

ILLINOIS MUSIC ASSOC. OLYMPIC CONTEST CONTEST RULES

ATTENTION!!!! COVID INFORMATION: If the IMA Competition is unable to be held in person, the contest will be switched to a virtual format as in 2021. NO REFUNDS will be given.

If the contest is held “in person”, ALL ATTENDEES MAY BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK. If so, no one will be admitted without a mask. Masks may be removed at the student's discretion while performing. Students should use hand sanitizer immediately prior to performing.

The IMA will not be held responsible should any attendee contract Covid.

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1) COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

- A) Membership in the I.M.A. is not necessary to enter the competition.
- B) Any one may enter upon acceptance by the I.M.A. Contest Supervisory Committee. There is no age limit. Contestant's age is official as of the first day of the contest.
- C) All competitors must enter through their teacher or school.

2) FEE STRUCTURE

A) Entry Fees: All competitors shall pay the required entry fee. In addition, all piano students who submit a day preferences will pay an additional \$1.00.

B) Soloist Entry Fee: (for each entry)

1. Student of Member School: \$32.00 (& day preference fee)
2. Student of Non Member School: \$37.00 (& day preference fee)

C) Duets:

1. Students of Member School: \$34.00 for each duet.
2. Student of Non Member School: \$40.00 for each duet.

D) Non-Directed Ensembles:

1. Each Student of Member School: \$14.00 each member of group.
2. Each Student of Non-Member School: \$19.00 each member of group.

E) Directed Bands and Other Groups:

1. Each Student of Member School: \$7.00 each contestant in group.
2. Each Student of Non Member School: \$12.00 each contestant in group.
3. Band Director, Member School: No Fee
4. Band Director, Non Member school: \$6.00 (per each group directed.)

3) PIANO SOLO DAY PREFERENCE FEES (*Piano Cadet through Intermediate level Solos only*)

A) To help accommodate requests to perform on a specific day, there will be a \$1.00 per entry handling fee. Indicate on the application the day when the contestant would like to play. If we cannot accommodate the requested scheduling, the handling fee will be refunded. Further, if we cannot accommodate the request and the contestant is unable to play, the entry fee will be refunded. We cannot accommodate requests for specific days for piano solos after the entries have been submitted. Requests for specific performance times will not be honored.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHERS: Before submitting applications, check with parents regarding Graduations, Weddings, etc. If the piano student is competing in more than one category, or has brothers or sisters in the contest, the family may request a day preference to have all contest activities scheduled for the same day (subject to the day preference fee).

4) APPLICATION FORMS/CONTEST DEADLINE

A) The entry deadline is February 14, 2022.

B) Application forms may be fully completed online and paid for by credit card or PayPal

C) Applications may also be printed and submitted via post **accompanied by the Contest Worksheet** and one check for the total amount of entry fees.

D) Requests for hard copies of the entry forms can be made by calling 708-712-7497.

E) Applications not submitted online should be mailed to:

Illinois Music Association
5004 N. Canfield
Norridge, IL. 60706

5) MULTIPLE ENTRIES FOR ONE STUDENT

A) A contestant may not enter more than once in any particular category (Solo, Duet, Group) using the same instrument or instrumental family. This restriction does not apply to vocal solos or the Senior Class category in piano when both open and required classes exist.

6) SPECIFIC INSTRUMENT COMPETITION DAYS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Piano: Cadet through Intermediate levels

SATURDAY ONLY:

Piano: Performance Class

Piano: Adult classes

Piano Duets: Cadet thru Intermediate levels

Piano Trios

Accordion

All Vocals

SUNDAY ONLY:

Piano Solo: Senior Required, Senior Open, & Virtuoso levels

Piano Duets: Senior & Virtuoso levels

All Strings

All Guitar

All Drums

All Wind Instruments

All Mixed Duets

7) ADULT CLASSES

A) An adult contestant is any contestant, 19 years of age or older, and who is not a professional musician or music teacher. Adult contestants may indicate age by number or "A" for adult.

