

2011 MTNA and KMTA Performance Competitions

Diana C. Aubrey, MTNA Competition Chair

Performance competitions are sponsored by MTNA and KMTA to encourage exceptionally talented young students in pursuit of musical excellence and to recognize outstanding achievement in the profession of music teaching. These competitions provide an opportunity for students to receive professional adjudication in a competition setting with rules and repertoire requirements.

Rules for MTNA Student Competitions are announced annually in the April/May 2011 issue of the *American Music Teacher* magazine or on-line at www.mtna.org. Rules applicable to all MTNA competitions, except those referring to division and national levels, also apply to KMTA Bluegrass Competitions. Additional rules that apply only to KMTA Bluegrass Competitions are given later in this article. NOTE: a student may not enter both the MTNA and KMTA Bluegrass Performance Competitions in the same performance medium in the same year.

KMTA Bluegrass Competitions end at the state level, but they provide an opportunity for some students to compete with more accessible repertoire requirements. Students capable of meeting more demanding repertoire guidelines should be encouraged to enter the MTNA competitions, since those provide the added opportunity of advancing to division and national levels.

The MTNA and KMTA Performance Competitions will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 15 and 16, 2011 at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, KY. Keyboard competitions will be held on Saturday; instrumental, vocal, and chamber music competitions will be held on Sunday. *It is not possible to accommodate student requests for specific audition times.*

MTNA Performance Competitions

- **Tuesday, September 13, 2011 has been designated by MTNA as the nationwide postmark entry deadline for all MTNA competitions.** Information and entry forms for all MTNA competitions are available in the April/May 2011 issue of the *American Music Teacher* magazine or on-line at www.mtna.org.

Rules, requirements, procedures, membership fees, entry fees, and dates for the MTNA performance competitions change annually and are published after the submission date of the spring issue of the *Kentucky Music Teacher*. It is therefore the responsibility of teachers and entrants to follow the guidelines pertaining to the competitions as published in the April/May 2011 issue of the *American Music Teacher* magazine to ensure eligibility and avoid disqualification. Be sure to observe carefully:

- Teacher membership dues and entrant entry fee
- Repertoire requirements, competition music, reproduction of music, accompanists
- Application procedure, signatures, and dates
- Contact the KMTA Competition Coordinators if you have questions (see contact lists in the back pages of this journal):

Junior Competitions Coordinator: Vernon Cherrix

Senior Competitions Coordinator: Deanna Catlett

Young Artist and Chamber Music Competitions Coordinator:

Don Speer

Composition Competition Coordinator: Wes Golightly

KMTA Bluegrass Performance Competitions

General Rules and Application Procedures:

- KMTA Bluegrass Competitions follow “Rules and Procedures Applicable to All MTNA Student Competitions” (except those referring to division and national levels) found in the “MTNA Student Competitions” section of the 2011 April/May issue of the *American Music Teacher* and those listed in this article.
- Official application forms for KMTA Bluegrass Competitions are pullouts in the center of the Spring 2011 issue of the *Kentucky Music Teacher* (KMTA Bluegrass Solo Performance Competitions Application Form); ensembles must use the (KMTA Bluegrass Chamber Music & Piano Ensemble Competitions Application Form).
- Non-refundable entry fees for performance competitions are as follows:

Elementary: \$15	Senior: \$25
Junior: \$20	Young Artist: \$35
- **Postmark deadline for applications and entry fee is September 13, 2011.** Send application and entry fee for the appropriate KMTA Competition Coordinator.
 - Elementary Competitions Coordinator: Meme Tunnell
 - Junior Competitions Coordinator: Vernon Cherrix
 - Senior Competitions Coordinator: Deanna Catlett
 - Young Artist and Chamber Music Competitions Coordinator: Don Speer
- Teacher’s state and national dues must be paid by the deadline indicated in the “MTNA Student Competitions” under “Teacher Eligibility” in the April/May 2011 issue of the *American Music Teacher*.
- All KMTA members, except student members, may enter students in the Bluegrass Performance Competitions. Nonmember teachers must pay a teacher entry fee of \$75 for the KMTA Bluegrass Competitions. This fee will allow the nonmember teacher to enter one or more students into the various KMTA competitions, provided all eligibility requirements are met.
- Decision of the judges will be final. A winner will be declared in each area of competition.
- Student repertoire programs have no minimum time requirement.
- The program submitted may be longer than the time limit in any category. The adjudicator will hear at least a portion of each composition.

Entrant Eligibility:

- Elementary: ages 5-10 as of October 1, 2011
- Junior: ages 11-14 as of October 1, 2011
- Senior: ages 15-18 as of October 1, 2011
- Young Artist: must be currently enrolled college students or high school graduates who are studying their instrument or voice, ages 19-26 as of October 1, 2011.

Accompanists:

- Entrants must provide their own accompanists.
- Entrants may be accompanied by anyone including their own teacher or coach.
- Accompaniment is required, except for pieces intended by the composer to be unaccompanied.

- Taped accompaniments are not permitted.

Additional Information:

- Cuts in solo parts are not permitted. Repeats are left to the discretion of the entrant.
- Cuts in the piano part (tutti) of concerto movements are permitted.
- Individual movements of large works that can be performed as musical units complete in themselves are permitted.

Note Carefully:

- Application forms must be typed.
- Repertoire must fulfill guidelines.
- Repertoire timings must be accurate.
- Solo performers/ensembles must provide the adjudicator with one published edition of each piece submitted on the applications form.
- Follow MTNA guidelines in the area of “Competition Music”.

