

Multiple Piano Festival Information
for BAMTA Piano Teachers
2015 Concert: Saturday, November 21
Skyline High School, Longmont, CO

What is MPF?

Held the Saturday before Thanksgiving, MPF is an exciting festival of duets and trios performed on 12 grand pianos simultaneously with as many as 36 students playing a piece in unison led by a conductor. It truly is an amazing opportunity for students, and one of the only festivals of its kind in the entire state.

What are the dates?

Specific audition times and rehearsal schedules will be organized in October following registration. Students only need to be at the rehearsals for the pieces they are playing, not the entire rehearsal block.

Here are the general dates, rehearsal time blocks, and locations:

October 15: Teacher's deadline for online registration and fees (money IN the hands of the chairpersons on this date)

November 7: Auditions at various teachers' studios

November 13, Friday, 4:30-9:30 p.m.

or

November 14, Saturday, 12:00-5p.m.:

1st Rehearsals at CU Music Lab and Boulder Piano Gallery

November 20, Friday, 4:30-9:30 p.m.:

2nd Rehearsal at Skyline High School, Longmont

November 21, Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.:

3rd Rehearsal at Skyline High School, Longmont

November 21, Saturday, 1-3 p.m.:

Final Run-Through at Skyline High School)

November 21, Saturday 7 p.m.: *Multiple Piano Festival Concert*

***How do I register my students?**

Registration is completed on-line. Participating teachers will be emailed a link to GoogleDocs. Within GoogleDocs, enter each student's name and information on the pages for the pieces they are auditioning. Mail fees (Payable to BAMTA: \$15 per student, including adult students) to Karen Ziegler, 1246 Monarch Dr., Longmont, CO 80504 or Rebecca Martin, 2525 Otter Ct., Lafayette, CO 80026. All on-line registration and fees must be received by October 15th.

What are the fees this year?

Registration fee: \$15 per student (\$30 per student for non-BAMTA teachers)

Ticket fee for all non-participants: \$10

DVD cost: TBD (typically \$15)

What is each teacher's obligation?

We are thrilled you are participating! Please follow all steps below:

1. Read this document
2. Email talisechandler@gmail.com to add request a GoogleDocs invitation if you haven't received one
3. Distribute the "MPF Information for Students and Parents" page to your students
4. Select music for each of your students according to their age and ability levels and begin preparing ("BAMTA Multiple Piano Festival Repertoire" document is found on bamta.org)
5. Enter your information on the Google Docs "Participating Teachers" document ASAP
6. Enter all your participating students in the Google Docs registration pages for their songs ASAP
7. Add, edit, or delete your students from the Google Docs registration pages immediately as changes arise
8. Perform due diligence to find partners for your single students
9. Attend all BAMTA/MPF-related meetings (September-November)
10. Sign up for your teacher jobs (see page 4)
11. Tend to all emails and messages regarding MPF updates
12. Finalize registration forms (Google Docs pages) and pay fees by October 15
13. Make sure your students are well-prepared for auditions with updated tempo changes, cuts, etc.
14. Work your audition day teacher job (to be assigned- keep November 7th open)
15. Obtain audition results and notify your students immediately
16. At lessons following auditions, share audition feedback and work with your students on trouble spots/necessary fixes indicated by judges to ensure they are prepared for rehearsals and performance
17. Distribute the "Final Rehearsal Schedule/Performers' Information" document to your students
18. If any of your students are selected to be student announcers, assist their preparation
19. Work your other two MPF jobs (see page 4)
20. Enjoy the fruits of all your labors at the Multiple Piano Festival concert! ☺

What is each student's obligation for the festival?

- Use original copies of all music (no photocopies are allowed except for page turning purposes)
- Pay a \$15 registration fee (paid to teacher who then forwards all monies to BAMTA)
- Come prepared to auditions
- Make any needed corrections to pieces as indicated on audition forms
- Attend all rehearsals for their pieces- attendance will be taken

What should be expected at auditions?

