

MAPTA ~ Original Composition ~ Directions & Criteria

Students from all performance levels are eligible to enter a piece for solo piano. Ribbons for participation will be awarded to all entrants. Each composition is judged on its own merits in reference to the scoring rubric. Students at any level who earn the appropriate number of points qualify to perform their own piece in the Honors Recital.

DIRECTIONS

1. Pieces may be handwritten (by student) or computer notated (by student). Paper should not exceed 11X14. Do not use spiral notebook paper. PDF files may be submitted.
2. If submitting paper copies, provide two (one for judge, one for MAPTA records).
3. Teacher should offer suggestions, not content. Teacher may point out technical corrections to make.
4. Completed compositions must be submitted by teachers to the MAPTA chair at the MAPTA Winter Meeting.
5. Compositions must be original and not include or be based on another composer's thematic ideas, harmonic progressions, etc. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
6. Student's name and piece title should be printed on the first page. If untitled, please write "Untitled". Print the student's initials on each additional page of music.
7. RECORDING: A recording of the student performing his/her composition is required. Submit with score. Digital files are acceptable. Start recording with a few seconds of silence, then announce the composer's name, and the composition title. Allow another few seconds of silence before the recording of the composition. Make sure recording plays back clearly at appropriate volume before submitting!
8. A fee is assessed for each entry.

CRITERIA

Evaluation will be based on internal coherence of melody, rhythm, harmony, and form; overall effectiveness of expression; and inclusion of all necessary elements in the written score.

NOTATION

- Accurate placement of notes, clefs, time signatures, key signatures, accidentals, bar lines, etc.
- Inclusion of tempo, dynamic, and expressive markings (English or Italian)

RHYTHM

- Metronome marking included at beginning and as needed
- Accurate time values
- Rhythm and rhythmic variety/development will be evaluated within the context of the piece

MELODY

- Melody construction, development, and use will be evaluated within the context of the piece

HARMONY

- Level of complexity, variety of chords, presence and quality of progressions and modulations will be evaluated within the context of the piece

FORM/STRUCTURE

- Structure will be evaluated within the context of the piece