Winston-Salem Piano Teachers' Association
George & Ruby Moxley Memorial Scholarship Competition
Rules & Requirements – 2027

Goal: To promote interest in the performance of fine piano literature, and to encourage students to strive for excellence through competition.

Eligibility: WSPTA members who have paid their membership dues by October 1 may enter students. Students who received a first-place award in a previous Competition may not re-enter at the same level for the next year, but may do so after abstaining for one year.

Entrants: Teachers should enter only exceptional students who are ready for competition. This is a serious competition, and a high degree of artistry among all entrants is expected by our teachers, judges, and audience members.

Number: Currently, there is no restriction on the number of students a teacher may enter.

Classification: Students are classified by age as of April 8 of the Competition year. The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to require proof of age.

Elementary: ages 7 - 9
Lower Intermediate: ages 10 - 12
Upper Intermediate: ages 13 - 15
Advanced Group: 16 - 18

Registration Fee: A registration fee of thirty dollars ($35.00) per student should be included with the student's registration form. The fee will be refunded if the student withdraws from the Competition prior to April 22. The fee is non-refundable after April 22.

Deadline: All registration forms and fees must be received by the Moxley Committee no later than April 8 of the Competition year.

Date: The 2027 Competition will take place in person on Saturday May 1. The location is Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston Salem (4055 Robinhood Rd.).

Awards: A cash prize will be awarded to the First and Second place winners for each level of the Competition, as follows:

	First	*Second*
Elementary	$ 70.00	$ 40.00
Lower Intermediate	$ 85.00	$ 60.00
Upper Intermediate	$100.00	$ 80.00
Advanced	$125.00	$100.00

Judges: Judges shall not be members of WSPTA and will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee. Honorarium will be $200 for those in town and nearby area, and $225 for out of town.

Attendance: The Moxley Competition is a public event. Inasmuch as its goal is to promote the performance of fine piano literature, attendance by all WSPTA member teachers and their students is encouraged.

Obligation of Winners: All students who enter the Competition agree that they, if awarded First or Second Place, and Honorable Mention will perform on the Winners' recital of the Winston-Salem Piano Teachers' Association. All prize money will be awarded to the Competition winners at the recital. The Winners' Recital will take place on Sunday May 2, 7pm, at Parkway United Church of Christ.

Time Limit: Each group level in the competition is comprised of two phases: 1) musicianship; and 2) two works of solo literature. Both phases must be completed during a specified time limit. Time will be called at the end of the period, whether the student has finished playing both works. No additional time will be allowed, and failure by the student to play a sufficient portion of the second work may negatively affect the student's grade. Therefore, students should play the shorter of their two works first.

Musicianship Phases: The musicianship phase must be played before each work, in the key of the work itself. In case of an atonal piece, the student should plan to play in the most closely related major/minor key. If both works are in the same key, the student is required to perform the musicianship phase only once. In a minor key, only the harmonic minor scale should be played. **All requirements for each level must be followed exactly, as outlined below**. For example, if a student in the Upper Intermediate category performs scales of four octaves instead of the required three, this will negatively affect the rating.

Literature: Participants in each group are to play two works. One work will be chosen for each level by the Scholarship Committee and is required of all entrants. The second work is chosen by the student in consultation with his/her teacher and must be of a different style period from the required work. The required works for all levels will be announced in the Fall. Each piece must be performed in its entirety without cuts. Repeats **should** be taken for the Elementary division Required piece and are optional for the choice piece. Repeats are not permitted for pieces in other divisions.

Practice: In the interest of fairness to all entrants, no one may practice on the piano at any time prior to the Competition.

Performance Procedure: Contestants shall begin with the musicianship phase of the Required Piece, followed by the performance of the Required Piece. The contestant shall then observe a brief pause until instructed by the judges to proceed with the second piece. Unless both pieces are in the same key, the musicianship phase of

the Choice Piece shall be performed prior to the performance of the Choice Piece.

Stage Presence: The competition is open to the public and is considered a performance. Each contestant is expected to demonstrate strong stage presence. Proper bowing before and after the performance is required and will be included in the scoring.

