Supplement to *Notes & News*

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association, Inc.
www.comusicteacher.net

Updated August 2019
CSMTA Student Activities Program

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Purpose

The Colorado State Music Teachers Association Student Activities Program exists to:

1. Raise standards of student performance and musicianship by inspiring students
   • To become performers of the highest musicality
   • To learn that interest in music is shared with peers
   • To know that best efforts in music are rewarded intrinsically, and sometimes extrinsically
   • To encourage musical goals through an adjudicated experience, where winning is not the goal
   • To participate in competitive and/or non-competitive performances in a comprehensive program with broad examination areas

2. Promote higher levels of teaching by:
   • Creating awareness of the important function of the independent music teacher
   • Promoting professional interest in CSMTA and MTNA
   • Motivating teachers to improve their teaching performance by preparing students for these activities using the standards of these student activities as a guide

EVENT CHAIRS

Achievement Day: Amy Lee, NCTM  email: amy@pianopassionato.com

Concerto Competition: Dr. Jooeun Pak  email: jpak14@msudenver.edu

Rising Stars: Harumi Shiraishi  email: etude42day@gmail.com

Student Theory Activity: Kellie Johannik  email: dolcemusickellie@comcast.net

Master Class Activity: Elle Tyler  elle.g.tyler@gmail.com

Colorado State MNTA Competitions: Prof. Margaret Miller  email: Margaret.J.Miller@colostate.edu
INFORMATION & RULES

Failure to follow these, and specific event, rules will result in the disqualification of the student.

Information and Rules For All CSMTA Activities

CSMTA provides student competitions and related activities to students of CSMTA member and non-member teachers. The students activities are divided into two parts:

1. CSMTA activities, under CSMTA activity chairs
2. MTNA activities, under MTNA activity chairs and coordinators

The chairs and coordinators for MTNA State Activities and CSMTA Activities serve under the CSMTA Vice President for Student Activities.

The following rules apply to CSMTA Student Activities:

1. Teachers entering the Rising Stars or Concerto Competition with students who have studied the entry discipline with them fewer than eight months preceding the entry deadline, must list the former teacher on the entry form. Both the current and former teacher will receive equal recognition.

2. Teachers of students participating in any of the student activities must be available to assist with the administration of the activity, or find a substitute who can take their place.

3. Teachers (not the student, parent or activity chair) are responsible for completing and submitting the necessary fees and forms by the deadline. If paying by check, the teacher will submit ONE check to CSMTA for all entry fees. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted. Online entries are available on the CSMTA website.

4. Teachers and parents must make every effort to avoid contact with the judges during the activity and avoid any association with their students in the presence of the judges. The decision of the judge(s) is final.

5. Music, with measures numbered and no identifying names showing, must be provided for judges in all instrumental and vocal events, except in the Concerto Competition. No scores need to be provided for the Concerto Competition.

6. All entrants and accompanists must abide by the Federal Copyright Law. Photocopies are strongly discouraged. Entrants and accompanists using photocopies or PDFs downloaded from the Internet may be asked to complete the Music Release Form verifying that they have permission to use this music. Detailed information about the Copyright Law is available at www.mtna.org.

7. Parents may discreetly use a camera without a flash, a video camera, or a phone to photograph or record only their own child or legal ward.

8. Beginning in 2019, teachers must either renew their CSMTA membership or join CSMTA prior to December 1 in order to receive CSMTA’s member pricing on CSMTA student events for that academic year. Teachers who join after December 1 will be subject to non-member event fees.

9. Non-member teachers entering students in any of the activities are required to pay a non-member entry fee of $50 per event by the entry deadline.

10. Non-members are required to pay 1½ times the student entry fee by the entry deadline.

11. Circumstances may arise during an event where students may be asked to perform earlier than their scheduled time. Students are encouraged, but not required to comply.

