet made available at the September 16, 2009 RPTA meeting or on the website: [www.raleighpianoteachers.org](http://www.raleighpianoteachers.org). After September 16, registration packets will be available to pick up at Burrage Music Store.
- III. New members and student members of RPTA must have paid their dues prior to October 1, 2009 in order to enter students. Renewing members must have paid by July 1, 2009 in order to enter students.
- IV. Each registered student must be the student of an RPTA member in good standing. Do not enter a student on behalf of a colleague who is not a member of RPTA.
- V. All students must participate on March 12-13, 2010 during the actual time of the festival in order to receive rating sheets, certificates or awards.  
Friday, March 12, 5 – 9 PM: Young Artist I & II, \*Royalty Divisions, and All Concerto Levels  
Saturday, March 13, 9 AM – 4 PM: Elementary I & II, Intermediate I & II, Senior I & II,  
\*Depending on number of entries, Prince & Princess MAY be scheduled on Saturday.
- VI. Each student may enter only one performance level.
- VII. In choosing repertoire, respect the time limits given to each level.
- VIII. If a student places 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or Honorable Mention, he/she may not enter a lower level any year thereafter.
- IX. Teachers who enter students are required to participate in the work for these days. Do not schedule anything else on your calendar for Friday evening or Saturday until you receive your assignment. Anticipate needing to work both days, particularly if you have students on both days.
- X. Audition times assigned to students are final. No requests to switch with another student or come at a different time will be considered. Do not ask, and do not give parents or students the chairpersons' information so that they can call and ask.

# THE AUDITION DIVISIONS

## I. STANDARD Division (\$15.00 fee)

### A. Elementary I

- Students perform from memory two contrasting pieces from first or second year method books or early to mid-elementary sheet music of at least 16 measures. (tip: the “Performance” or “Recital” books of various methods are good examples.)

### B. Standard Solo Levels: *(higher than Elementary I)*

#### **Elementary II** (formerly Jr.III); **Intermediate I & II**; **Senior I & II**; **Young Artist I & II**

- Students perform from memory One American selection from the repertoire list, and One non-American piece of comparable level of difficulty of his/her choice. The pieces should be of contrasting styles. (See “Guidelines for Non-American Selections” at the end of the repertoire list for help in choosing music of appropriate levels.) Students may play in the same level up to four years.

### C. Standard Concerto Levels: **I; II; III; IV; V**

- Students perform from memory, with accompaniment, a selection from the appropriate level of the concerto section of the repertoire list.

## II. HONORS Division (\$18.00 fee)

- All Honors levels are competitive, therefore grading is numerical (see “Additional Information: II. Adjudication).
- A student may compete in each honors level up to four years but may win the first prize only once, **except** Intermediate I Honors and Young Artist II (\*see below).
- A student must earn a Superior rating to be considered for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or Honorable Mention. This is also true for those competing for trophies in Intermediate I Honors. (note: a student could score a significantly high Superior rating and still not place.)

### A. Honors Solo Levels: **Intermediate I & II**; **Senior I & II**; **Young Artist I & II**

- Students perform from memory one American selection from the repertoire list, and one non-American piece of comparable level of difficulty of his/her choice. The pieces should be of contrasting styles. (See “Guidelines for Non-American Selections” at the end of the repertoire list for help in choosing music of appropriate levels.)
- First place winners are expected to perform at the Honors Recital. All winners will be recognized and presented with awards immediately following the recital.

#### \* **Intermediate I Honors**

- Approximately 25-30 Intermediate I students will be chosen to perform at the Honors Recital and will receive trophies immediately following the recital.
- A student may win twice. (note: there is no 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.)

#### \* **Young Artist II**

- A student entering YA II may win 1<sup>st</sup> place twice.

### B. Honors Concerto Levels: **I; II; III; IV; V**

- Students perform from memory, with accompaniment, a selection from the appropriate level of the concerto section of the repertoire list.

- First place winners are expected to perform at the Honors Recital. All winners will be recognized and presented with awards immediately following the recital.

### C. Royalty Levels: Prince; Princess; King; Queen

- Students perform from memory one solo piece of their choice.
- When choosing a solo, students are permitted to choose from the repertoire list (see below).
- First place winners are expected to perform at the Honors Recital. All winners will be recognized and presented with awards immediately following the recital.

#### \* Prince & Princess

- Students up through 9<sup>th</sup> grade at time of audition are eligible for these levels.
- Audition piece is to be from, or comparable to, Senior I or above.

#### \* King & Queen

- Students eligible for these levels are in 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade at time of audition.
- Audition piece is to be from, or comparable to, Young Artist I or above.

## III. COMPOSITION Division (\$18.00 fee)

- **IMPORTANT NOTE: LEVELS ARE NO LONGER DIVIDED BY GRADE IN SCHOOL!**
- Students may enter the Composition Division as well as participating in a performance level.
- Students may submit unlimited compositions for piano, paying a separate fee, using a separate form, recording, and envelope for each.

### A. Levels: Elementary; Intermediate; Senior; Young Artist

The student's level of performance skills need not be the same as their composition level. Use these basic guidelines to determine which level the student should enter.