Auditions for groups A1, A2, A3, B1, and B2 are performed on 2 side-by-side pianos with 2 students at each piano and the conductor directing the piece. Auditions for Group C are performed on one piano, with the metronome ticking for entire piece. All students should be prepared to play their pieces with the metronome (see the Repertoire list for the tempo markings) and should also know their music well enough that they can start at any measure and keep an eye on the conductor. Following the conductor is especially important at the beginning of the piece and at cadences or changes of tempo. Every attempt will be made to accept as many students as possible, but if there are too many students for a specific piece, your student might not be able to perform all of the pieces they audition—even if they are very good. Audition results will be available to teachers by the close of November 9. Teachers are requested to honor all audition result decisions and parents are NOT to contact the co-chairs to contest audition results or for any other reason- if this occurs, the student will be eliminated from the festival. There are no auditions for the Adult Student Group but teachers are expected to ensure their preparation.

What do the student announcers do?

Each piece on the program will have one of the performing students tell the audience about that piece in a 30-second introduction. This could be information about the composer, the mood or style of the piece, or just the student's impression of that piece, etc. If you have students who are confident public -speakers and would love this extra attention, encourage them to prepare some information about one or more of their pieces. There will be a place on the audition form to indicate which students are interested in announcing. The final list of chosen announcers will be indicated with the audition results.

What is the art contest?

If you have students who are good artists, we encourage them to make a musical drawing on a 8 ½ " x 11" white paper (vertical) with black ink. All the art will be displayed at the concert and the winning drawing will be used for the cover of the concert program. Art should be in black pen or marker on white paper—no color. The artist should sign his/her work.

Miscellaneous Information & FAQ's

What are the age limits and other “rules” for MPF?

- Students must be at least 6 years of age to participate in Group A1 and must be at least 13 years of age to participate in Group C. There are no other age restrictions. Students may try out for any or all pieces within a level, but may not audition in more than one level. Adult students (and group C—in a pinch) may play with their teacher as a partner, but students A1 through B2 should play with other students.
- Ideally, you will have 2 students in your studio that will play together, but if you are missing a partner, you should make every effort to match your student with a student of other participating teachers who need a partner as well. As all participating teachers enter their students in the Google Docs, you will be able to see where these “singles” are per piece. Please work out these match-ups amongst yourselves and indicate on the appropriate Google Docs pages. As difficult cuts are made on audition day, singles are at a disadvantage; so it behooves all teachers to find partners for their singles.
- Attendance policy: Students who miss more than one rehearsal or final run-through will not be allowed to play in the concert.
- Concert attire: Black or white shirt, black pants (or a black suit with or without tie) with black dress shoes and socks for boys; any combination of black/white dresses (modest in length, please) or dress slacks for girls with small touches of red and/or silver accents if desired.
- Students do not need to buy a ticket to the concert, but all other family and friends will need a ticket at \$10 each.

Will practice recordings of each duet be available?

Recordings for many of the pieces are available on bamta.org. We thank the many teachers who made this possible! Please take advantage of this wonderful resource as you prepare your students!

If you have questions regarding tempo markings or other musical questions, please contact the conductor:

Who are the conductors this year?

A1: Martha Thompson

A2: Mitzi Babb

A3: Laura Boniek

B1: Judy Lambert

B2: Lois Abbuhl

C: Richard Capp

Teachers: Richard Capp

My student's family is going on a vacation that they've had scheduled for a long time and will miss Audition Day. What can I do?

Please check with the conductor of the specific group your student will be in and ask if he/she will allow a video-taped audition.

Mandatory Teacher Jobs

A festival of this size and magnitude is not possible without tremendous volunteer effort. We thank you in advance for the many hours you will spend serving your students and community. ☺

Can a teacher choose whether or not to work on Audition Day? No! *Every* teacher who has students registered to participate in MPF is required to work on Audition Day. The auditions coordinator will assign where/when you work.

Can a teacher choose which additional jobs to do? He/she must accept at least two additional jobs but has some choice based on his/her particular area of expertise. There will be a sign-up at the fall BAMTA meetings and the Teacher Job Scheduler will work directly with the teachers.

I was assigned a job for MPF that I have never had before and have no idea how to do. Please help!

We will try our best to assign jobs to people who have had them in the past so that they are familiar with how it's done. We will be posting instructions for all of the quirky MPF jobs, like cashier, rehearsal monitor/manager etc., online. We will also be putting experienced BAMTA members in charge of each specific job group. Please look online for instructions or ask the coordinator of your specific job's group for help.

Thank you for all your efforts to make MPF 2015 a success!

Your 2015 Co-Chairs,

Rebecca Martin rebnotz@aol.com & Karen Ziegler kznotes@ymail.com