

Greetings Teachers,

Please read over this email in its entirety, as there are **changes this year** for our Ribbon Festival.

This year's Ribbon Festival will be on **November 15, 2025 at Westside Church**—6901 Summitview Ave, Yakima. Composers for this year are **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** and **Lin-Manuel Miranda**. All registration forms & payments will be due the night of **October 15th**.

Since we are holding the festival in a new location, a map is attached to this email which you can print double-sided and give to students. A “map key” is also attached, explaining which events are held where. There are 2 keys per page. Cut the page in half and staple 1 key to each student’s map.

Additionally, we have **updated the Ribbon Festival Guidelines and created a one-page double-sided flyer** of the event that you could give to families. Both of these are attached.

Here's a quick summary of the registration process, with details to follow below.

Step 1: Teacher fills out registration form (separate form for each student)

here: <https://tinyurl.com/25YakimaRibbonFestival>

Step 2: Teacher sends payment to treasurer, Nicole Blair: 606 Cascade Ave, Moxee, WA 98936

Step 3: Teacher gives student cards to committee member

Step 4: Sign up to volunteer or give names of volunteers

Step 1--REGISTRATION FORM

This year’s registration form is electronic again. You will fill out a **separate google form for each of your students participating** in the Ribbon

Festival. <https://tinyurl.com/25YakimaRibbonFestival> You will need to know ALL the information about what your student is participating in before filling out the form (i.e. which events, levels, length of pieces, are they doing a project, etc.) Attached to this email is the "Events Guidelines" document that summarizes each event, level, etc. Note that you no longer need to select a level/time for technique. All students have a MAXIMUM of 2 minutes.

***You do not need to collect permission slips from parents or have them fill out an electronic permission slip in advance of the festival. Make sure your families know that a **parent/guardian MUST be present with the students at the festival and that they will sign a permission slip/insurance waiver when they check in** at the event.

Step 2--PAYMENT

The participation fee is **\$20 per student**. Teachers are responsible for collecting this fee from families and then sending **ONE studio check written out to Yakima-Ellensburg**

WSMTA to our treasurer, Nichole Blair. You may mail or hand deliver this check to Nichole at 606 Cascade Ave, Moxee, WA 98936.

*Please note-- There is an additional \$25 fee for a teacher who is not a member of the WSMTA to send students to the Ribbon Festival

Step 3--CARDS

Attached is the file "**Cards_25**" that teachers will need to print on **CARDSTOCK** and fill out for each student. ***Do not use previously printed cards, as the cards are different this year reflecting our new location. Room numbers are filled in on the cards. If there are 2 options, circle the room your student is assigned. Teachers need to give these cards to a committee member (Sarah Thompson, Molly Fleming, or LaSarah Montgomery) in advance of the Ribbon Festival or **bring them the morning of the festival by 8:30 am**. When students arrive at the registration desk that morning they will get their cards and use them throughout the day to get their events signed off.

Step 4--VOLUNTEERS:

Our Ribbon Festival takes a LOT of volunteers. Adults and/or teens 14+ can volunteer. Please send LaSarah Montgomery names, phone numbers & emails of anyone who can volunteer as well as the time of day they are available.

LaSarah: lasarahpiano@gmail.com, (509) 426-1852

Some notes about events:

Projects: In our new venue we will not have vertical boards on which students can hang poster projects. Projects will all be placed flat on tables or posters will be hung down from tables. You might want to encourage students to have a project that can stand up / is 3D, etc.

Time limits: Technique & Sight Reading rooms have historically had some back log in the schedule. You will no longer need to select a 1, 2, or 3 minute time slot for technique. ALL students will be limited to a **2 minute max** in both technique and sight reading rooms. This doesn't mean your student needs to spend 2 minutes on technique—a simple scale is great! Please let students know about this limit! We will have timers in both rooms for the event moderators and they will remind kids in advance about their time limit and use good judgment about whether or not to stop a child mid-playing.

Ribbon of Excellence: Students earn the Ribbon of Excellence by participating in at least 7 events **excluding Metronome & Composer**

Thank you all for allowing your students to participate in this FUN music event! Please reach out to me with any questions.

Warmly,

Sarah Thompson

<https://www.facebook.com/letsplaymusicwithsarah>
[instagram.com/letsplaymusicwithsarah](https://www.instagram.com/letsplaymusicwithsarah)

Certified Let's Play Music Instructor

<https://www.new.letsplaymusicsite.com/>