12. No refunds will be given under any circumstances once an application or registration has been submitted.

13. Failure to follow these, and specific event rules, will result in the disqualification of the student.
Achievement Day

Info & forms: www.comusicteachers.net/achievementday
Application deadline: determined by each Local Association
Event date: determined by each Local Association
Event location: determined by each Local Association
Event chair: Amy Lee, NCTM   email: amy@pianopassionato.com

Purpose

1. To recognize and encourage achievement in music study in a non-competitive performance event
2. To encourage students to prepare and display individual music related talents by selecting from several options
3. To support and guide the teachers in the effort to provide a quality music education for each student

Event Description and Procedure

Achievement Day is open to music students of all ages and abilities on any instrument or voice. There is a preparatory level and levels one through twelve.

Each student performs privately in front of an evaluator. Students may enter as solo players or as part of an ensemble (see “Ensemble for Achievement Day” below). Upon completion of all Achievement Day activities, students receive a certificate, written comments from the evaluator, and graded tests.

Ensemble is a separate category with all students who are Achievement Day entrants and complete all Achievement Day options: two piano students, or two or more students in a chamber group, or two or more students in a vocal ensemble, one student vocalist with a student accompanist. Teachers or non-participating students or adults may not accompany an ensemble, but may perform with them in the Collaborative Option (C.5). The Collaborative Option (C.5) offers the opportunity for the Achievement Day student to perform with another Achievement Day student, OR, any teacher, adult or non-achievement day student.

Local associations are encouraged to offer “Super Achiever” status by awarding medals or ribbons to students who meet the criteria described below.

Levels and Detailed Guidelines

Levels and detailed guidelines are available at the CSMTA website: www.comusicteachers.net/AchievementDay.

Student Requirements and Procedures

Students perform two pieces:

1. Students may perform two solo pieces, or two ensemble pieces as part of an ensemble (see “Ensemble for Achievement Day” below)
2. Memorization is required for one solo piece, but is optional for the second solo piece (see repertoire guidelines for levels). Ensemble entrants are not required to memorize their pieces.
3. Students name the key of each piece
4. Students perform the pentascale or scale (as appropriate) for each piece
5. Students complete a minimum of two options, chosen from the Options list below

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
Options

Options do not have to be at the same level as a student’s performance level. Detailed guidelines for options are available at www.comusicteachers.net/AchievementDay.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Technique Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.1 Scales See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.2 Arpeggios See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.3 Chords See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B. Musical Knowledge Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.1 Theory Tests See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.2 Terms &amp; Signs Tests See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.3 Ear Training Test See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.4 Music History Test See detailed guidelines on website</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C. Related Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.1 Additional Piece Students perform an addition piece. Memorization is optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.2 Sight Reading See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.3 Improvisation See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.4 Play from a Lead Sheet See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.5 Collaborative Performance Students prepare and perform a piece with another instrumentalist or vocalist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.6 Performance on a 2nd Instrument Students prepare and perform on an instrument different from the one used for required pieces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.7 Transposition See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.8 Original Composition See detailed guidelines on website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.9 Written Project Students prepare a report, research paper, poem, story or other written project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.10 Art or Constructed Project Students prepare a creative project related to music.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.11 Dance Students prepare and perform a dance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.12 Other Students prepare something not listed above. Can be used by Local Associations for additional activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Super Achiever Award

Local Associations may adjust the “Super Achiever” requirements as needed. To receive the Super Achiever status, students must:

1. Perform the required two pieces and receive a ‘PASS’ in a pass/fail grading system
2. Complete 4 options, including at least one Technique Option and at least one Musical Knowledge option
3. Receive a ‘PASS’ in Technique Options and Related Options in a pass/fail grading system
4. Score 80% or higher in Musical Knowledge Options
Ensembles for Achievement Day

Students have the option of entering Achievement Day as part of a student ensemble. Ensembles receive an Ensemble Certificate.

- An ensemble is defined as two or more student performers. All students must be Achievement Day participants. Teachers or other adults (unless they are students entering Achievement Day) may not accompany or participate in an ensemble.
- Each student in the ensemble enters in their individual level and completes options accordingly.
- Ensembles are evaluated as a group and receive one evaluation, but each student receives a certificate.
- Ensembles perform 2 selections.
- There is no memorization requirement.
- Students earn an ensemble certificate and a solo certificate if performing both an ensemble program and a solo program for Achievement Day. Performing option C. 5 (Collaborative Performance) within a solo program does not qualify for an ensemble certificate.
- Certificates will reflect the level of the individual but will read “Ensemble” on the instrument line.

