

**TEXAS MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
STUDENT AFFILIATE PERFORMANCE CONTESTS**

**GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES of LOCAL CONTESTS**

The following guidelines have been developed by the TMTA Board and should be followed in this TMTA-SA Contest. Please direct any questions to the Chairman of the Local Contest or the State Performance Contest Coordinator.

1) The goal of these Contests is to name winners to represent the Local Association at the State Semi-Finals Contest. This includes the Piano, Young Artist, Vocal, Organ, and Instrumental Contests. Honorable mention designation is permitted. No ties are permitted. Any or all of the awards in the Local SA Performance Contest may be withheld.

2) In the Solo Contest, the contestant selects the first piece. If there are two or more pieces, judges choose the remainder of the program. Piano Concerto participants in Grades 9-12 present a movement of a work for piano and orchestra. All repertoire listed on entry forms must be heard in Local Contests.

3) Judges will not engage in any conversation with teachers, students, or parents before or during the competition. All comments and decisions concerning the contests are confidential and should not be discussed. Contestants will be identified by number only.

4) Each piano contestant is allowed a one minute warm-up on the contest room piano but must not play any passages from his or her program.

5) An official timekeeper will record the time of the program, stopping the watch between pieces. Each piece must be heard in its entirety at the local level.

6) You will be given a critique sheet for each student. Please write comments for each selection. Because these are returned to the contestant, do not put any ranking numbers or indicate your choice of winners on these sheets.

**At the State Contest: Time Limits for Grades 7-12**

**Solos** – 10 minutes. If the repertoire selected is longer than 10 minutes, the student will be stopped and started at a major section so that the end of a selection or even another piece may be heard. However, they are allowed the full 10 minutes to perform. Grades 9-10, 11-12 in the Orchestral Instruments contest have a 15 minute time limit. Entrants who exceed this requirement will be stopped but not disqualified.

**Piano Concerto for Grades 9-12** – No time limit but are scheduled every 20 minutes. The student may be stopped after 15 minutes to keep the contest on schedule.

**Young Artist Solos** – Not less than 15, nor more than 25 minutes. Entrants whose auditions are less than 15 minute minimum will be disqualified; those exceeding the 15 minutes will be stopped but not disqualified.

*Please accept our deepest gratitude for serving as an adjudicator in the Texas Music Teachers Student Affiliate Performance Contests. Your contribution and your services are appreciated.*