- **Elementary:** The student demonstrates correct use of the following – 5-finger melodies and patterns, simple harmonies, harmonic intervals of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> and simple variations of the V<sub>7</sub> chord, accidentals (flat, sharp, natural), simple meter, rhythms including quarter, half, dotted half, whole, and eighth notes, rests: quarter, half, and whole; ties, dynamic markings (*p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*), crescendo and diminuendo signs, repeat signs and D.C. al Fine, use of slurs to indicate articulation and phrasing, staccato, fermata, accent mark, use and notation of pedal
- **Intermediate:** In addition to the above, the student applies – major and minor scales (harmonic form of minor), correct use and identification of key signatures with up to 3 sharps or flats, extended melody – expanse greater than 5-finger position, chord progressions in major and minor keys (I-IV-V<sub>(7)</sub>-I) or (i-iv-V<sub>(7)</sub>-i), ledger line notes, arpeggios, compound or irregular meter such as 6/8 or 5/4, dotted quarter followed by eighth note rhythm, triplets, swing rhythm, D.C. al Coda, D.S. al Coda, and first and second endings, dynamic marks (*pp*, *ff*), tempo markings: vivace, lento, etc., terms: molto, poco, ritardando, etc., legato (“harmonic”) pedaling
- **Senior:** In addition to the above, the student applies - minor scale, incorporating the three forms (natural, harmonic, melodic), correct use and identification of key signatures with possible modulations, accidentals (double sharps, double flats), chromatic scale, augmented and diminished triads; extended harmonies such as 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> chords, dotted eighth-sixteenth note rhythm, sixteenth and thirty-second notes, rests of eighth and sixteenth note values, grace notes, trills and other ornamentation and figures
- **Young Artist:** Same as Senior, yet possibly including more complex harmonies, complex rhythms, unusual meters, or combinations of meters, modes, etc.

## B. Composition Entries

- Each composition must be a minimum of 16 measures AND performance time must respect the time limits noted under “Additional Information: Audition Time Limits”
- Each composition entry will consist of the following in an 8 1/2 x 11 envelope:
  1. Score (either handwritten or computer generated)
  2. A tape or CD labeled with:
    - a. Name of composer
    - b. Title of piece
    - c. Level of composer
    - d. Name of student performer, if other than the composer
  3. A brief statement from the composer describing his/her compositional process.
  4. Young Artist Composition Application

## C. Teacher Instructions

- The teacher should help guide the student in the compositional process, and teach proper notation.
- The teacher should bundle all entries and attach:
  1. Two copies of the composition participation sheets.
  2. Financial Form
  3. Check totaling all fees made payable to RPTA
- Entries are due at the **December RPTA meeting**. Packets will be returned and winners posted on the day of the Young Artist Auditions.

## D. Ratings

- A student entering this category receives written or taped comments, a rating from the judge, and competes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their level.
- A student may win 1<sup>st</sup> place ONLY ONCE in each level.  
First place winners will perform or have their pieces performed by their student performer on the Honors Recital. All winners will be recognized and awarded immediately following the recital.

# **THE HONORS RECITALS**

Honors Recitals will be Sunday, March 21, 2010 at Kenan Recital Hall, Peace College

### **2:00 PM -**

I. **HONORS RECITAL I:** The following first place winners will play at this recital:

Senior I, Senior II, Young Artist I, Young Artist II  
Prince, Princess, King, Queen  
Concerto IV, Concerto V  
Senior and Young Artist Composition

*Teachers need to adhere to the time allotted as indicated.*

*Appropriate cuts in orchestra parts are encouraged.*

### **4:30 PM -**

II. **HONORS RECITAL II:** The following winners will play at this recital:

Intermediate I winners  
Intermediate II  
First place Concerto I, Concerto II, and Concerto III  
First place Elementary and Intermediate Composition

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **I. Audition Time Limits**

There will be a time limit set for all auditions based on the time allotted for each level. If a student plays beyond these times, the judge can call time. Therefore, teachers should not select pieces which exceed these pre-determined times. The time allotted for each audition level is as follows:

- 6 minutes - Elementary I & II; Concerto I; Elementary Composition
- 8 minutes - Intermediate I & II; Concerto II; Prince; Princess; Intermediate Composition
- 10 minutes - Senior I & II; Queen; King; Concerto III; Senior Composition
- 12 minutes - Young Artist I & II; Young Artist Composition
- 15 minutes - Concerto IV; Concerto V

### **II. Adjudication**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Superior (95-100**) | For outstanding performance with accurate memorization, adherence to the details of the score, technical skill, imaginative and stylistic interpretation |
| Excellent (89-94)   | For general attention to details to the score, proficient memorization, appropriate style, continuity of performance, rhythmic and technical control     |
| Very Good (83-88)   | For recognition of student's efforts but inaccuracies in phrasing, rhythm, tempo, style, and/or memorization   |
| Comments Only       | For a performance that does not meet any of the requirements above   |

\*\*Only Honors entries receive numerical grades.

### **III. Honors and Donations**

- Awards and monetary gifts are made available through donations from individuals, teachers, businesses, and entrance fees. The awards may vary according to funds available. In addition, a donation is made to Meredith College for the generous loan of their facilities.

### **IV. Teacher's Responsibilities**

- Teachers participating in Young Artist are **REQUIRED** to participate in the work for this event. Please do not schedule anything else on your calendar for this day so that you can say "YES" when called upon to help. Teachers not participating in the work for this event will be reported to the Ethics Committee with the possibility of not being allowed to participate in the future.