Certificates

Certificates of accomplishment featuring the CSMTA President’s signature are available to local Achievement Day Chairs for printing and distribution to students at their local events.

Local Associations’ Responsibilities

Each Local Association is responsible for all details of their Achievement Day including:

1. Assigning a chair
2. Coordinating the event by setting up the date and place
3. Preparing certificates
4. Coordinating evaluators
5. Establishing fees
6. Sending a final report to the CSMTA Achievement Day Chair following the event
   - Number of students participating
   - Number of teachers entering students
   - Entry fee charged
   - Number of students taking each option
   - Number of Super Achievers and how they are rewarded
   - Special procedures or events unique to that Local Association

The Local Association Achievement Day Chair may obtain samples of registration forms, evaluation sheets, certificates, study guides, and practice tests from the CSMTA website.
Each association may modify Achievement Day guidelines to accommodate its needs.

Support from CSMTA

For questions regarding Achievement Day, contact the CSMTA Achievement Day Chair: email: amy@pianopassionato.com
For questions regarding accessing the website, contact the CSMTA Website Coordinator at CSMTA@comusicteachers.net
CSMTA Concerto Competition

Info & forms: www.comusicteachers.net/concertocompetition
Ages: 8-19 (piano), 13-19 (other instruments and voice)
Online application deadline: March 6, 2020
Event date: Sunday, May 17, 2020
Event location: Aurora Fox Theatre, 9900 E. Colfax Avenue, Aurora
Event chair: Dr. Jooeun Pak email: jpak14@msudenver.edu

Student Concerto Competition Guidelines

The CSMTA Concerto Competition provides an opportunity for students to perform a concerto with a live orchestra. The competition has a piano category held on an annual basis, and a rotating instrumental and vocal category with the following schedule: strings and voice in odd-numbered years, and winds and percussion in even-numbered years. The Non-Piano Instruments and Voice competitions are for students ages 13 through 19 pre-college.

Competition applications will be done entirely through recorded videos in DVD format or through electronic video submissions (i.e. links to YouTube, Dropbox, Google Drive or other shared cloud file). Teachers will be allowed to accompany their own students provided that they are not visible or identifiable in the video.

General rules and information are found on page 4 of the Student Activities Handbook. Exception: Scores do not need to be provided to the adjudicators.

Entry fees, application forms, dates and repertoire requirements will be administered by the CSMTA Concerto Committee which shall include a chair person and two other members. This committee shall also choose the orchestra and make all the appropriate arrangements.

Concerto Competition information shall be published in the CSMTA Notes & News and/or on the CSMTA website at least six months in advance.

Students of non-member teachers in any of the CSMTA Concerto Competition divisions are required to pay a non-member fee 1 1/2 times the student entry fee by the entry deadline.

Student Eligibility

Elementary Performance
Age: 8–10 as of January 1, 2020
Competition: Piano

Junior Performance
Age: 11–14 as of January 1, 2020
Competition: Piano

Senior Performance
Age: 15–19 (pre-collegiate) as of January 1, 2020
Competition: Piano

Non-Piano Entries
Age: 13 - 19 (pre-collegiate) as of January 1, 2020
• Winds and Percussion 2020
• Strings and Voice 2021
CONCERTO COMPETITION

CSMTA Concerto Competition Repertoire

Repertoire for the competition shall be chosen by the CSMTA Concerto Committee in conjunction with the conductor of the chosen orchestra. The final decision will be made by the CSMTA Concerto Competition Committee. The concerto literature will be primarily standard repertoire.

1. Repertoire will be published in the Notes & News and/or the CSMTA website at least six months prior to the performance.
2. Any edition or cadenza may be used unless otherwise specified.
3. Application forms are available on the CSMTA website: www.comusicteachers.net/concertocompetition

CSMTA Concerto Competition Accompanists

Students must provide their own accompanists.

