

**THE
MISSOURI
SYMPHONY
LEAGUE**



THE MISSOURI
SYMPHONY AND
THE SUNRISE
OPTIMIST CLUB
PROUDLY PRESENT

THE 19TH ANNUAL
**Piano Student
Showcase**

November 15, 2020 | 4:00 pm
MISSOURI THEATRE

AUDITIONS

October 31, 2020 | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

SINQUEFIELD MUSIC CENTER
1101 UNIVERSITY AVENUE COLUMBIA, MO

2020 PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE Information Sheet

Application and Entry Fee Deadline: October 5, 2020

Auditions: October 31, 2020, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sinquefeld Music Center, Choral Rehearsal Hall, MU Campus

Rehearsal & Performance: November 15, 2020
Missouri Theatre

2020 has been a difficult year for young musicians and their instructors. We hope you will encourage your students to participate in this wonderful piano competition. The students need something to look forward to and the Missouri Symphony League is committed to having a safe, enriching in-person experience for those students. If the University of Missouri closes the buildings the League has reserved for the audition and/or the Showcase event, we have an alternative plan that will allow the students to compete and perform.

There have been several changes from the 2019 Piano Student Showcase Instructions. Teachers, please read carefully and provide a copy of this document to prospective students and their parents.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the co-chairs of the Missouri Symphony League Piano Student Showcase Planning Committee: Nancy Griggs, nancygriggs67@yahoo.com 573.489.4999 or Joan Luterman lutermanjr@gmail.com 573.529.2714

COVID-19 PROVISIONS

Our plan is to have a safe, exciting in-person competition and performance; however if the University does not allow us to use the facilities noted in this document, the 2020 Showcase will use a totally virtual competition and performance as described on page 6.

For our in-person activities, we will follow all provisions required by the University of Missouri and the City of Columbia to keep participants of the auditions and concert safe during this time of Covid-19. We plan to use the following guidelines, **but these may be changed or expanded by the City or MU at any time before the event – we will keep everyone updated on the latest requirements:**

- Social distancing will be required while waiting to check-in to the auditions or to enter the auditorium or theatre.
- Masks will be required to enter the buildings, but for the student, the student's mask can be removed when the auditioning or performing. Per the Columbia City ordinance, some persons are exempt from the requirement, e.g. children under 10, but all persons who can wear a mask will be encouraged to do so. **Please bring your own masks**, although a small number will be provided by the League for those who forget to bring their own.

- Hand sanitizer will be provided and all individuals, entering the auditions or the performance, will be asked to use it and it will be offered to participants after their audition or performance.
- For the auditions, contact information for one person in the group will be required in case it is necessary to do contact tracing after the event.
- Seating will only be provided in designated areas in the auditions to assure social distancing.
- Every effort will be made so that students entering the stage and exiting the stage do not pass.
- The audition judges and program announcer will be placed at least 6 feet from the student and the audience.
- For the Showcase event at the Missouri Theatre, the University of Missouri has developed a household seating arrangement – each household will be required to order tickets for the Showcase event through the University of Missouri Ticket Office in advance of the event – this group of tickets will be called a ‘pod’. Each household pod will be social distanced from the other households. Each household will provide contact information for the individual buying the tickets for contact tracing if necessary. To assure social distancing, we will use the ticket assignment for the rehearsal as well as the Showcase event, both on November 15. Note: since the household pods require the University Box Office to process ticket sales, the ticket price may be increased from \$10 for adults to \$15 for adults to offset the University’s processing fees. Tickets for children will remain free but will need to be ordered with the household pod tickets.
- Since it will not be possible for students to return to the stage for pictures, we will have a professional or a professionally equipped photographer take photos which will be provided to each family.
- There may be a requirement for temperature to be taken before entrance to any event and for a health survey to be completed.
- A protocol will be followed when exiting the auditorium or theatre.
- All attendees must follow instructions provided to assure social distancing.

AUDITION PROCEDURES

(By October 10th, these details will be re-sent to you with the audition times for each of your students):

Audition forms and fees due date: October 5, 2020. Audition forms now include a brief bio of the student which will be used if the student is selected for the Showcase – see below for the guidelines for the bio. If Covid-19 prevents the auditions from being held on the MU campus, the plans for a virtual audition as described on page 6 will be implemented.

