

Southern California
Junior Bach Festival

Teacher Guidelines for SCJBF Branch Keyboard (Piano) Festivals

ELIGIBILITY

Teachers present their students in one SCJBF Branch Keyboard (Piano) Festival of their choice based on location. Teachers will pay an Annual Teacher Participation Fee when registering students online.

- A Teacher may register students in **any** SCJBF Keyboard (Piano) Branch but may only join **one** Branch.
- Thus, **all** students of a Teacher must participate in the **same** Branch.

Students must be under age 19 on April 1 of the festival year subject to the following exceptions: Organists must be under age 22 on April 1; Vocalists must be under age 25. A teacher may not present any students as one's own until after an enrollment of 6 months unless the current teacher provides written consent from the former teacher. Students may play more than one instrument but may appear only once on each instrument at any Branch or Regional Festival.

REPERTOIRE

At the Branch level, students may play any original music of J. S. Bach or transcriptions of Bach's music. However, to be eligible for selection to perform at Regional Festival, the following exceptions must be kept in mind:

1. No music from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook, ANH 113–132
2. No transcriptions other than those made by J. S. Bach himself from his own works

The above exceptions may be used at the Branch level. They are unacceptable only for the Regional Festival.

- **Please find SCJBF Repertoire Lists at:** <https://scjbf.org/repertoire-lists/>
 - Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook (BWV ANH) works are allowed at the Branch Festival level, but students performing these pieces may only receive Honorable Mention Awards. They are not eligible to be selected as Branch Winners and may **not** compete at the Regional Festival or Complete Works Audition.
- Non-Piano **Instrumentalists** (organ, harpsichord, flute, oboe, violin, viola, cello) and **Vocalists** may participate at SCJBF Bach Keyboard (Piano) Branch Festivals.
 - Students are **not** eligible to be selected as Branch Winners but may receive Honorable Mention Awards.
 - We encourage Non-Piano **Instrumentalists** and **Vocalists** to participate in their respective Regional Festivals, where Winners advance to the Complete Works Audition.
- SCJBF Keyboard (Piano) Branch Festivals are capped at 100 students.
 - Once a Branch Festival closes, students of Teachers already registered in a Branch will be scheduled in an **alternate** Branch in the **same** Region.
 - Teachers **not** already registered in the **closed** Branch will need to select an **alternate** Branch in their preferred Region, space permitting.
- SCJBF Keyboard (Piano) Branch Festivals are **Qualifying Auditions**.
 - Judges will select all students with eligible repertoire who meet the standard to proceed to the Regional Festival level; there is **no** minimum or maximum percentage of students selected.

Music need not be limited to the Complete Works Audition Official List of Bach's works to be eligible for Regional Festival. The only exceptions for Regional are listed above. Music from the current Official List is required **only at Complete Works Audition**. Multiple pieces must be from the same work or as categorized on the CWA list. For example, two Inventions may be performed, but an Invention and a Short Prelude would not be eligible.

- Students and teachers are responsible for knowing and following all **Rules and Guidelines**.
- **Please find SCJBF Keyboard (Piano) Branch Festival Rules & Guidelines at:** <https://scjbf.org/rules-guidelines/>

THE FESTIVAL EVENTS

Separate SCJBF Student Registration Fees are collected at the Branch, Regional, and Complete Works Audition levels.

Branch Festival: Students are presented in short recitals of approximately 1 hour in length. A panel of not fewer than three (3) judges, selected from an approved list of adjudicators, will write evaluations of each performer. Teachers will receive the evaluation sheets. Judges will select all students who perform eligible repertoire and are qualified for selection according to SCJBF's scoring guidelines to an SCJBF Regional Festival. The length of each student's performance shall be limited to 5 minutes. Multiple pieces must be from the same work or as categorized on the CWA list. Students of strings, organ, harpsichord, woodwinds and voice will audition in an All-Branch Regional Festival.

Regional Festival: Students perform again in recitals with students from other branches that have been selected. A panel of three (3) judges will evaluate each student and will select 45% to receive a special award. The length of each student's performance shall again be limited to 5 minutes and the student must perform **exactly the same music as played at the Branch Festival**. All participants will receive awards with special awards going to those selected by the judges.

Complete Works Audition: This highly competitive adjudication is for students who have been selected in the top 45% at the Regional Festival and are presenting eligible repertoire for CWA. These students perform a complete work from the Official List of Bach's works selected for Audition. The Official CWA Repertoire List is a 3-year rotating list which may be found at <https://scjbf.org/repertoire-lists/>.

The purpose of the Official List is to encourage the study and performance of the many works of J. S. Bach, so that over a period of three years, a wide selection of Bach's compositions for solo instruments will have been heard at the Festivals, while also welcoming works for ensembles and voice.

To be eligible for Complete Works Audition, a student must have been chosen by the judges at the Branch and Regional Festivals. Students must perform the **same music as played in Branch and Regional** for Complete Works Audition, **but complete** as shown on the Official List. Those selected for first place in each category will be presented in a special Awards Program, and students selected for first, second and third must be present to receive their medals.

Please note: **No special scheduling requests will be accepted** for the day of the Complete Works Auditions. Scheduling of these programs and judges is a highly complex procedure that simply does not lend itself to exceptions for individual students. Students who cannot appear at the scheduled time will be withdrawn from Complete Works Audition.

CWA Strings, Winds & Voice students must submit their CWA repertoire (additional movements) with accurate timings by August 15th. CWA Keyboard Students in *Category I - Short Preludes & Fugues* and *Category IV – Duets*, must submit their additional piece by August 15th.

SCJBF CWA Awards Concert: This special program will take place in October. It will feature first-place winners of the Complete Works Audition.