CSMTA Concerto Competition Rules

1. The decision of the adjudicators is final.
2. One winner will be chosen from each level by a panel of three which will include two adjudicators and the orchestra director. Ties will not be allowed.
3. Honorable mention may be chosen but will not perform with the orchestra.
4. Winners must comply with the orchestra conductor’s wishes for the performance or forfeit the opportunity to perform with the orchestra.
5. A winner may not participate at the same level again.
6. CSMTA is not responsible for any personal expenses of contestants or winners.
7. Submissions must be made as A SINGLE TAKE FROM BEGINNING TO END. Performances that have edits of any kind, including where sections from different performances have been patched together, will be disqualified.
8. Only standard DVDs, links to video files that have been uploaded to YouTube, Dropbox, and Google Drive, or other shared cloud files will be accepted. Submitted physical recordings will not be returned.
9. If submitting a DVD, the contestant is responsible for submitting one that is compatible with a standard DVD player. Discs requiring special handling, such as being playable only on a computer, will not be accepted. In the event a contestant’s DVD is unplayable, the application fee will be returned to the student’s teacher.
10. At each level, judges are asked to choose a winner and an alternate. Honorable mention(s) may be awarded at the judges’ discretion. Winners will perform in concert with a local orchestra. A winner need not be declared if, in the opinion of the majority of the judges, the level of performance is not considered acceptable for performance with orchestra.
11. The piano and vocal division entrants will perform from memory, and memorization for the winds/percussion and strings division is optional.
12. Should a Winner in the CSMTA Concerto Competition be unable to perform with the orchestra, the Alternate may perform with the orchestra, subject to the judges’ recommendation.
The Rising Stars Festival

Info & forms: www.comusicteachers.net/risingstars
Registration deadline: Saturday, March 7, 2020, midnight (for all participants: Western Slopes and Front Range)
Event dates/locations: Western Slope Preliminaries (adjudication may include LiveStreaming of the event)
   Date/Location: TBA (Check CSMTA Website)
Front Range Festival Preliminaries and Finals:
   April 18, 2020, University of Denver, Lamont School of Music

Ages: 6-19 (pre-college)
Event Chair: Harumi Shiraishi etude42day@gmail.com

Event Description

The Rising Stars Festival is open to students of CSMTA member teachers, non-CSMTA member teachers, and CSMTA collegiate members.

1. There are two categories:
   • Competitive Stars
   • Non-competitive Stars

2. Students, ages 6 through 19 (pre-collegiate) are eligible to participate in both the competitive and non-competitive categories.

3. Students’ performances are adjudicated and they will receive written comments and certificates of participation.

4. The Western Slope Preliminaries and the Front Range Preliminaries/Final Round:
   • Finalists selected from the Western Slope Preliminaries will compete with Front Range Finalists in the final round at the Front Range Rising Stars Festival.
   • The Western Slope Preliminaries will occur in advance of the Front Range Festival. The Front Range Preliminaries and Final Round will occur on the same day.

5. Winners in the Competitive Stars Category will be invited to perform in the Rising Stars Winners Showcase at the annual CSMTA Conference.

6. Students may enter either Competitive Stars or Non-competitive Stars, but not both with the same instrument, in the same year.

7. First place winners in the Competitive category may not compete again at the same level in subsequent years.

8. A first place ensemble winner cannot compete in another ensemble at the same age level in subsequent years.

Registration Forms

• Registration forms for both Competitive Stars and Non-competitive Star categories, including dates and locations for the Denver Preliminaries and the Western Slope Preliminaries, are available online at the CSMTA website: www.comusicteachers.net/RisingStars

• Registration and payment must be completed by the deadline.

• Students of non-member teachers will pay a registration fee that is 1½ times the student registration fee for students of CSMTA member teachers.

• Musiclink students pay 50% of the registration fee.

• In the unlikely event of a cancellation of the Rising Stars Festival, no refunds will be given.
Teacher Requirements

1. The rules on page 4 of this handbook apply to this event.
2. Teachers of participating students must pay dues according to rules on page 4.
3. Non-member teachers must pay a $50 entry fee by the entry deadline.
4. All participating teachers are required to be available to assist with the event.
   • Teachers will be assigned a duty for the day of the festival. Teachers unable to fulfill their work assignment must secure a qualified substitute and notify the Rising Stars Festival chair. A qualified substitute must be a CSMTA member.
   • Failure to assist on the day of the festival, or to provide a qualified substitute, may result in the teacher being disqualified from entering students in CSMTA student events for one year.
   • Western Slope Rising Stars Festival teachers must volunteer at their preliminary round. Although not a requirement, Western Slope teachers traveling to the Front Range Rising Stars Festival competition for their student(s) may be asked to assist.
5. Teachers and parents must avoid contact with the adjudicator(s) and may not assist the entrants during the performance. To do so may result in disqualification.
6. Judge’s decisions are final.