Showcase audition fees - \$25 per student

Teachers may complete the Student Applications forms online at <https://mosymphonysociety.z2systems.com/event.jsp?event=222&> (sorry for the long address, we did not want to post this on our public website) or deliver or mail or email the forms as instructed on the forms. The money can be paid by check mailed or delivered to the Symphony office or can be paid on-line by credit card with the instructions on the Teachers Cover Sheet. Auditions will be Saturday, October 31, 10 am - 5 pm at Sinquefield Music Center, 1101 University Ave, Columbia, MO 65201.

The students will be scheduled by age group (based on October 31, 2020 age) for their auditions. The age groups will be 5 – 9 years; 10 – 12 years; 13 – 14 years; and 15 – 18 years.

All students who audition will be awarded a personalized certificate verifying their participation. These certificates will be provided to the student upon completion of their audition when their music is returned to them. The student is then free to leave the auditions. [NEW – unlike 2019, these certificates will not give the

judges' decision on Showcase participation – that information will be provided by email to the piano teachers within 24 hours of the auditions]

Two judges, highly regarded piano instructors from outside the Central Missouri area, will determine the students who will be performing at the 2020 Piano Student Showcase. The judges will select students from each age group proportionate to the number auditioning from that age group. Judges are not provided any student names, personal information (except age and sex) or piano teacher names for the students auditioning. Their evaluation is totally independent based on students who perform to the highest standards.

Rating sheets will be returned personally to the teachers at the auditions or mailed/e-mailed at the conclusion of the auditions. Teachers will review the rating sheets with the students.

Within 24 hours of completion of the auditions, the teachers will receive an email listing their students who were selected for the Piano Student Showcase

Rules of the Audition:

1. All Covid-19 procedures listed above apply to the auditions.
2. **No composition shall exceed 6 minutes of music.** [This is a NEW requirement based on MSHSAA guidelines that were published for 2019 events. However, unlike MSHSAA, the Piano Student Showcase judges will not stop the audition at the end of maximum time.]
3. **Each application must include a brief bio of the student.** [NEW requirement for auditions, since the 2020 auditions are within 2 weeks of the Showcase.] The bios must be provided by email to nancygriggs67@yahoo.com in an editable format, e.g. e-mail, Microsoft word, Google docs, etc. The word limit for the bios are as follows based on age of the participant.
 - 5 – 9 years – 75 words.
 - 10 – 12 years – 90 words.
 - 13 – 14 years – 100 words.
 - 15 – 18 years – 120 words

The purpose of the bios is to provide a very brief introduction of the student to the audience; please provide what the student or parent feels are the most interesting items for the audience to know. The bio must include the child's name, grade in school, teacher's name. The bio can include anecdotal and factual information on SOME, NOT ALL, of the following topics – please stay within the word limit:

- how long he/she studied piano
 - why he/she began piano
 - most significant piano activities and awards (recitals, auditions, competitions, etc.)
 - other musical activities and/or groups
 - other school activities
 - hobbies
 - favorite composer or period of music
4. If bios exceeding these words limits are provided, the Showcase Planning Committee will edit the bio to not exceed the word limit. The bio will not be adjusted by the student after it is submitted.
 5. Each student will perform one composition. If the student has already performed a piece in a prior Piano Student Showcase, please do not audition with the same composition.
 6. Multiple students may audition with the same composition and multiple students may be selected to perform the same composition in the Showcase concert. When the audition list is provided to the teachers, any teacher seeing their student has the same composition as another student may ask for the composition to be changed for their student (this is just an option and if it causes stress for the student to change, please allow them to proceed with the original selected composition)

7. Please do not observe repeat sign unless the composition is about one minute. Repeats for 1st and 2nd endings may be observed.
8. The students will be given a specific audition time and they will be expected to arrive 15 minutes early. They must be on time with their music in hand or the audition cannot proceed. Teachers will be notified of the scheduled appointment for each student a week before the auditions.
9. Students will submit their music when they check in for the audition; they should number the measures of their music and cover any identifying names of students or teachers.
10. The music will be returned shortly after their audition along with their Certificate of Participation. The student will be free to leave the auditions as soon as their certificate and music are provided to them. [NEW: as stated above, the certificate will not provide the Judge's decision on the student being selected for the Showcase.]
11. Performance attire is recommended at the auditions. Please, no jeans, tee shirts, sweatpants or sneakers.
12. Parents and persons in the audience must be respectful to all performers – no talking, please silence all cell phones.

REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES

(these will be re-sent to you with the names of your student performers within 24 hours after the auditions)

All Covid-19 procedures listed above apply to the rehearsal and performance.

If Covid-19 prevents the performance from being held on the MU campus, the plans for a virtual performance as described on page 6 will be implemented.

The rehearsal will be at the Missouri Theatre on Sunday, November 15, 2020, preceding the performance. The students in the first half of the Piano Student Showcase event should arrive at 1:00 pm for rehearsal and the students in the second half should arrive by 2:00 pm for their rehearsal (exact times may be adjusted as we know how many students will be performing). Households must bring their tickets for the Showcase event and sit in the ticket seats that are assigned. Families are free to leave after the student's rehearsal. The dress rehearsal may be taped or photographed by the families, provided social distancing is maintained.

The Piano Student Showcase on Sunday, November 15, 2020, 4:00 pm will be divided into two halves. Each half of the performance will have representation of all age groups and the schedule will be set by Maestro Trevor with consideration as to the music flow and age of the performers.

Please inform each student and his/her parents that the Piano Student Showcase will be **videotaped by Mediacom** and the video will be aired on Mediacom and a copy provided to each piano teacher with Showcase entries.

The students who are performing in their 3rd, 5th, or 10th Piano Student Showcase will be provided an award immediately following their performance.

Attendees and parents will not be allowed to take group or student pictures or videos during or after the Showcase. [NEW: We regret that we must implement the no photo requirement during and after the Piano Student Showcase for two reasons: One is to assure social distancing and two is to not interfere with the enjoyment of others] We will have a professional photographer (or professionally-equipped photographer) taking pictures during the student's performance and those digital photos will be provided to the music teachers to provide to the families.

We will NOT be providing refreshments at any time during the auditions, rehearsals, or performance due to Covid-19.

Please encourage your students to stay for the entire Piano Student Showcase event.

COVID – 19 MODIFICATIONS, if required due to University of Missouri not allowing use of buildings

If the University of Missouri does not allow the Missouri Symphony League to use the Sinefield Music Center for the auditions or the Missouri Theatre for the Piano Student Showcase rehearsal and event, the events will be held virtually. We have developed the following alternate plans to have either the auditions or the event or both virtually. Exact plans will depend on when we are notified by the University, but to give you an idea of how it will proceed, please review the following:

Scenario 1: If the University of Missouri does not allow us to have auditions in the Sinefield Music Center: Instead of auditioning in person, all students will be asked to submit a YouTube video of their performance, wearing performance attire. We will try to allow 1- 2 week-notice for preparation of the audition video. Students who are preparing the videos have 3 options for the piano they perform on: 1) tape their audition on their home piano, 2) tape their audition on another piano they have access to (e.g. teacher, church, etc.) or 3) schedule a time to tape their audition on the grand piano provided by the League. The League is committed to trying to find a grand piano in a building that will allow access during the coronavirus situation; That piano can then be scheduled by the students wanting to use it for their recording. The recordings will have a due date. The judges will review the videos and complete their evaluation forms. The judges will meet virtually to discuss each audition and to arrive at a consensus of the list of students selected for the Showcase event. The evaluation forms and the judges' final decision will be provided to the teachers as soon as they are available.

Scenario 2: If the University closes both buildings i.e. does not allow us to use either the Sinefield Music Center or the Missouri Theatre: We will follow Scenario 1 for the auditions. After the judges have picked the top performers, the audition videos of the students selected will be edited into one Showcase event video. In the video, each student's performance will be introduced by a narrator using the student's bio. The teachers and students will be provided a link to the video and they can watch it from their homes and share it with others.

Scenario 3: If the University cancels our use of the Missouri Theatre AFTER the live auditions: Students selected for the Showcase event will have a specified time to prepare the video of their performance. The students selected for the Showcase event will have 3 options for the piano they perform on: 1) tape their audition on their home piano, 2) tape their audition on another piano they have access to (e.g. teacher, church, etc.) or 3) schedule a time to tape their audition on the grand piano provided by the League. The League is committed to trying to find a grand piano in a building that will allow access during the coronavirus situation; That piano can then be scheduled by the students wanting to use it for their recording. The taped performances will be edited into a Piano Student Showcase video. In the video, each student's performance will be introduced by a narrator using the student's bio. The teachers and students will be provided a link to the video and they can watch it from their homes and share it with others.

Thank you so much for your support of the 2020 Piano Student Showcase!

Since there are so many revisions for the 2020 Piano Student Showcase and auditions, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Planning Committee for the Piano Student Showcase:

Co-chairs:

Nancy Griggs, nancygriggs67@yahoo.com, (573) 489-4999

Joan Luterman, lutermanjr@gmail.com, (573) 529-2714

Members:

Eunsook (Bang) Kwon, esbkwon@gmail.com, (573) 529-6764

Chris Moser, christine.m.moser@gmail.com, (573) 268-7413

Judith Chmielewski, edjuc3@gmail.com, (573) 446-6700

The Missouri Symphony League
PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE

Due Date for applications and entry fees: October 5, 2020

Auditions: Saturday, October 31, 2020

Performance: Sunday, November 15, 2020

Teacher Cover Sheet

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____

Teacher's Email _____ **& Phone (_____)** _____

If you do not use email, please check if you prefer telephone or postal communication

Teachers: Please fill out one Student Application Form (on-line or in paper form) for each student participating.

Entry Fees:

\$25...Showcase audition fee.

Total Number of Students Auditioning _____

Total Fees Included _____

Enter forms and payment electronically: Use the following link to find the online Teacher Cover Sheet and Student Application Form <https://mosymphonysociety.z2systems.com/event.jsp?event=222&>

or

Mail forms and check to: The Missouri Symphony, PO Box 841, Columbia, MO 65205

or

Deliver forms and checks to the Missouri Theatre Box Office clearly labeled "Piano Showcase Applications." If you leave them at the box office, please e-mail nancygriggs67@yahoo.com, so they can be picked up.

or

Scan and email forms to: nancygriggs67@yahoo.com and mail or deliver check to the Missouri Symphony or pay online.

To pay audition fees online, go to TheMOSY.org and select "Make a Donation" in the upper right. In the Comment field, enter PIANO SHOWCASE and the number of students who are auditioning - we will match the number to the applications you have mailed or emailed.

STUDENT BIOS: Must be emailed singly or as a group in editable form to nancygriggs67@yahoo.com

Due Date for applications, bios, and entry fees: October 5, 2020

Thank you for your support of the Piano Showcase!

The Missouri Symphony League
PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE

Due Date for application forms and entry fees: October 5, 2020

Auditions: Saturday, October 31, 2020

Performance: Sunday November 15, 2020

Student Application Form

One application for each student participating or complete the on-line form.

Name _____ **Age on Oct 31, 2020** _____ **Grade** _____ **Sex** (circle 1) M F

Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____

Parent Email _____ **& Phone (_____)** _____

Composition _____

Composer _____ **Length (min:sec)** _____

Photos taken:

- May be published without further approval
- Please contact student/parent before publishing

I have informed this student and/or his/her parents that the event may be **videotaped by Mediacom** and the video will be aired on Mediacom and a copy provided to each piano teacher with Showcase entries. And they have agreed to this arrangement.

Teacher's Name _____

Please complete the Teacher Cover Sheet with address, e-mail and phone.

Entry Fees:

- \$25 Showcase audition fee**

Instructions for submitting these applications are outlined on the Teacher Cover Sheet.

STUDENT BIOS: Must be emailed singly or as a group in editable form to nancygriggs67@yahoo.com

Due Date for applications, bios, and entry fees: October 5, 2020

Thank you for your participation in the Piano Showcase