GUIDELINES FOR MTNA STATE PERFORMANCE JUDGES

Please peruse these guidelines prior to arriving at the competition site.

***The purposes of the Music Teachers National Association performance competitions are to provide educational experiences for students and teachers and to recognize exceptionally talented young artists and their teachers in the pursuit of musical excellence. The state competitions are considered the primary educational level with the division and national levels showcasing outstanding performance and honoring significant pedagogical achievement*.**

Procedures

- The entrant selects the first work to be performed; the remaining order of the program is then determined by the judge(s).
- **Entrants may be stopped during the performance of any work (including the chosen first work) due to time constraints. A portion of EACH work must be heard. Judges are not required to hear part of each individual movement of a larger work when the program is over time.**
- Entrants must be allowed to play up to the maximum time limit. There must not be time left due to stopping entrants during the performance.
- The timing of the performance is the responsibility of the designated monitor and the Competition Coordinator.
- All repertoire and reproductions of music have been previously approved by competition officials.

Comments

- Judges must write comments on all repertoire performed.
- Judges may comment on any aspect of the of the performance, including choice of groupings made within individual selections.
- Time taken to write comments between compositions (or movements) should not delay the entrant's performance.
- Written comments should be tactful and encourage improvement.
- Judges may not write any rating or indicate a winner on the comment sheet.

Protocol

- Judges should not confer during the competition and must refrain from any verbal response to the entrant's performance.
- Judges should refrain from conversation with anyone other than competition officials until the results of the competition have been announced.
- Judges do not have the authority to disqualify entrants.

Balloting

- **A winner and alternate *must* be selected. No ties are allowed.**
- Judges' decisions are final.
- Results of balloting are confidential and should not be discussed with entrants, parents or teachers.

Judges Orientation Meeting

- Judges must attend an orientation meeting.
- Judges should designate one spokesperson to stop the entrant during a work, to request the next work and to end the competition when the time is up.

Junior Performance Competitions

- Memory is required for piano only.
- Performance time:
  State Competition:
  Piano, String, Woodwind: maximum performance time: fifteen (15) minutes

Senior Performance Competitions

- Memory is required for solo piano only.
- Performance time:
  State Competition:
  - Piano, Piano Duet, String, Woodwind: maximum performance time: twenty (20) minutes

Young Artist Performance Competitions

- Memory is required for solo piano only.
- Performance time:
  State Competition
  - Piano, String, Woodwind: maximum performance time: twenty-five (25) minutes

Competition Awards

State Competitions
One (1) Winner, one (1) Alternate, one (1) or more Honorable Mentions [number decided by individual states]. Honorable Mentions do not have to be declared. A tie is not permitted.

Balloting Procedure

A. Winner

1. Judge(s) ballot for a single Winner without consultation.
2. Competition Coordinator tabulates the ballots. If there is a majority for one entrant, that entrant is declared the Winner and the procedure continues with item B below. If there is no Winner, the coordinator informs the judges of the entrants [by number] who received votes on the ballot and the judges again ballot without consultation.
3. Competition Coordinator tabulates second set of ballots. If there is now a majority for one entrant, that entrant is declared the Winner. If there is no representative chosen, the Coordinator informs the judges of the entrants [by number] who received votes on the second ballot, and the judges will discuss the issue with the Competition Coordinator serving as moderator, until a decision is reached.

B. Alternate

1. Judge(s) ballot for a single Alternate without consultation.
2. Balloting procedures are followed as outlined above (A2, A3) to determine the Alternate.

C. Honorable Mention(s)

1. State level: Honorable Mentions are left to the discretion of the state.
2. Balloting procedures are followed as outlined above (A2, A3) to determine the Honorable Mention(s).

D. Completion of Balloting

1. Once the ballot process is completed, the Competition Coordinator completes the Decision of Performance Competition Judges Form and each judge signs the form.
2. The Competition Coordinator and judge(s) will verify that the entrant numbers (Winner, Alternate, Honorable Mentions) correspond to the final decision.