Divisions

The competitive and non-competitive categories are broken into four divisions as follows

1. Solo Piano
2. Solo Voice
3. Solo Instrumental
   • Includes Strings, Woodwind, Brass, Guitar, Harp, and Percussion
4. Ensemble:
   The ensemble category consists of 2-6 student performers. All participants are judged. Examples include one piano/2-8 hands, 2 pianos/4-8 hands, piano/vocal/instrumental duets, trios, and quartets, solos with student piano accompaniment, any combination of instrument noted above. Two pianos will be available for Rising Stars 2020 ensemble participants.

Literature for Competitive and Non-competitive Rising Stars Categories

• Each student performs two selections from different periods (baroque, classical, romantic, impressionistic, and contemporary) by different composers.

• Literature must be standard repertoire. Standard repertoire is defined as works by established classical composers from the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th century, as well as pieces by pedagogical composers published by main publishers. Transcriptions are allowed, but pop or rock tunes are not included.

• Repertoire must remain the same for all levels of the competition including the piece/song winners perform in the Rising Star Showcase at Conference.

• A movement of a Sonata, Suite, or the like, is considered one selection.

• No change in repertoire is allowed after the entry deadline.

• A Theme and Variations must be performed in its entirety and is considered one selection.

• A Prelude and a Fugue may be considered as one selection or as two separate selections.

• Both pieces must be memorized for piano, guitar and voice.

• At least one piece must be memorized for the other instruments.

• No repeats other than D. C. al Fine, D.S. al Fine, and D.S. al Coda.

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RISING STARS FESTIVAL

- Voice students should choose standard literature (folk songs, art songs, early Italian arias, and theater) that is age and developmentally appropriate. Students in senior levels are encouraged to perform one song originally written in English and one song in a language other than English.
  1. Arrangements and piano reductions are allowed for singers.
  2. Students in elementary vocal levels may choose two songs from the same era as long as they are contrasting in style.
  3. No pop or rock tunes are allowed.

- Teachers may accompany their own students in the Solo Competitive and Non-competitive Star categories. Accompaniment in the Ensemble Divisions must be by a student.

Levels, Performance Time Limits

Competitive and non-competitive students are divided into levels according to their age on the day of the registration deadline, and their performances are adjudicated within their age level. The performance time limit varies depending on the level, as stated in the chart below. The age of the oldest student in an ensemble will be used to determine the Level for that ensemble. First place winners in the Competitive category may not compete again at the same level in subsequent years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Time Limit/Minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Elementary</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Elementary</td>
<td>9-11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Senior</td>
<td>15-16</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Senior</td>
<td>17-19 Non-collegiate</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Voice students should choose standard literature (folk songs, art songs, early Italian arias, and theater) that is age and developmentally appropriate. Students in senior levels are encouraged to perform one song originally written in English and one song in a language other than English.

1. Arrangements and piano reductions are allowed for singers.
2. Students in elementary vocal levels may choose two songs from the same era as long as they are contrasting in style.
3. No pop or rock tunes are allowed.

Teachers may accompany their own students in the Solo Competitive and Non-competitive Star categories. Accompaniment in the Ensemble Divisions must be by a student.

TAKE THE TALENTS AND GIFTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

STUDY AND REFINE YOUR CRAFT IN MUSIC OR THEATRE AT CCU’S SCHOOL OF MUSIC. We graduate students of excellence, integrity, and leadership who will make an impact in music and the performing arts to the praise and glory of God.

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- Bachelor of Arts in Music
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  - Composition
- Bachelor of Music in Music Education,
  K-12 Licensure
- Bachelor of Music in Worship Arts
- Music Minor
- Theatre Minor
- Music Theatre Minor

An audition is required for acceptance into all of the above programs, and for scholarship consideration.