B) Instrumental adult classes will consist of the levels approximately equal to the following music list levels. Adult contestants may choose music from their instruments' current required or suggested music lists, or they may choose their own selection. Music not on our lists must be submitted with application for level classification verification and approval.

Level 1 - Cadet and Elementary

Level 2 - Junior

Level 3 - Intermediate and Senior

8) SENIOR OPEN (PIANO ONLY)

A) Contestants must play music of a Senior level, which is not on the current Senior Required list, and music must be submitted with your application.

B) Senior "O" (open) and Senior "R" (required) are not considered the same category. Contestants playing in Senior "O" cannot play in any other class on the same instrument except Senior "R".

9) DUETS

- A) Piano duets must play from the required list.
- B) Instrumental duets must submit a copy of the music with the application
- C) A contestant's duet class level must be the same as their solo class level, unless the contestants are in different solo class levels. Then they must enter a duet class level that is a median of their class levels.
- D) Duets need not be memorized.

10) WIND INSTRUMENT INFORMATION (Brass, Reed, Woodwind)

- A) Accompaniment is allowed but not required. A CD player and a piano will be provided. Students will NOT be judged on their use of accompaniment. (Rule 15 P)
- B) The I.M.A. Contest Supervisory Committee reserves the right to combine instruments in the same class.
- C) Copies of the music must be submitted with the application.

11) DRUMS

A) The Rudimental, Complete drum set and Open Ad Lib are considered to be different instruments, and a contestant may enter in any one or all three (3) drum sections.

B) The I.M.A. will furnish a complete standard 5 piece drum set. Contestants may also bring their own foot pedal and hi-hat. Virtuoso contestants only, may bring equipment to add on to the existing 5 piece set provided by the IMA (i.e. more cymbals, rototoms, cowbells, double bass pedal, etc.).

C) Open Ad Lib will be judged on technique and rhythmic effect, and contestants must bring an outline of the Open Ad Lib Solo to submit to the Judge at the contest.

D) Open Ad Lib percussion contestants will be classified according to age:

Cadet 7 years and younger

Elementary 8 and 9 years

Junior 10, 11 and 12 years

Intermediate 13, 14, and 15 years

Senior 16, 17 and 18 years

Virtuoso 19 years and older

Younger percussion contestants may enter a higher class, but not a lower one.

12) GUITAR INFORMATION

A) Accompaniment is allowed but not required. A CD player and a piano will be provided. Students will NOT be judged on their use of accompaniment. (Rule 15 P)

B) A suggested list is available for guitar. Any music not on the suggested list must be submitted with the application.

13). VIOLIN, VIOLA, AND CELLO INFORMATION

- A) All Violin, Viola, and Cello solos must play from their Required List.
- B) All string duets must submit a copy of the music with the application.
- C) The IMA reserves the right to combine instruments in the same class.
- D) Accompaniment is allowed, as is recorded accompaniment. A CD player and piano will be provided. See Rule 15 P.

14) VOCAL INFORMATION

- A) All vocals must provide their own accompaniment. Recorded accompaniment is allowed. A CD player and piano will be provided. See Rule 15 P
- B) Art songs – Folk songs, operatic and foreign language repertoire. Art songs should be performed in their complete form. A microphone is not allowed in this category.
- C) Broadway and Movie Musical – Songs written for Broadway productions or for Movie Musicals. Animated movies which are also Broadway Productions may be played in either the Broadway or Pop Jazz category. However, they will be judged according to the category in which they are entered.
- D) Pop/Jazz – Popular melodies outside the categories of "Art Songs & Broadway Musicals". These include, but are not limited to jazz, rhythm and blues, country & western, and popular melodies from motion pictures. Repeat choruses, dal ségnos, etc. are optional, and any alterations must be clearly marked on the judge's copy of the music.
- E). Music Selection Changes for the Contest Year: Any change of an entered selection after the original application has been submitted, must be in the same category. Changes must be submitted to the contest committee in writing by March 11th (contest year). Otherwise, acceptance of the music will be at the judge's discretion. Copies of the selection NEED NOT be submitted.