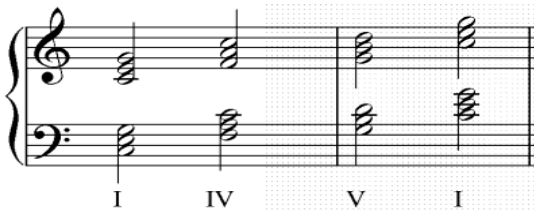
General Rules:

1. Judges will utilize the rating sheet for the competition.
2. Students will be assigned a number and play in order.
3. Neither the names of students nor their teachers may be made known to the judges.
4. Students must provide the judges with music. Photocopies will not be permitted under any circumstances. Entrants may use legally produced scores from online vendors such as SheetMusicPlus.com, provided they include the letter of permission that accompanies this music. Music provided to the judges may not contain names or any other personal markings that would identify a particular entrant or his/her teacher.
5. Teachers are prohibited from communicating with the judges regarding their students for any reason throughout the duration of the competition.
6. The judges' decisions are final and binding. No questions or appeals will be permitted under any circumstances.
7. It is the teacher's responsibility to comply with all rules. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of the teacher's student(s).

Elementary Group

Time Limit: 8 minutes.
Musicianship Phases: To be played before each piece. Phase should be played only once if both works are in the same key.

1. Scales: quarters, MM ♩ = 80 minimum, 1 octave, hands together.
2. Chords: Primary chords, root position, I-IV-V-I, with pedal.



Lower Intermediate Group

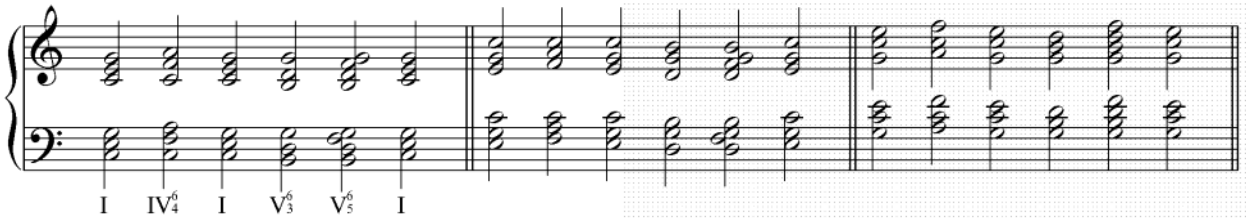
Time Limit: 8 minutes.
Musicianship Phases: To be played before each piece. Phase should be played only once if both works are in the same key.

1. Scales, quarters, MM ♩ = 80 minimum, 2 octaves, hands together.
2. Chords: Primary chords, I-IV-I-V-I, root position and first and second inversions, with pedal

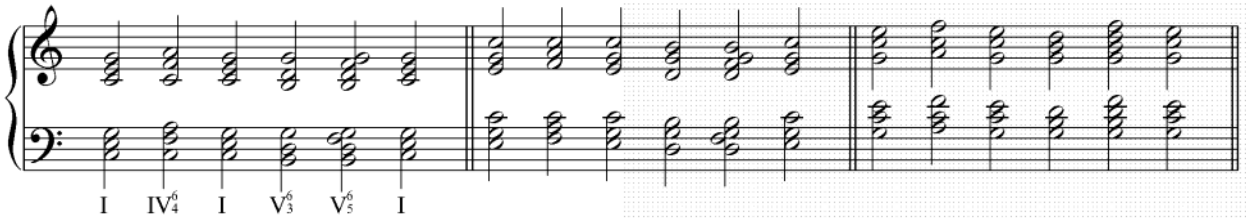
Upper Intermediate Group

Time Limit: 10 minutes.
Musicianship Phases: To be played before each piece. Phase should be played only once if both works are in the same key.

1. Scales: eighths, MM q = 92 minimum, 3 octaves, hands together.
2. Chords: Primary chords, I-IV-I-V-V7-I, root position and first and second inversions, with pedal.
3. Arpeggios: (tonic only) 3 octaves, root position.



Advanced Group

Time Limit: 12 minutes.
Musicianship Phases: To be played before each piece. Phase should be played only once if both works are in the same key.

1. Scales: eighths, MM q = 100 minimum, 4 octaves, hands together.
2. Chords: I-IV-I-V-V7-I, root position and first and second inversions, with pedal.
3. Arpeggios: (tonic only) 4 octaves, root position.