LEARN MORE
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CONTACT US:
303.963.3130
music@ccu.edu

Colorado Christian University
School of Music
RISING STARS FESTIVAL

Competitive Rising Stars Category

Technical Requirements

1. There are no technical requirements in any division.
2. Optional: Students are allowed one “warm-up” scale and cadence. The scale does not need to be in the key of the performance piece and will not be judged.

Adjudication

- A panel of three judges will be used if there are more than five participants in a level.
- Judges may choose up to three winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd place) and one honorable mention in each level.
- Judges do not have to choose a winner in a level.
- Music will be stopped at the maximum time limit, and the student will not be penalized.
- Students may choose the order of their pieces/songs.
- For competitive divisions, a Western Slopes Preliminary Round will be held in advance of the Front Range Festival. Each event will be one day. Front Range students will participate in a preliminary round and selected finalists will participate in the final round on the same day. Students chosen as finalists from the Western Slopes Preliminaries will compete in the final round at the Front Range Festival.
  - Preliminary Rounds
    1. Up to 35% may be chosen for Finals
    2. Open auditions
    3. There will be only one round if there are ten or fewer entries in one level
  - Finals
    1. Recital format
    2. Students/teachers choose one piece/song from their program to perform
    3. First place winners will be invited to perform in the Rising Stars Winners Showcase held at the 2020 CSMTA State Conference.

Awards

- First, second and third place winners receive trophies
- Honorable mention receives a medal
- Certificates are given to all participants
- Each ensemble participant will receive a trophy or medal, if a winner
- The first place winner may not compete at the same level again in the future

Rising Stars Winners Showcase

First place winners will be invited to perform in a Rising Stars Winners Showcase held at the 2020 State Conference.
Non-competitive Rising Stars Category

Technical Requirements

1. There are no technical requirements in any division.
2. Optional: Students are allowed one “warm-up” scale and cadence. The scale does not need to be in the key of the performance piece and will not be judged.

Adjudication

1. Each student’s solo performance is critiqued by one judge
2. Each ensemble’s performance is critiqued by one judge
3. The judge will write comments for each piece, and give each student a rating of Superior, Excellent, or Good
4. The event will be held in recital format

Awards

• Students receive ribbons based on the judge’s rating:
  o Superior earns a Blue Ribbon
  o Excellent earns a Red Ribbon
  o Good earns a White Ribbon
• Certificates are given to all participating students

Rising Stars Team

Working with the Rising Stars Chair are the following Rising Stars Committee members:
• Western Slope Coordinator
• Facilities Coordinator
• Adjudication Coordinator
• Hospitality Coordinator
• Volunteer Coordinator
• Awards Coordinator
CSMTA Student Theory Activity (STA): Theory Stars

Info & forms: [www.comusicteachers.net/sta](http://www.comusicteachers.net/sta)

Online registration deadline: March 1, 2020

Please contact STA Chair for detailed information

Event dates/locations:
- Western Slope Rising Stars Festival: TBA
- Front Range Rising Stars Festival: April 18, 2020
  - University of Denver, Lamont School of Music, Denver

Participating Local Associations

STA Chair: Kellie Johannik  dolcemusickellie@comcast.net

Purpose

The purpose of Theory Assessment is to stimulate and recognize theory competency among all Colorado music students. Study Guides, sample test questions, and workbooks are available from Keynote Independent Theory Service (KITS) and are suitable for piano, voice and instruments other than piano. Test levels range from Primary to Advanced (“step” levels Primary through Step 6) and are based on knowledge, not age. Tests are appropriate for 2nd year students through advanced high school students. Tests include a written exam demonstrating notational reading skills; and beginning with Step 1, a listening and playing test, which correspond to the “step”—the level—the teacher has determined for the student. For further information about the KITS music theory program, please visit the KITS website, [www.keynotetheory.com](http://www.keynotetheory.com). A more complete description of the KITS program is described in the CSMTA October 2019 Notes & News.

Students will receive a Certificate of Participation from CSMTA as well as a Certificate of Merit from the KITS program. CSMTA STA medals will be presented to students earning perfect scores, 3-pronged rosetta ribbons to students scoring 90-99%, and single-pronged rosetta ribbons to students earning 80-89%. An announcement of students’ results will be made at the Rising Stars Awards presentations during the course of the day. CSMTA STA: Theory Stars Honor Roll will celebrate students earning 90% and above on the CSMTA website and in the summer issue of N&N. Students may test at the locations and dates listed above or at a participating local association.

