

Ribbon Festival, November 7, 2020, Yakima Covenant Church, 6015 Summitview Avenue. Composer: Beethoven

Information for 2020, with special considerations related to the Covid 19 Pandemic:

Though things could change, we are currently planning on having the Ribbon Festival on Saturday, November 7, at Yakima Covenant. But things will be different than in previous years. Since we don't know what the county's guidelines will be then regarding Covid 19, we are structuring the Festival a bit differently. Individual teachers will do their own theory and ear training testing during lessons, and will have ribbons to distribute to qualifying students. At the Festival itself, students will do all of their playing (solo, ensemble, hymn, sight reading and technique) in the same room/class time, with smaller groupings and time for sanitization between families. The teachers in the two performance rooms will hand out ribbons to qualifying students to avoid congestion at the registration desk. Whereas in the past, we have encouraged students to stay and listen to others, this year we will be asking students and their families to vacate the building as soon as they are finished.

There is always the possibility that we will not be able to use the venue, in which case we will have each teacher run their own Festival on their own schedule. It is tempting to simply give up the thought of running a Festival this year, but it is a very important event in growing students' overall musicality, as well as helping fund the scholarships that our organization gives each year.

As noted on the registration form, the deadline for delivery of registration materials (Teacher Registration Form, Fees, and signed Permission Slips) is **October 10, Noon**. You'll find delivery instructions on the Teacher Registration Form. One check per studio, payable to WSMTA.

October 26 Teachers will receive schedule with info to fill in on the cards for their students.

Weeks of October 26 and November 1: Teachers fill out cards and give schedules to students. Remind students to arrive about 15 minutes earlier than their first event to get registered.

In filling out the **Registration form**, here are some things you can do to help us: Print legibly! Make sure your name, e-mail address and phone number are at the top of the form. Make one check for your whole studio payable to WSMTA so we don't have to deposit 100 checks! Put an X in events that students are not doing. Give us **accurate** timings on the duration of your students' solos, ensembles and hymns, including 15 to 30 seconds for the approach, announcement, and bow. Tally how many students you have in each event, as well as each level for Sight Reading, Metronome, Ear Training and Theory, and how many "special" ribbons you'll need for non-student ensemble partners. Before you deliver your Registration form, check it over to be sure you gave us all the information asked for. **TURN THEM IN ON TIME!**

We will give consideration, but no guarantees, to students who request a specific time of day. Such requests should be clearly noted on a separate sheet of paper, labeled with the teacher's name, and delivered with the registration materials.

Think about your students' experience when deciding whether they should participate in an event. For example, if they do not typically memorize well, it might be good to not sign them up for a solo. Every student does not need to do every event. We want them to be successful and have fun!

Regarding cards: You are given an image of the card with your registration packet. Some teachers like to use the card format for planning who will participate in which events. Please photocopy the image onto card stock so that each student will have a card. (If you cannot make the copies, please contact the chair of the event, who will make cards for your students). You will fill in their cards with their class time, levels, titles, composers, etc., when you receive your students' schedules approximately two weeks before the Ribbon Festival. Though students will be either in their teacher's studio (for the Ear Training and Theory tests) or in a single room for the Festival events, the card will still be a useful tool to keep track of things.

Thanks for your attention to these details! You'll make our job a lot easier if we don't have to track down answers.