NOTE: Art Song, Broadway and Movie Musical and Pop/Jazz are considered to be different categories, and a contestant may enter any one, or all three (3) vocal types. C) Music Selections Changes for Contest Year Any change of an entered selection after the original application has been submitted, must be in the same category. Changes must be submitted to the contest committee in writing by March 14th (contest year). Otherwise, acceptance of the music will be at the judge's discretion.

15) MUSIC REQUIREMENTS AND PENALTIES

- A) Music For Judging: All contestants must bring with them, at the time of the contest, a clean, legible score of the music to be performed or they cannot win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place.

B) Photocopies Prohibited: Contestants cannot bring photocopies of published music that is currently available, (available in a text or method book or sheet music) and cannot win a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place Trophy. Music purchased online is acceptable but must be submitted with a receipt or proof of purchase to the Judge.

C) Student Anonymity: Names of contestants or music studios must not appear on music submitted to the Judge to maintain the anonymity of the student. The judge does not know who the student is or their teacher. The contestant number should be written on the top of the music.

D) Numbering Measures: All music must have measures numbered or the contestant may not win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place. Numbering of the first measure of each line is acceptable as are pre-numbered measures by the publisher.

E) Memory Requirement: All solos must be played from memory. If the contestant needs to look at their music after being called to perform, the contestant cannot win a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place. Duets, trios, and ensembles need not be memorized.

F) Prohibited Conduct: Contestants must not practice in the corridors or contest rooms or they will be subject to disqualification at the IMA's discretion.

G) Warm-Ups: Contestants may warm up before beginning their selection, (i.e. a scale, arpeggio, chords, etc.). It is best not to use any part of their contest selection as a warm up.

H) Repeat Signs: Repeat signs are optional, unless the repeat is integral to the form of the music.

I) Pauses/Stops: If a contestant pauses or stops briefly yet continues playing, the awarding of prizes will be at the Judge's discretion.

J) Re-Starts: If a contestant stops within the first phrase and re-starts the selection from the beginning, the awarding of the trophy will be at the Judge's discretion. However, if a contestant stops after the first phrase, and re-starts the selection from the beginning, the contestant cannot win a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place Trophy.

K) Judging Criteria: Contestants will be judged on their accuracy of music notation (i.e. notes and rhythms), and general musicianship (i.e. expression, interpretation, phrasing, use of piano pedals, etc.). The prizes are awarded to the best performances in each class. A good musical performance and attention to detail should serve as criteria for the Judges. What may impress the audience with its apparent difficulty can only be considered for a prize if it is also played cleanly and musically. It is also necessary to judge the contestant according to the edition being used. Editions differ as to "MM" markings, expression, etc. and the student can only perform what is in their edition.

L) Late Music Changes - Classes With A Required Music List: If a student must change a selection, the new selection must be chosen from the same class level and music list as was entered on the original application form. No prior notification as to the selection change is needed. The student shall make their change known when their number is called. Prior notification to the IMA committee is NOT necessary.

M) Late Music Changes - Classes Without A Required Music List: If a student must change a selection, the new selection must be chosen from the same class level as was entered on the original application form. It must be submitted by March 14th for approval.

N) Unaltered Required Music: Contestants playing in classes with required music must play the notes and rhythm unaltered. However, if the teacher chooses to alter the editor's other markings, these alterations should be made apparent to the Judge in the edition being used. On the other hand, the Judge must not feel compromised by these editions, as it is the teacher's responsibility to teach the student what is musically correct, even if the edition used may not.

O) Footwear Required: Contestants must wear shoes which are suitable for playing the pedals. Any type of shoe or slipper is permissible. Contestants playing in bare or stocking feet cannot win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place.