Applications and Description Information

- CSMTA is using the theory tests and related materials developed by the Keynote Independent Theory Service (KITS) by Christine A. Murrow. For more complete information on this program, please refer to the October 2019 News & Notes, or [www.keynotetheory.com](http://www.keynotetheory.com). Study materials are available through amazon.com (search for KITS, Christine Murrow), Barnes and Noble, or directly from Keynote Independent Theory Service.

- For STA testing at Rising Stars, teachers must order tests from the State Theory Chair through the CSMTA: [www.comusicteachers.net/sta](http://www.comusicteachers.net/sta). Registrations and payment are due on March 1, 2020. For Local Association testing, see guidelines below.

Teacher Eligibility and Entry Fees

- Teachers of participating students must pay dues according to rules on page 4.

- Teachers are required to help on the testing date where their student is testing and to commit to remaining in the testing area to perform the assigned task. Assistance is needed either with registration/proctoring, grading exams, or listening to the performance of scales and cadences portion of the test. Specific duties will be assigned by the State Theory Chair.
STUDENT THEORY ACTIVITY

- CSMTA member teachers entering students in STA at a Rising Star festival will pay $10 per test to CSMTA. The STA chair will order tests based on registrations received via the website by March 1, 2020. Non-member teachers entering students in STA at a Rising Star Festival should contact the STA chair, Kellie Johannik, dolcemusickellie@comcast.net, to arrange registration and payment by March 1, 2020.

- Students of non-member teachers pay a registration fee that is 1 1⁄2 times the student registration fee for students of member teachers.

- These rules and all rules listed on page 4 of this Student Activities Handbook must be followed. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the student.

Guidelines for Local/Regional Theory Testing

1. All KITS tests for students testing at Rising Star Festivals are ordered and provided through the CSMTA Theory Chair. Please use the CSTMA website as noted above. Registration and payment are due by March 1, 2020.

2. To host Local Association (LA) STA testing, please appoint a LA STA Chair. The LA STA Chair must contact the CSMTA STA Chair in a timely manner prior to registration to establish a LA testing event. The CSMTA STA Chair will provide documents and instruction for LA STA testing.

3. Registration for LA STA Testing is completed through the LA STA Chair at the association level. Registration must include KITS tests and CSMTA award costs. Contact CSMTA STA Chair for information. After testing, LA STA Chair will submit an application form and payment for earned CSMTA STA awards. The LA must cover shipping and handling of awards. LA STA testing MUST be completed in April to be eligible for CSMTA STA awards. Application for awards must be submitted to the state STA Chair no later than May 15, 2020.

4. KITS Exams are not sold between September and March to ensure fairness in testing; however, they may be preordered. Please see KITS website for details. STA students are eligible for KITS certificates and other incentives offered through the KITS program.

5. Every attempt will be made to complete grading of the tests taken at Rising Star festival dates on a timely basis during the festival, with results and appropriate awards made available to teachers at regular intervals, depending on the number of participants. Any tests not completely graded or picked up along with appropriate ribbons and certificates on the festival day will be mailed to the student’s teacher. The State Theory Activity Chair will complete paperwork to submit to KITS.

MASTER CLASS ACTIVITY

Info & forms: www.comusicteachers.net/masterclass
Event date: May 28-30, 2020
Location: St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Highlands Ranch
Application deadline: April 15, 2020
Event chair: Elle Tyler elle.g.tyler@gmail.com

CSMTA provides an opportunity for students to perform in a Master Class at each annual CSMTA State Conference. Check the CSMTA website for updates regarding CSMTA State Conference Master Classes. Line items 2, 4, and 10 on page 4 of this publication need not apply to Master Class Activity at State Conferences.
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MTNA Performance and Composition Competition


Ages: 11-26 (performance), 5-26 (composition), 18-29 (chamber music)

Application deadline: September 11, 2019, 3:00pm Eastern Time (1:00pm MST)

