

*If nothing ever changed, there'd be no butterflies!*



You've certainly heard the saying, "When life hands you lemons, MAKE LEMONADE!!" So here's our

### **Covid-19 35<sup>th</sup> Multiple Piano Festival** version of lemonade!!!

At this point in time, it appears likely that the COVID-19 Pandemic will prevent us from safely presenting the Multiple Festival as we have for the past 3 ½ decades. However, a few of us have banded together to find a new way! The following is a description of our alternative plan which, we feel, will allow everyone who wants to be involved – pianists, teachers, parents, audience members **and former students from around the world** – to fully participate and be safe.

#### **First, here is a list of the things that will remain more-or-less the same:**

1. An "audition fee" of \$25 (\$35 for non-BAMTA teachers) will be required of each performer, regardless of the number of pieces a student auditions on, and must be paid by Saturday, October 10.
2. Although "pairs" are encouraged (we are, after all, learning DUETS!), you may audition alone, with a partner, or even WITH YOURSELF!
3. Student announcers will be needed for each selection.
4. Performers will be required to wear formal performance attire in any combination of black, white and red. (Yes, all black, all white and all red are ALL OK this year.)
5. **TEACHERS:** Registration is open and available on Google docs. If you plan to participate this year or are even just thinking of participating, please fill out this form as soon as possible to continue receiving updates and information. There is no charge for teachers to register. Once you are registered, please return to the Google doc often to update your information. This will help us keep track of how full pieces are. If you are NOT a BAMTA teacher, please contact this year's Registration Chair, Jill Ice [Jill@icepiano.studio.com](mailto:Jill@icepiano.studio.com) for information on how to register.

#### **Changes that will be made to keep everyone safe or that the MPF committee feels will enhance the final outcome:**

1. Students may learn and audition on as many pieces as they'd like from ANY level of the repertoire list published last May and available on the BAMTA website.
2. Sync tracks are now available on the BAMTA website. **Please note that your audition video will also be your final PERFORMANCE VIDEO, wearing formal performance attire, performed on a recently tuned piano, and using headphones/earbuds so you can coordinate your playing with the sync track created for your song.** We strongly suggest that you prepare and submit your video well ahead of the deadline. However, all submissions MUST be received in the proper format no later than 5:00 pm on Saturday, October 31 (yes, one week earlier than our auditions have been held for the last several years). NO EXCEPTIONS. See attached "Filming Requirements."

3. Student announcer videos, also in formal performance attire (or in a costume that enhances your presentation), must be submitted by Saturday, October 31 as well.
4. Those who wish to submit an “announcer” video will have an opportunity to sign up on the registration form so we have an idea of how many of you are interested in this aspect of our video. You will need to submit a rough draft video by Oct.17th with script and costume/performance attire (if possible). After it has been reviewed, you will be informed if you need to make any changes. Final announcer videos will be due by Oct. 24th. Amy Watt, this year’s Announcer Chair, will help guide you through this process.
5. Please note that since there are NO rehearsals to attend, and NO “live” performance gathering, you may actually participate from ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD! We hope this will sound particularly attractive to alums who may wish to perform with us on any of the selections. Teachers, please help us contact your former students and encourage them to SEND US THEIR performance video (together with a \$25 application fee, of course.)
6. “Watch parties” MAY be organized once the editing is complete. While the details of these are still being finalized, they MAY include “live” performances synchronized with the video, and will definitely be structured and carried out in compliance with all local and state recommendations/requirements regarding social distancing and mask wearing.

## FILMING REQUIREMENTS

1. Students/teachers are responsible for securing their own recording materials including two devices (mobile phone, laptop, etc.), one to play the sync track and the other to record your performance. You will also need a computer and internet for upload, and a TUNED piano.
2. Each submission must be recorded onto the device of your choice, then uploaded to the google drive assigned to your level. Your submission will be evaluated both according to visual **AND** auditory guidelines.
3. Performances will be evaluated based on accuracy (notes, rhythm, phrasing, etc.) as well as whether or not they adequately match the tempo and tempo changes of the sync track created for that piece. (If you submit a video that does not meet minimum requirements and the October 31 deadline has not yet passed, we’ll let you know and you can TRY AGAIN!)
4. Before uploading, please RENAME your file to your level, your first and last name, the piece name, and the part you have learned: EXAMPLE: **A2JohnDoeMidnightHorsemanSecondo** .
5. Students must be appropriately dressed for the **PERFORMANCE VIDEO**, wearing formal performance attire in any combination of black, white and red, with an uncluttered background in the same colors, if possible.
6. Students must use only ONE stationary camera angle while filming. We prefer an angle which allows a view of both your head and hands. Mask wearing is allowed and totally at the discretion of the performers.
7. Xeroxed music used in any video is allowed only for page turns. If we can see from your video that you’re using an illegal copy, your video will not be used.

We can DO this! Let’s combine our resources and *create something memorable!*

Sincerely,

Covid-19 Multiple Piano Festival Committee

Carol Wickham-Revier, NCTM, Chair

Jill Ice, NCTM, Registration Chair

Amy Watt, Announcer Chair

Rebecca Martin, Karen Ziegler, Carolyn Meyer, Irene Jergenson, Marianna Caron & Maria Hart