

Annual Sonata Contest

General Information and Governing Rules

Date: Saturday, March 6, 2021

Location: USA – Laidlaw Performing Arts Center

Deadline for Entry: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 (Mandatory Registration Meeting)

Paperwork Chairman: Sally Pehler, 55 Kingswood Dr., Mobile, AL 36608

The following items must be submitted at registration:

1. Sonata Contest Entry Form
2. Sonata Contest Certificate List
3. One self-addressed, stamped business envelopes (*Only IF you need final results mailed to you. Otherwise, these will be e-mailed*)
4. One check or money order payable to MMTA
5. A 3x5 white, ruled index card for each student. Type or print the following information on each index card (4x6 cards NOT accepted)
 - a. Name of entrant
 - b. Level of Sonata
 - c. Composer’s last name (for level 20, college and adult levels, include opus number, movement, key, and performance time)
 - d. Years of contest participation including this year
 - e. Teacher’s first and last name

(See Examples Below; Words in italics for clarification only)

<i>(Example for levels 1-19)</i>	
Sally Smith	<i>(Student)</i>
Level 4	<i>(Level Performing – PLEASE double-check this)</i>
Stewart	<i>(Composer)</i>
2 Years	<i>(Number of Years Participating Including this year)</i>
John Doe	<i>(Teacher’s Name)</i>
<i>(Example for levels 20, College & Adult)</i>	
Steve Smith	<i>(Student)</i>
Level 20	<i>(Level Performing)</i>
Beethoven, Op. 10. No. 1, I. Allegro, c min. 4’38”	
<i>(Composer/Info/Time of Piece)</i>	
10 Years	<i>(Number of Years Participating Including this year)</i>
John Doe	<i>(Teacher’s Name)</i>

PLEASE MAKE SURE that you have entered students in the correct level. It’s better to catch an error now than the day of the contest.

As Soon As Possible, You Will Receive By Mail:

1. A master schedule. The reverse side, which is the schedule by level, is the only schedule to be copied and distributed to parents for their information along with the Student/Parent letter.
2. Your Certificate List indicating the level and performance number of each student
3. A Student/Parent letter to be copied, completed and distributed to each of your students. Students should present this letter on the day of registration

Governing Rules for Sonata Contest

1. Students of members in good standing with MMTA are eligible to enter the contest for a non-refundable fee of \$20.00/per student. Members not in good standing, or Non-Members must submit a Teacher's fee of \$75.00 and may enter students for \$30.00/per student. *(Required entry forms will be distributed at the August meeting, and are also available on the MMTA website mobilemta.org)*
2. The minimum age of students is seven years by contest date
3. All music must be performed from memory without repeats, except in the case of a Da capo, which completes the form of the piece. These details are covered at the August Sonata Preview Meeting. Any student using music will be evaluated but not considered for awards.
4. Registration is conducted at the January meeting of MMTA. This is a mandatory meeting for every teacher entering students. The playing order of students in each level is determined by random drawing. Students must perform in consecutive order to be considered for awards. Latecomers, though disqualified for awards, will be allowed to play and receive the judge's evaluation.
5. All teachers who enter students in the contest are expected to be on the premises all day to help in whatever capacity needed.
6. All performances in the Sonata Contest shall be open to the public so far as space permits.
7. Flash photography, video and recordings are STRICTLY prohibited in the performance rooms, but permitted elsewhere. PLEASE MAKE PARENTS AWARE OF THIS POLICY.
8. Children under the age of five will not be allowed in the performance rooms. Audience members are expected to remain in the room until all contestants have performed. The only exception made here is for parents having children performing simultaneously. They must identify themselves to the door monitor in advance and exit or enter between performances.
9. Prior to their performance, students are allowed a warm-up of either a scale, cadence or arpeggio; the pedal should be tested at this time. This warm-up should be limited to approximately fifteen seconds. ***No other practice time is allowed on the premises that day. Please make your students aware of this policy.***
10. After all contestants in a given classification have performed, the judge shall select a first, second, and third place winner, and designate these ratings on the students' evaluation sheet. Honorable mentions may be given at the judge's discretion. No recall of students is permitted.
11. First place winners will receive a trophy, second and third place winners medallions, and honorable mentions will receive ribbons. Teachers may pick up judge's written evaluation from the Sonata office at the end of the day and give them to students at a future lesson.
12. Participation trophies shall be presented during the awards ceremony to students who have performed in the contest for five, eight and ten or more years.

13. Winners in each classification will be announced in the auditorium throughout the day as the judges' decisions are reached and the decoding process is completed - approximately 30 minutes after the final contestant's performance.
14. A student may not be entered in more than one classification in any one year
15. A first place winner in any classification must proceed to a higher classification the following year, with this exception: the winner of Level 19 will be allowed to enter the non-competitive adult category without interrupting the years of participation until the student is eligible to enter Level 20
16. Level 20 is limited to SENIORS in high school. They shall perform the first movement of a sonata by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven, which they have not previously played in the Sonata Contest.
17. Students enrolled in college at the time of the Sonata Contest registration shall be eligible to enter the college level.
18. Repertoire requirements for the college level shall be either the first or last movement of a sonata by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven or Schubert which that contestant has not previously played in the Sonata Contest.
19. A college first place winner may not re-enter the Sonata Contest unless it is in the adult category.
20. Any adult is eligible to enter the adult category. Ratings of Superior, Excellent or Good will be received by performers in this category in lieu of trophies. Each performer will play a movement of a sonata/sonatina which that student has not previously played in the Sonata Contest.
21. The editions specified on the current sonata list will be given to the judges. If other editions are used in teaching, it is the teacher's responsibility to resolve discrepancies.
22. Absolutely no changes whatsoever will be allowed once the pre-registration is completed on the night of the deadline at the January meeting.
23. Commemorative T-shirts listing names of all participating students and teachers will be available for sale each year with the income offsetting the cost of the contest. The design will be an exclusive of the Mobile Music Teachers' Association.
24. Neither the Mobile Music Teachers Association nor the current Sonata Committee will be held responsible for any student entered in the wrong level, given the wrong performance time, playing the wrong piece, the wrong movement, or from a publication other than the ones specified. Students failing in any of these categories will be permitted to perform, to receive their certificates and critique sheets and if applicable, their participation trophies, but will be disqualified from receiving awards.
25. These rules may be amended only at the May meeting of Mobile Music Teachers' Association.