Event dates/locations: Colorado State MTNA Competitions: October 19, 2019, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins

West Central Division video-only round application deadline: Wednesday, December 4, 3:00pm EST

MTNA National Finals: March 21-25, 2020 at the MTNA Conference in Chicago

Event Chair: Prof. Margaret Miller  Margaret.J.Miller@colostate.edu

ATTENTION: NEW THIS YEAR FOR CHAMBER MUSIC

• Applications for Chamber Music String and Chamber Music Wind will be available Wednesday, November 6, 2019.
• Deadline for Chamber Music application and video submissions to Acceptd is Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 3:00pm Eastern Time. There will be no exceptions.
• Age of Chamber Music ensemble members must be 18–29 as of January 1, 2020.

Purpose

The MTNA Student Competitions consist of three rounds: State Competition, Division Competition, and National Finals. Competitions are offered in performance and composition, and are open to members and non-members. Entry deadline is September 11, 2019 at 3:00pm EST for all categories except Chamber Music. Please see the MTNA website for more details: www.mtna.org

Students enter a category by age:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (composition only)</td>
<td>Age 5-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Age 11-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Age 15-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Artist</td>
<td>Age 19-26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chamber
Average age of group: 18-29

Competition Categories:

Composition
Elementary, Junior, Senior, Young Artist

Performance

- String: Junior, Senior, Young Artist
- Piano: Junior, Senior, Young Artist
- Woodwind: Junior, Senior, Young Artist
- Brass: Senior, Young Artist
- Voice: Senior, Young Artist
- Piano Duet (1P/4H): Senior
- Chamber String or Wind (see MTNA guidelines)
Competition Stages:

Round 1: MTNA State Competition - CSMTA
   Each state association is responsible for holding and staffing the first round of competitions. CSMTA holds their MTNA Competition in October or November and volunteers are needed to help with monitoring, registration and hospitality. *This year the CO State MTNA Competition will take place at Colorado State University in Fort Collins on October 19, 2019.*

Round 2: West Central Division Competition (video-only round)

Round 3: National Competition Finals
   One Winner and/or Representative in each category from each Division in the United States competes at the National Finals at MTNA Conference in March. Final winners in each category perform and are announced at the MTNA Conference. *This year the Competition Finals will take place on March 21-25, 2020 at the MTNA Conference in Chicago, IL.*

For complete information about entering student in the competition, refer to the April/May issue of the *American Music Teacher*, and visit the MTNA website: [www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/](http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/). To volunteer at the CSMTA State MTNA Competition, please contact the Colorado MTNA Chair listed in *Notes & News* under Student Activities.

Composer/Period Classification List

CSMTA is no longer printing the entire Composer Classification List in the Student Activities Handbook. To find the most current list please visit: [www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/composer-classifications/](http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/composer-classifications/)

Competition Guidelines

- Performance judges are paid $40 per hour with a minimum of $80.00.
- Composition judges are paid $25 per composition. The State Composition Coordinator is responsible for requisitioning and mailing payment to the Composition Judge(s).
- Judges will not be provided with mileage reimbursement.
- Representatives (single entrant in category) will be offered the opportunity to perform for comments at the MTNA State Competitions.
- Winners and Representatives from the Colorado State MTNA Performance and Composition Competitions will be invited to the MTNA Winners Recital at the CSMTA Annual Conference. The Alternate will be invited to perform if they competed at West Central Division because the Winner was unable to compete.
- $100 will be awarded to each Colorado state winner of the MTNA Competition, to be applied towards their online application and recording submission for the MTNA division competition. The $100 will be awarded to each state winner upon confirmation from MTNA of their submission to the division level of the competition and submission of an invoice to the CSMTA treasurer for incurred expenses for recording services.
- Students who perform at the MTNA National Finals Competition will receive a $200 travel stipend. Each member of Senior Piano Duet and Chamber groups will receive a $200 stipend. Travel stipends are mailed after it is confirmed that they performed at the MTNA National Finals Competition, and may never be sent to the student in advance of the event.
- A Composition winner will receive a $200 travel stipend if they perform at the MTNA Finals. Travel is not required for State Competitions.
- Travel stipends are not paid to students when the Final Competitions are held in Colorado.