

**Music Teachers' Association of California
SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**

**Piano Competition Guidelines
2011-2012**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the MTAC-SF Piano Competition is to promote excellence in different stages of piano study. The winners are to share their talents and artistic ability with the general public in the competition recital.

ELIGIBILITY

- Any piano student attending **Grades K-12** who has studied with an MTAC-SF teacher in good standing for at least six months and meets the repertoire requirement may compete. There is no other age limit for any of the categories.
- Previous First place winners are not eligible to enter the same category, but may go on to the next level of competition.
- Between **September 18, 2011 and April 15, 2012**, the student must have played in at least one MTAC branch recital, the Certificate of Merit Branch Honors Recital or in the Master Class organized by the MTAC-SF to be eligible.
- A teacher sending in students must also have been an active or provisional member of MTAC-SF in good standing for at least six months prior to the event. Each teacher may enter as many students as he/she deemed qualified.

REPERTOIRE

- Applicants must perform three works selected from three different periods.
Note: The Romantic and Late/Impressionist periods are considered one.
- Only published solo works are allowed in this competition. Entries of popular tunes, arrangements of any kind, method book pieces or ensemble pieces are not allowed.
- Students in the elementary and intermediate levels will be given no more than a 10-minute audition time, while early advanced and young artist levels will have no more than a 15-minute audition.
- All works must be performed from memory.
- The judges reserve the right to interrupt a performance at any time to hear other excerpts of the work being performed.

CATEGORIES – a Category may be eliminated if fewer than 2 students apply.

Elementary (corresponds to Certificate of Merit levels 1-4)

Intermediate (CM levels 5-7)

Early Advanced (CM levels 8-9)

Young Artist (CM level Advanced)

- The common teaching repertoire list for the competition is available upon your request, which can be used as a guide only. Teachers may choose any piece of similar level for their students. The list is available at http://www.mtac-sf.org/competition_repertoire.htm.
- The Piano Competition Committee reserves the right to determine whether the choice of repertoire is appropriate for the category entered. The decision of the committee is final. Feel free to phone with any questions or concerns about categories to the Chairperson for the program, **Heather Carothers (415) 238-7714 or heather_carothers@yahoo.com**

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Application for this competition is available at MTAC San Francisco Branch website: www.mtac-sf.org/branch_program.
- Fill out the application legibly and return it along with a non-refundable entry fee of \$40.00 (payable to MTAC/SF) postmarked on or before **March 24, 2012**
- The repertoires can not be changed after the application is submitted. A student who performs different piece from the application will not be chosen as a winner.
- First time applicants are especially encouraged.

DAY OF COMPETITION

- Date of the competition: **Sunday, April 22, 2012.**
- Location: **The Home of Maya Gorodetsky 1238 39TH Ave, San Francisco CA 94122**
- The exact time of your audition schedule will be sent out to teachers before the competition date.
- The competition is closed to the public. Teachers or parents wishing to hear the students play must do so quietly through the door.
- Students are to dress according to the dress code of any MTAC recital. Therefore, jeans, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or athletic shoes are not allowed.
- Students have to bring the original scores (no photocopies) of their music to the competition. The music will be returned afterwards. It is the teacher's responsibility to be sure that no identification of any kind (either name of student or teacher) appears in the scores. Failure to comply with any of these rules could disqualify the student.

PROCESS OF JUDGING

- A panel of two judges will be selected from a pool of Bay Area pianists who are not MTAC-SF members. They have been instructed to base their decision on technique, interpretation, style, and individuality.
- The judges reserve the right not to award any of the prizes. Only one winner will be selected in each prize.
- All judges' decisions are final.

RESULTS

- Teachers of winners will be notified by phone the evening of the competition. The results will also be announced in the following newsletter.
- The comments from the judges will be mailed to the applicants.
- Students awarded a prize must perform the winner's concert (**Sunday, April 29, 2012**), or **the prize will be forfeited.**

PRIZES

Category I - Elementary:	1 st prize - \$100.00	2 nd prize - \$75.00
Category II - Intermediate:	1 st prize - \$150.00	2 nd prize - \$125.00
Category III - Early Advanced:	1 st prize - \$200.00	2 nd prize - \$175.00
Category IV - Young Artists:	1 st prize - \$250.00	2 nd prize - \$225.00

Heather Carothers, Program Chair; Jonathan Mann, Heidi Hau, The piano competition committee.