P) Accompaniment: For Vocals and Instruments which allow accompaniment, a piano and CD player will be provided. If a student is using another form of recorded accompaniment, such as a phone, tablet, or computer, the student must provide their own device and be able to operate the device competently or have someone capable of doing so.

16) PRIZES - All prizes will be awarded at the end of each class. Every student will receive either a trophy or a ribbon award.

A) Solos

1. 1st Place Trophy will be awarded in each class.
2. 2nd Place Trophy will be awarded in each class.
3. 3rd Place Trophy will be awarded in each class.
4. *At the discretion, a second (3rd) place trophy may be awarded in rare circumstances in solo classes only.*
5. The remainder of the class will receive a ribbon the level of which will be based on their performance, either "Superior" "Excellent" "Very Good" or "Good".

B) Duets

1. (Two)-1st Place Trophy will be awarded per duet.
2. (Two)-2nd Place Trophy will be awarded per duet.
3. (Two)-3rd Place Trophy will be awarded per duet.
4. The remainder of the class will receive a ribbon based on their performance, either "Superior" "Excellent" "Very Good" or "Good".

C) Non-Directed Groups (trio, quartet, quintet)

1. (One)-1st Place Trophy will be awarded to each member of the group.
2. (One)-2nd Place Trophy will be awarded to each member of the group.
3. (One)-3rd Place Trophy will be awarded to each member of the group.
4. The remainder of the class will receive a ribbon based on their performance either "Superior" "Excellent" "Very Good" or "Good".

NOTE: In classes of 3 or less, (dependent on the performance) the awarding of trophies will be at the judge's discretion.

D) Directed Groups (Ensembles)

1. (One) -1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place Engraved Medal will be awarded to each member of the group.
2. Each participant will receive a Participation award.

17) VIRTUAL CONTEST AWARDS (If Needed). *Should the Contest have to be held virtually, the awards will be as follows:*

A) Solos

1. 1st Place Engraved Medal will be awarded in each class.
2. 2nd Place Engraved Medal will be awarded in each class.
3. 3rd Place Engraved Medal will be awarded in each class.
4. At the Judge's discretion, a second (3rd) place Engraved Medal may be awarded in rare circumstances in solo classes only.
5. The remainder of the class will receive a Participation Medal.

B) Duets

1. (Two)-1st Place Engraved Medals will be awarded per duet.
2. (Two)-2nd Place Engraved Medals will be awarded per duet.
3. (Two)-3rd Place Engraved Medals will be awarded per duet.
4. The remainder of the class will receive 2 Participation Medals per duet.

No Directed or Non-Directed Groups will be accepted virtually. Their entry fee will be refunded.

18) COMPLAINTS AND/OR PROTESTS

Any person wishing to file a complaint and/or protest must do so in writing. These complaints and/or protests must be accompanied by a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00). If a contestant's age has been challenged, the contestant must produce proof of age. Category adjustments (because of age) will be at the discretion of The Contest Supervisory Committee. Failure to comply will result in dis-allowance of the protest.

19) JUDGES

Only contest officials are permitted to talk to the Judge(s). Contestants, parents, friends or people affiliated with contestants are not permitted to speak to the Judge. Violation of this rule shall create sufficient reason for the disqualification. THE JUDGE'S DECISION WILL BE FINAL

20) TAPE RECORDING

The use of audio or video recorders is permitted to record your own performance or to record your students' performance. You must have prior written permission to record any other contestant. Audio or video recorders are instructional tools for your own personal use. Recordings will not be accepted as criteria regarding the judging.

21) NOTICE TO ALL CONTEST ATTENDEES

The Illinois Music Association is not responsible for bodily injury, property damage, or loss sustained by any competitor or visitor during the time they are on the premises on which the contest is being held. Any eventuality not specifically covered by the Contest Supervisory Committee rules herein shall be left to the discretion of the Illinois Music Association.