



THE 20TH ANNUAL

Piano Student Showcase

Information and Guidelines

October 4, 2021: Due date for applications, fees and bios

October 30, 2021: Auditions 10 AM – 5 PM

Memorial Baptist Church

1634 Paris Road, Columbia MO 65201

November 7, 2021: Dress Rehearsal and Performance

Missouri Theatre

If there are any changes to the Information and Guidelines, emails will be sent to music teachers and the updates will be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase>



The Missouri Symphony League

2021 PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE

Revision dated: July 20, 2021

Information and Guidelines

Application and Entry Fee Deadline: October 4, 2021

Auditions: Saturday, October 30, 2021, 10:00 am – 5:00 PM
Memorial Baptist Church, 1634 Paris Rd, Columbia, MO 65201

Students audition in-person

OR

Due to the continuation of Covid, if student prefers, video auditions will be allowed.

Rehearsal & Performance: Sunday, November 7, 2021

Missouri Theater. In-person Rehearsal: afternoon time TBA.

In-person Performance at 4:00 PM.

OR

Due to the continuation of Covid, if a student prefers, video performances will be allowed.

The Piano Student Showcase is for mid-Missouri students (kindergarten through 12th grade). Mid-Missouri is defined as District IV (Central) of MMTA and includes the following counties: Audrain, Benton, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Chariton, Cole, Cooper, Gasconade, Howard, Maries, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Osage, Pettis, Phelps, Ralls, Randolph, and Saline.

2021 will be a year of trying to return to the 'new normal.' We do not yet know if the opening of schools and businesses will be successful. However, 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 them and a video alternative as we did in 2020 if they do not feel safe attending in-person. We will continue to do everything in our power to ensure the health and safety of our participants.

If a student does not feel safe auditioning in-person or if selected, performing in-person on November 7th, we have established options for those students to submit video auditions and/or video performances. The decisions of in-person vs taped are separate for each event – a student may submit a video audition but decide to appear in-person at the Performance. Likewise, a student who appears in-person for an audition, may have a family or health change and not be able to appear in-person at the Performance and therefore can opt to submit a video performance.

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 members of the Missouri Symphony League Piano Student Showcase Planning Committee:

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

Amy Collette, apcollette@gmail.com (573) 424-8646

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

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

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Bonnie Marshall, bonniemarshall41@gmail.com

AUDITION PROCEDURES

October 4, 2021 - Audition forms, student bios and fees DUE.

Audition forms now include a brief bio of the student which will be used if the student is selected for the Performance – see below for the guidelines for the bio. The audition application also includes a question asking if the student plans to appear in-person or submit a video.

Showcase audition fees - \$25 per student

Teachers are encouraged to complete the Teacher's Cover Sheet and the Student Applications forms online <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/> . The online forms will be available by September 1, 2021. If teachers do not want to submit online, alternative ways to submit the applications and paying the application fees have been provided on the forms.

GENERAL AUDITION PROVISIONS

1. The students will be assigned by age group (based on October 30, 2021 age) for their auditions. The age range for each audition group will be determined when applications are received. The goal is to have a similar number of students auditioning in each age group.
2. All students who audition (whether in-person or by video) will be awarded a personalized certificate verifying their participation.
3. **Compositions:**
 - a. **No composition shall exceed 6 minutes of music.** This requirement is based on past MSHSAA guidelines. However, unlike MSHSAA, the Piano Student Showcase judges will not stop the audition at the end of maximum time.
 - b. 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.
 - c. Multiple students may audition with the same composition and **multiple students may be selected to play the same composition in the Performance**. 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).
 - d. Please **do not observe repeat signs unless** the composition is about one minute. Repeats for 1st and 2nd endings may be observed.
4. **Each application must include a brief bio of the student.** The bios (due on October 4th) must be provided by email to nancygriggs67@yahoo.com in an editable format, e.g., as part of the e-mail, Microsoft word, Google doc, etc. The word limit for the bios are as follows based on age of the participant.
 - a. Elementary school, grades K through 5: 75 words maximum.
 - b. Middle school, grades 6 through 8: 90 words maximum.
 - c. High school, grades 9 through 12: 100 words maximum.
 - d. The purpose of the bio 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 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
- e. If a bio exceeds the word limit provided for the student's grade, the Piano Student 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. Arriving for the auditions

- a. The location for the in-person auditions will be Memorial Baptist Church, 1634 Paris Rd, Columbia, MO 65201. However, if Covid forces a change in plans the latest information will always be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>.
- b. All Covid procedures in place with the City of Columbia or the facility hosting the auditions will be followed. The latest Covid procedures will be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/> 3 weeks before the auditions and will be emailed to all teachers to share with their students. Such precautions MAY include wearing a mask, social distancing, having the participant's temperature taken, entering the facility in limited numbers, providing contact information etc.
- c. The teachers will be given a schedule of auditions by October 11th. Each student will be given a specific audition time and they will be expected to **arrive 15 minutes early**.
- d. The students must be on time with their music in hand or the audition cannot proceed.
- e. Performance attire is recommended at the auditions. Please, no jeans, tee shirts, sweatpants or sneakers.
- f. 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. The music will be returned shortly after their audition along with their Certificate of Participation.
- g. Parents and persons in the audience must be respectful to all performers – no talking, please silence all cell phones.
- h. If the student uses a **pedal extender, the parent or teacher** must proceed to the stage when the student does and place the pedal extender. The parent or teacher is then responsible for removing the pedal extender immediately after the student's audition is finished.

6. Instructions for students auditioning

- a. When the student, who is auditioning before you, leaves the stage, proceed to the stage.
 - b. Bow to the audience even though the judges may not be looking at the stage.
 - c. You are welcome to warm up on the piano by playing scales.
 - d. When you are ready to perform, **look at the judges until they give you the sign to begin**.
 - e. Perform your composition.
 - f. Bow to the judges and leave the stage.
 - g. Return to the audience.
 - h. Parent or teacher should promptly remove the pedal.
7. The student will be free to leave the auditions as soon as their certificate of participation and music are provided to them. The certificate will not provide the judges' decision on the student being selected for the Performance.
8. Judges and evaluations
- a. Two judges, highly regarded piano instructors from outside the Central Missouri area, will determine the students who will be playing in the 2021 Piano Student Showcase Performance.
 - b. The judges will hear both the in-person auditions and the video auditions (if applicable) for each age group before discussing between themselves and making their decisions.

- c. The judges will select students from each age group proportionate to the number auditioning (either in-person or by video) from that age group.
- d. Judges are not provided any student names, personal information (except age) or piano teacher names for the students auditioning. The judge's evaluation is totally independent based on students who perform to the highest standards.
- e. By 6:00 PM, Sunday, October 31, 2021, the teachers will receive an email listing their students who were selected for the Piano Student Showcase Performance. The teachers will be responsible for letting each student know the outcome of the audition.
- f. Rating sheets including the judges' comments will be e-mailed or delivered to the teachers by Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Teachers will review the rating sheets with the students.

OPTION: VIDEO TAPE SUBMITTED FOR AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Instead of auditioning in-person, a student may submit a video **NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT, SUNDAY OCTOBER 24, 2021.**
2. The video auditions will be interspersed according to age with the live auditions on Saturday, October 30th and will be evaluated by the judges at that time.
3. All submissions must include video where the performer is clearly visible. The quality of the recording device, the space where the recording is made, and the instrument used will not be factors in adjudication.
4. Make sure it is clear in the video that no printed music is present. The performer's face, fingers, and feet should be visible, and the camera should be angled in such a way that the adjudicator can see that there is no printed music inside the piano.
5. Make sure there is nothing on the video identifying the student's name, teacher, or other personal information. The video should be identified as "PSSAuditionStudent #" The student number (#) will be noted on the audition list provided to the teacher on October 11.
6. The student must be wearing performance attire. Please, no jeans, tee shirts, sweatpants or sneakers. The student should bow before and after performing the composition.
7. Competitors will upload an individual audition video to an unlisted YouTube channel and then submit the link to the Piano Student Showcase Planning Committee chair, nancygriggs67@yahoo.com.
8. **The student or teacher will email a photocopy of the music to nancygriggs67@yahoo.com by midnight Sunday, October 24th.** The student should number the measures of their music and cover any identifying names of students or teachers. The email providing the music and all copies of it must be destroyed by the teacher, student, judges and others receiving a copy as soon as the auditions are complete.
9. To produce the recording, MMTA has published a video to assist, please review it (beginning about 2 minutes in – the first part is specific to MMTA).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1807y1iFGE&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=D5P10N11

PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE DRESS REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES

The Dress Rehearsal and the Performance will be on the same date, Sunday, November 7, 2021, at the Missouri Theatre, 203 South 9th Street, Columbia MO. If there are any changes in these plans, an email will be sent to Mid-Missouri piano teachers and the updates will be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

No later than 6:00 PM, Sunday, October 31, 2021, a list of students selected for the Piano Student Showcase Performance will be emailed to the teachers.

Those students selected for the Piano Student Showcase Performance may choose to perform in-person or by submitting a video which will be included in the final Piano Student Showcase Performance video. Videos must be received by midnight November 4, 2021.

Every student selected to be in the Performance (whether in-person or by video) will receive a certificate of distinction recognizing the total number of years they have been selected for the Piano Student Showcase Performance.

The Piano Student Showcase Performance will be **videotaped by Mediacom**. **If a student opts to submit a video for the Performance, it will be incorporated into the Mediacom video** and their video will be aired on Mediacom, will be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/> and the link will be forwarded to each teacher to send to their students. Parents will be asked to sign a wavier to allow their child to be in the video and its use. These forms will be available at the audition.

IN-PERSON REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE

All Covid procedures in place with the City of Columbia and the facility hosting the rehearsal and the performance will be followed. The latest Covid procedures will be posted on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/> before the performance and will be emailed to all teachers to share with their students. Such precautions MAY include wearing a mask, social distancing, having the participant's temperature taken, entering the facility in limited numbers, providing contact information etc.

All persons planning to attend must reserve tickets in advance by going to <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>. This assures the capacity is not exceeded and that check-in at the performance goes smoothly.

Dress Rehearsal on Sunday, November 7, 2021:

- a. The time of the dress rehearsal for each student will be provided when the final list of performers is provided to the teachers.
- b. **Performance attire** must be worn to the dress rehearsal.
- c. **A professional photographer** will be taking pictures during the student's rehearsal. The link to the photos will be provided to the teachers for sharing with the student and their families. Downloading the pictures will be free of charge for a limited time after the posting. Photographs may be ordered for a cost from the photographer.
- d. Families are free to leave after the student's rehearsal.
- e. The dress rehearsal may be taped or photographed by the families, provided social distancing rules are followed.

Performance on Sunday, November 7, 2021, 4:00 PM:

- a. The Performance will be divided into two halves. Each half of the performance will have representation of all age groups and the schedule will be set with consideration as to the music flow and age of the performers.
- b. Attendees and parents will NOT be allowed to take group or student pictures or videos during or after the Performance. If Covid rules allow we will have all students return to the stage at the end of the period in which they perform for a group photo. **We regret that we must implement the no photo requirement during the Performance for two reasons: one is to assure social distancing and two is to not interfere with the enjoyment of others.**
- c. We do not plan to provide refreshments at any time during the rehearsals, or performance due uncertainty with Covid.
- d. Students and families are encouraged to stay for the entire Performance, unless Covid procedures dictate otherwise.

OPTION: SUBMISSION OF VIDEO RECORDING FOR THE PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE

If the student chooses not to appear at the Performance in-person, they will be allowed to submit a performance video. A video submission will be treated as a Performance appearance for the awards for multiple Piano Student Showcase appearances and for the Piano Student Showcase Performance video. The student's performance video will not be shown at the Showcase but will be included in the Performance video produced by Mediacom. An example of the performance video with both in-person and videos is available on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>, the video appearances appear at the end.

If the student provided a video for the auditions, the same video may be used for the Performance.

If the student wants to submit a new video for the Performance or appeared in-person for the auditions and wants to submit a video for the Performance, the following rules, slightly different than the audition video, apply:

1. The performance video must be submitted no later than **MIDNIGHT** November 4, 2021.
2. Video must have the performer clearly visible.
3. Make sure it is clear in the video that no printed music is present.
4. Make sure there is nothing on the video identifying the competitor's name, teacher, or other personal information.
5. The student must be wearing performance attire.
6. The student should bow before and after performing the composition.
7. The student will upload the individual video to an unlisted YouTube channel and then submit a link to the Piano Student Showcase Committee chair: nancygriggs67@yahoo.com.
8. To produce the recording, MMTA has published a video to assist, please review it (beginning about 2 minutes in – the first part is specific to MMTA).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1807y1iFGE&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=D5P10N11

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Planning Committee for the Piano Student Showcase listed on page 2.

Thank you so much for your support of the 2021 Piano Student Showcase!

The Missouri Symphony League
PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE
Teacher Cover Sheet

Due Date for applications and entry fees: October 4, 2021

Auditions: Saturday, October 30, 2021, (if video, submit by midnight, October 24)

Performance: Sunday, November 7, 2021 (if video, submit by midnight November 4)

**Please use the online registration form on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>.
The following information will be requested. For alternate submission
instructions, see the bottom of this form.**

By providing the following information, you agree to sharing this information with members of the Piano Showcase Planning Committee for the purpose of providing Piano Showcase information to you.

Teacher's Name _____

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

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

Teachers: Please fill out one Student Application Form (online is preferred or in paper form) for each student participating.

Entry Fees:

\$25...Showcase audition fee.

Total Number of Students you will have auditioning _____

Total Fees Included _____

If you do not feel comfortable completing the forms and paying online, you may:

- **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 contact The Missouri Symphony office (573) 875-0600 to pay by credit card.

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 4, 2021

Thank you for your support of the Piano Student Showcase!



The Missouri Symphony League
PIANO STUDENT SHOWCASE
Student Application Form

Due Date for applications and entry fees: October 4, 2021

Auditions: Saturday, October 30, 2021, (if video, submit by midnight, October 24)

Performance: Sunday, November 7, 2021 (if video, submit by midnight November 4)

Please use the online registration form on <https://themosy.org/piano-showcase/>.

The following information will be requested.

For alternate submission instructions, see the bottom of this form.

One application for each student participating.

Name _____ **Age on Oct 30, 2021** _____ **Grade** _____

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

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

Composition _____

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

- Currently, the student plans to (Circle one)
 - **Attend the auditions OR**
 - **Submit video audition.**
- Currently, if selected, the student plans to (Circle one)
 - **Attend the performance OR**
 - **Submit video performance.**

Teacher's Signature _____

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 4, 2021

Thank you for your participation in the Piano Showcase