

**2023-2024 STUDENT COMPOSITION COMPETITION  
APPLICATION AND RULES**

**Due: Post-marked by March 15, 2024.**

**Fee: \$10.00 (Non-refundable) Checks payable to PPTA.**

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Years studying piano \_\_\_\_\_

Divisions (Check one):

Primary (Grades 1, 2, 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Elementary (Grades 4, 5, 6) \_\_\_\_\_

Junior (Grades 7, 8, 9) \_\_\_\_\_

Senior (Grades 10, 11, 12) \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Composition \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*"I have screened this composition and have checked that the student has followed the rules".

Teacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*"I testify that this composition is wholly my own creation, that I have not taken any musical material from any other sources, and that I have not received aid in writing this composition other than minimal instruction from my teacher as allowed by the rules of this competition".

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this completed form, compositions, and fees of \$10.00 each, payable to PPTA, to Arnel Montgomery 6040 Poketa Road, Verona PA 15147.**

Teachers of winners will be notified by email as soon as possible. If you do not have email, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and the results will be mailed to you the following day.

All Competition awards will be made at the discretion of the judge(s). The judge(s)' decision is final and may not be challenged by teacher, parent or guardian, or entrants.

**Awards:**

	Primary	Elementary	Junior	Senior
1st	\$30	\$30	\$40	\$50
2nd	\$20	\$20	\$30	\$40

**Measure Minimums:**

Primary-8 m  
Elementary-16 m  
Junior-16 m  
Senior-32 m

***Chairperson:*** Arnel Montgomery

***Email:*** [ilovethepiano2003@yahoo.com](mailto:ilovethepiano2003@yahoo.com)

***Address:*** 6040 Poketa Road  
Verona PA 15147

***Phone:*** Cell: 412-860-7093  
Home: 412-795-7947

## ***RULES***

### ***Please keep in mind the following rules:***

1. Computer printed music is acceptable.
2. The composition **MUST** be written/printed on a standard grand staff using generally accepted musical notation, but may extend to avant garde notational elements within the piece providing that they are carefully and clearly explained in footnotes or with text in the score.
3. The student should submit 3 copies of his/her composition, the original and 2 copies. This is so that the judge may write comments on the duplicate and one copy may be kept on file. If less than three copies are submitted, the original may be returned marked and if only one copy is submitted the submission will not be considered. Write **COPY** (in red) across the top of the copies. Measures must be numbered at the beginning of each line on all copies.
4. The title and the student's age should appear on the original and the copies. The composer's name should not appear on the original or copies.
5. Tapes and recordings of compositions will not be accepted.
6. Any measures repeated as a result of a repeat sign will count only once towards the minimum requirement above.
7. Only one composition per student is allowed.
8. There is no limit on submissions per division per teacher.
9. Compositions that quote themes from other sources or that are a "theme and variations" based on a theme by another composer are not acceptable.
10. The student must sign the following pledge on the application:  
  
"I testify that this composition is wholly my own creation, that I have not taken any musical material from any other sources, and that I have not received aid in writing this composition other than minimal instruction from my teacher as allowed by the rules of this competition."
11. A teacher must be a member of the PPTA for at least 6 months prior to entering students in any PPTA sponsored competitions. The teacher must be the one who worked with the student on the composition.
12. Compositions and/or students which are found to have violated any of the rules of the competition and/or the policies of the PPTA, even after an award has been given, may be disqualified, and reward monies revoked. In addition, the PPTA Board may take further action should it deem it to be in the best interest of the organization.
13. Awards of Honorable Mention may be given only if the judge feels an entry qualifies for such recognition.

14. No changes may be made once the composition is submitted.
15. All winners are expected to perform their compositions at the PPTA May general meeting.
16. Before submitting your composition, be sure each of the following points have been correctly addressed:
- clef signs
  - bar lines/double bar lines
  - time signature(s) especially 6/8 time
  - correct number of beats in each measure
  - key signature(s)
  - proper direction of stems
  - tempo indication
  - articulation indications (slurs, staccato) if appropriate
  - dynamic markings, including other indications of expression
  - composition title
  - treble and bass clef notes properly aligned (vertically)
  - legible writing
  - any extension of avant garde notation (See Rule 2 above.)
17. All competition prizes and awards will be awarded at the discretion of the judge(s).
18. Judges' decisions are final and may not be challenged by teachers, entrants, parents or guardians.
19. Teacher or student interaction with the judges or chairperson regarding the results of the competition is prohibited.

***For Teachers: Please refer again to Rule #10, and pay special attention to your students' compositions. The phrase "wholly my own creation" is at the heart of this competition, and must be taken seriously, both literally and figuratively.***