

GUIDELINES FOR THE 29th ANNUAL NWSMTA FESTIVAL OF PIANOS

GENERAL

The Festival of Pianos is an annual multi-piano activity open to all piano teachers, their students, and their students' families. In 2020 and 2021, the Festival had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we were able to re-open the event again in March 2023. For 2024, Family Piano Co. will provide grand pianos for our use in the **Northbrook Shopping Center**. The event will be held October 5-6, 2024. 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. We anticipate more than 100 pianists participating in 2024.

GUIDELINES

- 1. Entries for the festival must be postmarked by June 30, 2024.**
- 2. Only teachers who have paid their MTNA, ISMTA, and NWSMTA dues by June 30, 2024 will be permitted to enter students as NWSMTA members.** Higher fees apply to non-members (see #19 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. Saturday is the only rehearsal day. The conductor will stop and give lectures. It is very important to participate in this rehearsal for successful ensemble performance on Sunday. Students should return to their seats after they have played and listen to rest of their program pieces. This is a courtesy to the other performers.
- 5. Use only the books listed on the "Repertoire for NWSMTA'S 29th Annual Festival of Pianos".**

6. Scheduling will be done on a first received-first scheduled basis. You may request either 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., but there is no guarantee that you can be scheduled for a specific time. (Festival hours will be extended if we have more performers than anticipated.) 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 will be five pianos to fill for each song. If six duet pairs request a song, the first five received will be scheduled. If we cannot fill all five pianos for the requested song in another program, 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. Each student may play more than one duet. Also, older students may be asked to play additional songs to fill in empty pianos; they may even be able to receive high school service hours by helping us. 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 list, 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. Watch the YouTube videos that the Festival Committee posts for each duet. This way, you will know what to expect. You and your students should be able to play along with the videos. However, the conductor may decide to slow down the tempo if a song isn't coming together well.

13. 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.

14. **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.

15. **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.

16. **Do not bring your own or your students' music to the event.** All music for the event will be provided.

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

18. **Teachers are responsible for providing page turners and piano monitors for their own students, as needed.**

19. **All fees must be postmarked by June 30, 2024.**

See below for fees.

FEE SCHEDULE PER PARTICIPANT

BOTH MTNA AND NWSMTA\$25.00
(no fee for teachers)

MTNA\$35.00
(LOCAL CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED, but add fee for teacher)

NO MTNA AFFILIATION\$50.00
(add fee for teacher)

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

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

Revised 3/20/2024 YA