

2018 SPPTA Concerto Competition

The SPPTA Concerto Competition provides students of SPPTA members with an opportunity to prepare a piano concerto movement, perform it with accompaniment, and receive feedback from the judges for the student's continued musical growth. Contestants also compete for cash prizes and the ability to perform their prepared concerto movement in concert with the Mississippi Valley Orchestra.

Awards from the Scholarship Fund:

1st Place - \$250 and Concert Soloist

2nd Place - \$150

3rd Place - \$100

The guidelines and registration form, as well as a list of suggested concerto repertoire are available at the SPPTA website (www.sppta.org) under the "Programs for Students" tab, Concerto Competition.

Registration, and the related fee of \$50 per student, will be accepted between September 1st and October 15th, 2018. This fee is waived for Music Link students, when the teacher's ID is noted on the registration form.

Location: Brooklyn Center Schmitt Music Auditorium, 2400 Freeway Blvd., Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Competition Preliminaries: Saturday, December 1st, 2018 from 10:00am-5:00pm

Competition Finals: Saturday, December 1st, 2018 from 7:30pm-9:30pm. Doors will open at 7:15pm.

Winner in Concert with the Mississippi Valley Orchestra

3:00pm, Sunday, May 5th, 2019 at Augustana Lutheran Church in West St. Paul

Finalists' Performance Opportunity:

Students placing 2nd-6th in the finals are invited to perform their concerto movement with their accompanist for the SPPTA meeting on Tuesday, January 8th, 2019, from 10:15am-11:30am
Location to be determined.

Contributions to the program: Contributions and Memorials can be made to the Honors and Awards Fund. All gifts are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to SPPTA.

Concerto Competition Rules and Regulations:

1. Registration limits The SPPTA Concerto Competition accommodates up to thirty-two students. Any registrations received beyond this amount will be placed in a lottery to establish alternates in the case of cancellations. Teachers with more than one student in the lottery will have the opportunity to rank them. Registration forms must be postmarked by October 15th to be accepted.

2. Fee. \$50 per student. Checks must be written by the teacher and payable to SPPTA. This fee is waived for MusicLink students when the teacher's ID is noted on the registration form. Refunds are given only if students are unable to participate due to program capacity.

3. Eligibility. This competition is open to any student through grade 12, whose teacher is a current SPPTA member, and has been their primary teacher for at least 8 months. That teacher must complete and sign the registration form and take care of all the details. While a student who has won the competition can continue to participate to receive the judges' critiques in subsequent years, he/she cannot be awarded 1st place again.

4. Repertoire. Teachers may choose any concerto. Some suggestions are provided online at the SPPTA website, www.sppta.org. A full movement must be prepared. Please note that each time a student participates in the competition, a different movement or concerto must be performed. Concerto

selections cannot be changed after the registration deadline. The judges can stop and start students at appropriate places in the music, keeping within the time frame, so that the cadenza and other important parts of the movement are heard.

5. Time Limits. A student's performance time at the preliminary auditions may not exceed ten (10) minutes and should be one (1) movement, except as noted on the suggested concerto list. The teacher should make and clearly mark all appropriate cuts in the *tutti* to allow the student to play as much of the movement as possible, allowing time for the entire cadenza to be heard. *Finalists may expand their playing time to no more than twelve (12) minutes including tutti.* Each student must play the same movement for the final auditions as was played for the preliminaries.

6. Finalists' Concert. At the judges' discretion, a maximum of six (6) students will be chosen to play in the final auditions. A winner may or may not be chosen.

7. First-Place Winner. The first-place winner must be available to rehearse and perform with the Mississippi Valley Orchestra. Once a student has won, he/she may not be awarded 1st place again in subsequent years, even if he/she was unable to perform with the orchestra when selected.

8. Accompanist. A student must provide his/her own accompanist.

9. Music for Judge. Each student must provide clean, non-photocopied music for the judge. Printed public domain pieces are acceptable. Make sure pencil marks are erased, and measures are neatly numbered. Mark all cuts clearly (sticky notes, paper clips, etc.) to ensure the judges can easily follow the performance.

10. Cadenzas. Cadenzas may be photocopied with all measures numbered.

11. Contestant Minimum. In case of low registration numbers, the program may not be offered.

12. Audition Format. All auditions must be done in person, on the date of the competition. No other form of performance submission will be accepted.

13. Open to the Public. Both preliminary and final auditions are open to the public, and all participants are encouraged to attend the finalists' evening auditions.

14. Videotaping. No videotaping of any kind is allowed at the competition.

15. Communication with the Judges. No student, parent, or teacher may communicate with the judges at any time. If you have any questions or concerns about the event, please speak with the concerto competition coordinator. No one is allowed to discuss performance details with the judges, and the decision of the judges is final.

16. Disqualification. Please review these guidelines well, and discuss them with your students, as infractions of these rules will result in disqualification.

2018 SPPTA Concerto Competition Registration Form

This year's Concerto Competition will be held on Saturday, December 1st, 2018. Both the preliminary and final auditions will be held at the *Brooklyn Center Schmitt Music Auditorium* at 2400 Freeway Blvd, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430. Thank you for your participation - we will accommodate your scheduling requests whenever possible. Please read the attached rules carefully and completely, as infractions will result in disqualification from the competition.

NEW THIS YEAR: Register and pay online at the SPPTA website, www.sppta.org, or via mail

Registrations accepted September 1st – October 15th, 2018. Mail registration forms to:
Beverly Olson, Attn: Concerto Competition, 1017 Glen Paul Court, Shoreview, MN 55126
She can be reached at Bev@BenchandBow.com and (651) 341-0353 if you have questions.

Checklist for enclosures:

- ___ Completed registration form for each student
- ___ \$50 registration per student paid by the teacher. Check payable to SPPTA (Free with MusicLink teacher ID)
- ___ A self-addressed, stamped envelope for your student(s)'s competition critiques (1-2 entries=1 stamp; 3-4 =2 stamps)

Documents regarding scheduled playing times and confirmation letters will be sent via email unless otherwise requested.

2018 SPPTA Piano Concerto Competition

Student Number _____
(Office use only)

Contestant Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Concerto Number and Mvmt. _____ Composer _____

Preliminary audition time length _____ Final Audition time length _____
(Exact timing - not to exceed 10 minutes) (Exact timing -12 minutes or less including tutti)

Teacher _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Music Link Teacher ID # _____ (if registering a Music Link student)

Time Preference: Morning _____, Afternoon _____, Either _____, Notes: _____

Accompanist _____ Accompanist Email _____

Please read and sign: "I confirm that I am the primary piano teacher for the above-named contestant and have been for at least the last eight months. I have verified that he/she has not performed this concerto movement previously at an SPPTA Concerto Competition. I confirm that I am a current member of SPPTA."

Teacher Signature _____
(Must be signed and submitted by teacher only.)

DATES TO SAVE

**Finalists' Performance at SPPTA Meeting
Orchestra**

Tuesday, January 8th, 2019, 10:15am-11:30am
Location: To be announced

Winner's Concert with Mississippi Valley

Sunday, May 5th, 2019 at 3:00pm
Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul