

## **47th Annual Audrey Thayer Piano Competition Guidelines**

Date: Saturday, May 2, 2026

Address: South Church, 90 Main Street, New Britain, CT

Winners' Recital Date: Saturday, May 16, 2026

Address: South United Methodist Church, 1226 Main Street , Manchester, CT

### **Registration deadline: March 20, 2026 (postmarked)**

Teachers, please submit the following:

1. student registrations forms by filling out the google form (link can also be found on the Hartford Chapter website):

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetSkCdmSbeZKxYxIT6SXZRZjG\\_RZzus5SMREqRvScwt9iL7g/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=111897493067213651947](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetSkCdmSbeZKxYxIT6SXZRZjG_RZzus5SMREqRvScwt9iL7g/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=111897493067213651947)

Please check the spelling of your students' names and their repertoire information for accuracy.

2. one check (non-refundable) for all competing students combined made out by the teacher payable to Hartford Chapter CSMTA. Students should reimburse their teachers.

Fees:

The fee for students in grades 3-8 is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members.

The fee for students in grades 9-12 is \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members.

3. TWO COPIES of judges' forms with filled out headers (repertoire section).

4. Proof of grade

Mail judges forms and check to:

Tamila Azadaliyeva, 195 King Philip Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117

Proof of grade can be emailed to [audreythayercompetition@gmail.com](mailto:audreythayercompetition@gmail.com) or mailed together with the check and the judges forms to the address above.

Below is the detailed information on registration process, repertoire, eligibility and competition guidelines. Questions can be emailed to [audreythayercompetition@gmail.com](mailto:audreythayercompetition@gmail.com).

## 1. Eligibility

- a. Entrants must be students of CSMTA members and must have studied with their teacher for at least 6 months prior to the competition.
- b. Members of the Hartford Chapter, CSMTA: all dues must be paid by September 30, 2025. New members can join anytime before March 20, 2026.
- c. Non-members of the Hartford Chapter: add an additional \$10.00 fee per applicant.
- d. Students must be in Grades 3-12.
- e. Students entered should be of honors caliber.
- f. Students who place 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or receive an Honorable Mention must commit to the resulting honor of performing in the Winners' Recital or prize award will be forfeited.
- g. All entrants must understand that special requests for scheduling will not be permitted.

## 2. Registration Process

- a. All entries must be postmarked by the above date - March 20, 2026
- b. Registration forms must be completely filled out and submitted online by March 20, 2026. Please include DETAILED information on repertoire: ex.: "L. van Beethoven, Sonata in G Major, opus 49, No.2; I. Allegro ma non troppo". All information is mandatory, and must be correct to avoid disqualification. (Please, do not assume that the typist will know which movement your student is playing and how long it is. Include opus number, movement and tempo marking if applicable)
- c. Total of entry fees must be sent as ONE check by the teacher, in the teacher's name.
- d. In addition to the registration form and fees, students are also required to submit proof of their school grade. This proof could be a letter from the school teacher or office, a copy of their report card, or some other form of dated document that includes the child's name and grade.
- e. Additionally, teachers must mail **TWO COPIES** of the judges' forms with **filled out headers**. Judges forms can be found on the website ([hartfordchaptercsmta.org](http://hartfordchaptercsmta.org)) Choose the Judge's sheet appropriate to the grade level. The header must be filled out by the teacher. Please do NOT have students fill out forms.

## 3. Disqualifications: The following will cause a student to be disqualified from competition:

- Any form received past the published deadline.
- Any form not completely filled in.
- Any form sent without the required fee.
- Any form not accompanied by the proof of the student's grade and **TWO copies of the judges' forms**

#### 4. Piano Repertoire Requirements

- a. All music must be in the original for the piano, not arrangements or simplifications.
- b. All music is to be performed from memory.
- c. Time limits will be strictly enforced. Overtime performances will be halted.
- d. Times on entry form are expected to be accurate and determined by a stopwatch.
- e. Eliminate repeats, especially in sonatinas and sonatas.
- f. Musical periods will be Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary.
- g. Specific requirements by grade:

Grade	Repertoire	Time limit
3	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	5 minutes
4	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	5 minutes
5	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	8 minutes
6	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	8 minutes
7	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	10 minutes
8	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	10 minutes
9	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	11 minutes
10	2 contrasting pieces of different periods	15 minutes

#### Repertoire Requirements for grades 11 and 12:

1. J. S. Bach: Prelude and Fugue from *Well-Tempered Clavier*, book I or II,
  2. Selection of your choice from the Classical Period
  3. Selection of your choice from Romantic, Impressionistic, or Contemporary Periods.
- Time limit: 15-20 minutes.
  - In case of a transitional composer such as Scriabin or Schubert, please use discretion in choosing contrasting pieces.
  - One movement of a sonata or sonatina will count as one piece.

#### 5. Competition Guidelines

- a. One copy of the music to be played must be supplied to the judges. No xeroxed copies are permitted unless accompanied by a letter of permission from the publisher. Acceptable computer-generated versions of pieces (PianoStreet.com, Carl Fisher CD, Musicalion, Imslp.org ) will be accepted.
- b. Number the measures to aid the judges in making specific comments about performance.
- c. Bach's Prelude and Fugue must be played in its entirety first by both 11th and 12th grade. With this exception, all students may select the order of performance the day of competition.
- d. If there are fewer than five competitors at a grade level, two grades may be combined.
- e. There will be no refund of fees for withdrawing from competition for any reason.
- f. Teachers will be advised of the schedule by email and must notify pupils of their assigned performance time.
- g. Teachers are responsible for supplying students with directions to both competition and Winners Recital.
- h. The start and end times for the Competition will be based on the number of entrants. Flexibility from students, families, and teachers is expected.
- i. All participating teachers will be required to help out in some way on the day of competition. Any exceptions must notify the chairperson at time of registration deadline in order to make other arrangements.

**6. AWARDS** (Paid for by donations to the Student Awards Fund and Hartford Chapter donation)

There will be 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Honorable Mentions awarded for each group. The judges reserve the right to add or delete awards based on the number of entrants.

Students in grades 3-8 receive trophies or medals. Students in grades 9-12 receive certificates and cash awards.

**7. Judges and Evaluations**

a. Judges are experts in their field of music.

b. No one (teacher, performer, or parent) should approach the judges at any time before or during the competition. Doing so will automatically disqualify the student. All comments or questions should be posed to the Audrey Thayer Chairperson.

c. Decisions of the judges will be final.

d. Judges have a right to choose the piece to be played at the Winners Recital.

**8. Winners' Recital**

All competitors who receive an award must commit to the resulting honor of performing in the Winner's Recital or prize/placement will be forfeited.