Bluegrass Brass Competitions

Junior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Senior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- Doubling is permitted as follows:
 - Trumpet: B-flat, C, D, E-flat, piccolo trumpet, cornet, and flugelhorn
 - Trombone: one work on alto or bass trombone
 - French Horn, Euphonium, and Tuba: none
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- Classifications may be represented by published transcriptions.
- Doubling is permitted as indicated above under Senior.
- An entrant will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Bluegrass Chamber Music Competitions

Senior

- Ensembles may be any combination of piano, string, wind, and percussion instruments of at least two (2) but no more than six (6) performers.
NOTE: There is a separate competition for four-hand and duo-piano ensembles.
- Instrumentation of each ensemble must remain the same for all repertoire performed.
- The ensemble should include only senior entrants, but may include some junior entrants *only if* the number of senior entrants is equal or greater.

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Individual movements of larger works are acceptable.
- The piano (if included) must be an equal partner in the ensemble.
- The program may include arrangements only if sufficient original works are not available in that style period. The arrangements may not be simplified, cut, or abridged in any way from the original work.
- An ensemble will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- The performance must be without conductor.

Young Artist

- Ensembles may be any combination of piano, string, wind, and percussion instruments of at least two (2) but no more than six (6) performers. *NOTE: There is a separate competition for four-hand and duo-piano ensembles.*
- Instrumentation of each ensemble must remain the same for all repertoire performed.
- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Individual movements of larger works are acceptable.
- The piano (if included) must be an equal partner in the ensemble.
- The program may include arrangements only if sufficient original works are not available in that style period. The arrangements may not be simplified, cut, or abridged in any way from the original work.
- An ensemble will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- The performance must be without conductor.

Bluegrass Classical Guitar Competition

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- Although Renaissance music may be performed as additional repertoire, it will not satisfy the above requirement.
- An entrant will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Bluegrass Organ Competition

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes for setting pistons and thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.
- A page turner may be used; a registrant may assist if the organ has no combination pistons.

Bluegrass Percussion Competitions

NOTE: Availability of percussion equipment at the competition site cannot be guaranteed; arrangements must be made with the competition coordinator at the time of application.

Junior

- The program must include at least two compositions, each performed on a different instrument.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes for set-up and ten (10) minutes of performance time.

- Memorization is not required.

Senior

- The program must include at least two compositions, each performed on a different instrument.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes for set-up and ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Young Artist

- The program must include works from two of the following classifications: (1) marimba, (2) timpani, and (3) multiple percussion.
- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes for set-up and thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Bluegrass Piano Competitions

Elementary

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Only works for solo piano will be allowed.
- The KMTA Junior High Keyboard Festival repertoire list should be used as a guideline.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.
- A student may not enter both the **Elementary Competition** and the **Elementary Auditions** in the same year.

Junior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Only works for solo piano will be allowed.
- The KMTA Keyboard Festival repertoire list should be used as a guideline.
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Senior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Only works for solo piano will be allowed.
- Compositions for prepared piano are not allowed.
- An entrant will be allowed twenty (20) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary. Only works for solo piano will be allowed.
- Compositions for prepared piano are not allowed.
- An entrant will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Bluegrass Junior, Senior, and Young Artist Piano Ensemble Competitions

Junior and Senior

- Junior age entrants perform in the Junior level competition, and senior age entrants perform in the Senior level competition. If an ensemble has students in Junior and Senior levels, it must be placed in the level to which the majority of the students belong. If the number of students from each level are equal, the ensemble must be placed in the higher level.
- Ensembles may have from two (2) to six (6) performers, but not more than two (2) pianos.
- Repertoire performed in the 2011 KMTA Bluegrass Regional Festival may be changed for the KMTA Bluegrass Competition, but the ensemble performers must remain the same.
- Repertoire may be chosen from applicable sections of the Keyboard Festival Handbook and the MTNA National Course of Study. Substitutions of equal difficulty and musical worth may be made upon approval of the state coordinator. If a substitution is to be made, call or write the appropriate coordinator before the deadline to avoid a disqualification.
- Junior piano ensemble will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Senior piano ensemble will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Young Artist

- Ensembles may have from two (2) to six (6) performers, but not more than two (2) pianos.
- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- Young Artist piano ensemble will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Bluegrass String Competition

Junior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Senior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Bluegrass Voice Competition

Junior

- The program must include two art songs from contrasting style periods. The National Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival Bulletin's list of vocal solo art songs in the Junior division should be used as a guideline for appropriate repertoire.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Senior

- The program must include three selections of the entrant's choice, including one non-English art song, one English art song, and one song of the entrant's choice. Difficult arias are discouraged. The National Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival Bulletin's list of vocal solo art songs in the Senior division should be used as a guideline for appropriate repertoire.
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Young Artist

- The program must include repertoire in the original language from each of the following categories: (1) Aria from opera or oratorio repertoire, sung in the original key, (2) German Lied, (3) French Melodie, and (4) Art song in English written after 1900. Additional song(s) or aria(s) of the entrant's choice in the original language or in English translation may then be added.
- The typed repertoire program submitted must be grouped according to the classifications above, and include (1) the name of the oratorio, opera, or other identifying work from which an aria is taken, (2) the performance time for each selection, and (3) the composer's full name.
- An entrant will be allowed twenty-five (25) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is required.

Bluegrass Woodwind Competition

Junior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- An entrant will be allowed ten (10) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Senior

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- Doubling is permitted as follows:
 - Flute: one work on piccolo or alto flute
 - Oboe: one work on English horn
 - Clarinet: B-flat and A
 - Bassoon: none
 - Alto Saxophone: one work on soprano or tenor
- An entrant will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.

Young Artist

- The program must include selections from at least two contrasting style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- A classification may be represented by a published transcription.
- Doubling is permitted as indicated above under Senior.
- An entrant will be allowed thirty (30) minutes of performance time.
- Memorization is not required.