2026 MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL: Short Program Competition
Dates: October 22 – October 24
Location: University of Montana, Missoula, Montana
Application and Fee Deadline: Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Entry Forms are available for download on www.msmta.com (click on Fall Festival or Student Activities) and must be mailed to the Fall Festival Coordinator; there will be no online application available.

Students who are entered in the MTNA competition may not be entered in the Fall Festival competition in the same category (such as Short Program Piano Solo in MSMTA Fall Festival and Piano Solo in MTNA).

A student may enter both the Single-Piece Category and the Short Program Category in the Fall Festival but may not play the same selection in both categories.

Once an application has been submitted and the application entry deadline has passed, repertoire choices may not be changed. The selections to be performed must be what are listed on the application. Contestants may choose the performance order of their programs.

The Fall Festival may be entered for comments only or for competition. Judges' decisions are final.

Program Requirements for All Entry Categories

I. SOLO

A. Elementary: Ages 9 – 12* as of January 1, 2027

*** The teacher may elect to enter a 12-year-old student in either the Elementary Division or the Junior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

- Maximum performance time: 10 minutes
- Open to all instrumentalists; **no voice**

1. Pianists:
    a. Memorization is required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) pieces from contrasting style periods; **quality** pedagogical material is encouraged (See "Repertoire Selection Guidelines")
2. Instrumentalists:
    a. Memorization is not required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) selections representing contrasting style periods

B. Junior: Ages 12* – 15 as of January 1, 2027**

**** The teacher may elect to enter a 15-year-old student in either the Junior Division or the Senior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

- Maximum performance time: 15 minutes
- Open to all instrumentalists and vocalists

1. Pianists:
    a. Memorization is required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) works from contrasting style periods of the following:
        (1) Baroque
        (2) Classical (including Beethoven)
        (3) Romantic
        (4) Contemporary (including Impressionism)
        (5) Educational Composers

2. Vocalists:
    a. Memorization is required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must be made up of three art songs (one non-English and two English)
    c. Include the name of any identifying work from which a song is taken
    d. Difficult arias are discouraged
3. Instrumentalists:
    a. Memorization is not required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) selections representing contrasting style periods

C. Senior: Ages 15 – 19 as of January 1, 2027**

**** The teacher may elect to enter a 15-year-old student in either the Junior Division or the Senior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

- Maximum performance time: 20 minutes
- Open to all instrumentalists and vocalists

1. Pianists:
    a. Memorization is required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least three (3) works from contrasting style periods of the following:
        (1) Baroque
        (2) Classical (including Beethoven)
        (3) Romantic
        (4) Contemporary (including Impressionism)
        (5) Educational Composers
2. Vocalists:
    a. Memorization is required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program should include four (4) selections (two non-English art songs, one English art song, and one song of the entrant's choice)
    c. Include the name of any identifying work from which a song is taken
    d. Difficult arias are discouraged
3. Instrumentalists:
    a. Memorization is not required
    b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) selections representing contrasting style periods

II. PIANO DUET

All Levels (Age classifications are the same as for Solo *Elementary, Junior* and *Senior*)

1. Students must be able to perform on **ONE PIANO**
2. Music **does not have to be memorized**
3. Repertoire requirement: Same as listed for solos (Also see "Repertoire Selection Guidelines")
4. Students entering the duet competition may also enter the solo competition in Fall Festival
5. Teachers may jointly enter a duet team
6. Page turners are allowed

TEACHERS, PLEASE NOTE:

- **If your student has won the MSMTA (state) Fall Festival in a previous year, he/she cannot compete a subsequent year in the same category or age division. Options are to perform "For Comments Only" or to enter the MTNA (national) competition.**
- **If your student has won MTNA in a previous year but wants to perform in Fall Festival, he/she may only perform "For Comments Only" in the same category or age division.**
- **The teacher is responsible for correctly selecting classifications and music. The teacher is responsible for complying with the above directives and meeting all deadlines.**

REPERTOIRE SELECTION GUIDELINES

Only commercially published works are permitted, and the score must be provided for the adjudicator. Jane Magrath's *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance* is an excellent resource for repertoire selection and level of difficulty. Entrants may use legally-produced scores from vendors such as CD Sheet Music, provided the letter of permission that accompanies this music is included. Music downloaded from the Internet (music in the public domain) may be used; however, the teacher should be certain that such music is an original edition and not an arrangement or transcription. No photocopied music is allowed unless accompanied by written permission from the publisher, stating that the selection is out of print.

No arrangements, abridgements or transcriptions may be used. Hymns, American folk songs, and "pop" songs (from radio, TV, movies, videos, etc.) are not acceptable. Songs from method books (such as Lesson, Theory, Technic, Top Hits Solos) are not acceptable. Quality pedagogical material (recital or performance pieces) by composers such as Dennis Alexander, Melody Bober, Jennifer Linn, Eugenie Rocherolle, Catherine Rollin, and other similar contemporary composers may be used.

Fall Festival Fees for Short Program (No Refunds)

Students:

Elementary - $35
Junior - $40
Senior - $45
Piano Duet - $40 (per team)

Teachers:

_ MSMTA Member ** registered for Conference - $0
_ MSMTA Member ** not registered for Conference - $20
_ Non-Member not registered for Conference - $40
_ Subsequent Student - $0 (Teacher fee is paid only once, with the first student's application.)
** MSMTA Membership dues must be paid by 10/1/26.

Send entry forms and fees (checks payable to MSMTA) postmarked no later than Sept. 30, 2026 to:

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