



## PMTA KEYSTONE COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Revised 7/16/16

PENNSYLVANIA  
MUSIC TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

### Purpose

- To give students an opportunity to develop creativity, self-expression and better musicianship through the art of composition.

### Classes of Entry

- Elementary – Age 5-10 as of January 1
- Junior – Age 11-14 as of January 1
- Senior – Age 15-18 as of January 1
- Young Artist – Age 19-25 as of January 1

### Student Requirements

- Students must reside in Pennsylvania or study with a teacher with an established studio in Pennsylvania.

### Teacher Requirements

- Teacher must have an established studio in Pennsylvania.
- Participating PMTA teacher's state dues must be paid for the current year BEFORE entering event.
- Non-PMTA teachers must pay a \$50 non-member fee in addition to the student entry fees.

### Composition Requirements

- For all classes, the composition may be in any recognized tonal or atonal style for any instrument or style.
- The following length requirements apply:
  - Elementary & Junior - 16 measures minimum
  - Senior & Young Artist - 32 measures minimum
- Total performance time will not exceed 15 minutes.
- Words used in vocal compositions may be original. The author of the text must be identified. No compositions shall infringe on existing copyrights.
- Ensemble works are limited to a maximum of nine (9) performers.
- Compositions for prepared piano will not be accepted.

### Submission Requirements

- Entrants may submit only pieces that have not been previously submitted for this contest or previously published, recorded or performed for commercial purposes.
- Entrants may submit any number of compositions per event. However, an entry fee must accompany each submission.
- A fully realized score, completely notated by the composer, is required. The manuscript must be in the composer's handwriting or in the form of a computer printout produced by the composer. Illegible copies will not be accepted.
- Manuscripts must be titled on the top of the first page. The compositions must have the title, **the name of the student** (new requirement), and the category (Elementary, Junior, Senior, Young Artist). **The teacher's name must not appear on the manuscript.**
- Manuscripts of more than one page should be numbered.
- Measures of the composition must be numbered at the beginning of each system.
- Students may include a brief description, narrative or explanation of the composition (less than 50 words) at the end of the manuscript (must be included within the PDF file).
- No change may be made to the manuscript once it has been submitted with the application.
- No tape-recorded entries will be accepted.
- Students submit completed compositions to their teacher. It is the teacher's responsibility to forward the compositions as PDF attachments to the composition chair's address below. Teachers should submit one check, *payable to PMTA*, for the total of all entries and fees along with the entry forms.
- Compositions must be received by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications and the entry fees should be postmarked **NO LATER THAN March 31, 2017.**

- **Entry fees are \$25 per entry for students of PMTA teachers, \$45 per entry for students of non-PMTA teachers. Entry fees are non-refundable.**
- Any submission that does not meet the submission requirements will be disqualified.

### **Awards**

- Awards in each category are:
- Elementary & Junior:
  - First Place \$75
  - Second Place \$50
  - Third Place \$40
  - Honorable Mention
- Senior & Young Artist:
  - First Place \$100
  - Second Place \$75
  - Third Place \$50
  - Honorable Mention
- Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the judges in collaboration with the committee.
- Awards may be suspended if, in the final opinions of the judges, none of the entries submitted warrants commendation.

### **Performance Requirements**

- Winners will be invited to perform their composition in one of the fall DSPF Showcase Recitals. Performance is not a requirement of winning.
- Register online on the PMTA website during the Showcase registration window of October 1- October 14.
- If performed in recital, the composition must be performed on the instruments for which it was written.
- It is the composer's responsibility to provide the appropriate instrumentation for the performance of his/her winning composition.
- Teachers may perform a student's composition.

### **Judging Procedures**

- Compositions are blind judged on originality; form and style; correct, well-edited notation including marks of expression, tempo, phrasing and dynamics.
- Judges' comments will be returned to the teacher as PDF files or Word documents.
- Competition results should be available on or before May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Send compositions as PDF files to:** [CompositionCompetitionsChair@pamusicteachers.org](mailto:CompositionCompetitionsChair@pamusicteachers.org)

**Send entry fees, non-PMTA teacher fees (payable to PMTA) and applications to:**

### **PMTA KEYSTONE COMPOSITION COMPETITION CHAIR**

Warren Magid  
 2210 Landon Lane  
 York, PA 17403  
 717.347.7825



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**TO THE STUDENT:** If you are entering more than one composition, complete and send a separate form and entry fee for each. **Please make checks payable to your teacher and submit to your teacher so that all student entries can be forwarded in one mailing and with one check by the teacher.**

TEACHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher is \_\_\_\_\_ PMTA member \_\_\_\_\_ non-PMTA member (teacher to include non-member fee of \$50 with entry fees)

Mailing address (teacher): \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State **PA** Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRANT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of January 1: \_\_\_\_\_ School Grade/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

## Composition Information

Class of Entry (circle one): Elementary Junior Senior Young Artist

Title of Composition: \_\_\_\_\_

Composition written for what instrument(s) / voice(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Author of text (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

*I have fully read and understand the guidelines and requirements of this contest.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent if student is under 18 years of age

*Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association  
An affiliate of Music Teachers National Association  
PMTA is a 501c3 non-profit association*

### **TO THE TEACHER:**

Submit one check, *payable to* PMTA, for the total of all entries and fees along with the entry forms. Mail applications and fees to the Chair **NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2017: ENVELOPES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 31** to be accepted. All PDF manuscripts must be sent by midnight March 31<sup>st</sup> to:

[CompositionCompetitionsChair@pamusicteachers.org](mailto:CompositionCompetitionsChair@pamusicteachers.org)