



Washington State Music Teachers Association

Outstanding Artist Piano Competition

November 6-8, 2026

Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

The **WSMTA Outstanding Artist Piano Competition** was established in 2005 to provide an additional performance opportunity for talented pianists from Washington State. It runs concurrently with the MTNA Performance Competition but is not part of the MTNA Performance Competition. The Outstanding Artist Piano Competition may serve as a positive initial step for students wanting to compete in the MTNA Performance Competitions in future years.

WSMTA expresses its sincere appreciation to Central Washington University for the use of their facilities during our competition.

WSMTA OAPC Committee Chair: Amora Bussey • wsmta.oapc@gmail.com

AWARDS

Senior Piano Division (age 15-18)	Junior Piano Division (age 11-14)
1 st place \$350	1 st place \$250
2 nd place \$250	2 nd place \$150
3 rd place \$150	3 rd place \$125
Best Performance of a Work by an Underrepresented Composer - \$250	Best Performance of a Work by an Underrepresented Composer - \$150

Winners of both divisions and both division winners of the Best Performance of a Work by an Underrepresented Composer will be invited to perform in the Washington State Winners Recital at the June 2027 Conference in Vancouver, WA.

WSMTA Outstanding Artist Piano Competition Guidelines

General Rules

- Decisions of competition judges are final.
- A first-place winner may not participate in the same competition category again.
- Competition performances are open to the public.
- Audio or video recording and photography of the competitions by a private party are strongly discouraged.

Entrant Information

- An entrant must be a **resident of Washington State**.
- All entry fees are nonrefundable.
- Competition financial obligations are the responsibility of the entrant and teacher.
- Entry deadline is September 9, 2026 at midnight Pacific (however, website form support will not be available after 6 pm Pacific)

Fees

WSMTA Member Teachers:

- Current membership dues for MTNA and WSMTA must be paid before entering students.
- **A teacher may not enter the same student in both WSMTA OAPC and MTNA Performance Competition in the same year.**
- WSMTA Member Teacher Entry Fees are \$20.00 per student entered.
- WSMTA Member Teacher Entry Fees must be paid on or before September 9, 2026.

Non-member Teachers:

- Non-members have the option of becoming a member of MTNA and WSMTA or paying a Non-member Teacher Entry Fee of \$150.00 for the first student and \$20.00 for each additional student
- Non-member Teacher Entry Fees must be paid on or before September 9, 2026.

Student Fees and Repertoire Requirements:

Junior Division: Age: 11-14 as of January 1, 2027

- o Student Entry Fee: \$100.00
- o Maximum performance time: twenty (20) minutes.

Senior Division: Age: 15-18 as of January 1, 2027

- o Student Entry Fee: \$120.00
- o Maximum performance time: twenty-five (25) minutes

For both Senior and Junior Divisions

- Each program must contain stylistically varied compositions from at least two contrasting style periods.
- Memorization is required for all repertoire.
- Concerto performances are not permitted.
- Compositions for prepared piano are not permitted.
- Transcriptions are allowed.

Competition Music

- All entrants must abide by the federal Copyright Law. Photocopies are not allowed unless the teacher or student is able to provide proof of purchase with permissions.
- Entrants must provide the judges with one score for each work listed on the application form.
- Measures must be numbered at the beginning of each system.
- Students must perform the repertoire listed on the original application.
- Teachers should verify that all repertoire listings are correct before submission of the application.
- No changes in repertoire are allowed.
- **Registered repertoire must match exactly the titles printed in the published score or digital edition provided to the judges. This includes the piece title, catalogue numbers, key, album numbers, and/or volume numbers. All information must match exactly.**
- **Any discrepancy between the registered title and the title on the adjudication copy will result in disqualification from awards and placement.** The student

will still be permitted to perform and receive adjudicator comments, but will not be eligible for rankings, prizes, or placement. No exceptions.

- The time you submit will be the time allowed, and there can be no changes or additions once the application is submitted.

Competition Performance Procedures

- There is no minimum time limit.
- Programmed music may exceed the maximum time limit.
- Performance will be stopped when stated or maximum time is reached (this does not affect results).
- The student and their teacher will determine the order of the pieces of the program.
- **All entrants will be shielded from the view of the judges during performances.**
- **Judges will provide comments via a digital format TBD.**
- **The competition will be live-streamed; however, the students' names and other identifying information will not be available on the live-stream and the judges will not have access to the live-stream.**

Competition Agreement

It is the responsibility of the **teacher, entrant, and parent or guardian** to abide by all rules and regulations for the WSMTA Outstanding Artist Piano Competition. Failure to meet this responsibility will result in the disqualification of the entrant.

Registration

- Registration is only available online at wsmta.org - for WSMTA members and non-members
- **PLEASE NOTE: All fees are nonrefundable**