

Multiple Piano Festival Information *for Piano Students and Parents*

Saturday November 23, 2024

Niwot High School, 8989 Niwot Rd, Niwot, CO 80503

What is MPF?

Held the Saturday before Thanksgiving, MPF is an exciting festival of duets performed on 9 to 12 grand pianos simultaneously, with as many as 24 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 November following registration and auditions. Students need only be at the rehearsals for the pieces they are selected to play, not the entire rehearsal block.

Important Dates and Rehearsal Schedule Guidelines:

- Teacher's deadline for registration forms and fees: **October 21, 2024**
- Auditions (various locations TBA): **November 9, 2024**
- 1st Rehearsal (Boulder Piano Gallery):
November 15, Friday, 4:30–7:30 p.m.
Or
November 16, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.
- 2nd Rehearsal (Niwot High School):
November 22, Friday, 4:30–8:30 p.m.
- 3rd Rehearsal (Niwot High School):
November 23, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
- Final Run Through (Niwot High School):
November 23, Saturday, 1:30–4:00p.m.
- Concert (Niwot High School): **November 23, Saturday at 7:00 p.m.**

What is each student's obligation for the festival?

- Use original copies of all your music (no photocopies are allowed except for page turning purposes)
- Purchased digital downloads sheet music must be contained in a black binder. (No loose sheets)
- Come prepared to auditions. It is expected that students have **practiced with the practice recordings**, found on the bamta.org website
- Make any needed corrections to pieces as indicated on audition forms
- Attend **ALL** rehearsals for your pieces- attendance will be taken

What are the fees this year?

- **Registration fee: \$35.00 per participant, including adult participants** (\$45.00 for students of non-CSMTA teachers). Please submit fees to your teacher.
- **Concert ticket price** for all non-participants: **\$18.00 each, \$20.00 if paying with credit card.**

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. There is also a metronome check one piano at a time.
- Auditions for Group C are 2 students performed on one piano.
- All students should be prepared to play their pieces with the metronome (see the Repertoire list for the tempo markings and check for updates) and should also know their music well enough that they can keep an eye on the conductor. This is especially important at the beginning of the piece and at cadences or changes of tempo.
- It is a privilege to be chosen to play in this event. Every attempt will be made to accept as many students as possible, but if there are too many students for a specific piece, they might not be able to perform all of the pieces they audition—even if they are very good.
- There are no auditions for the Adult / Alum Group.
- Audition results will be available to teachers by the end of November 10. Judges' audition decisions are final and cannot be changed.

What is the art contest?

If you are a good artist, we encourage you to make a musical drawing on an **8 ½ x 11” paper (vertical) with black ink**. All of 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. Artwork is due on the audition day.

What do the Student Announcers do?

Each piece on the program will have one or two 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 are a confident public speaker and would like to add some extra cheer to the festival, let your teacher know. Student announcers will be chosen on audition day based on results and interest.

Policies for students and parents:

- Please direct all communications regarding the festival to your teacher, not the steering committee or conductors.
- By participating in this event, you are giving consent to being video recorded. The video will be shared on Youtube and any other media platforms of MPF’s choosing.
- All rehearsals are mandatory with the exception of an emergency or illness.
 - Parental notification of a missed rehearsal must be communicated strictly to the teacher. The teacher will then pass the information to the conductor/steering committee.
 - Please note, students who miss more than one rehearsal **or** the final run through will not be allowed to play in the concert.

What is the concert attire?

Dressy black and/or white attire, with touches of red

- Any combination of black or white shirts.
- Any combination of black or white dresses (modest length, please)
- Black pants with black dress shoes.
- Red color accents may be added if desired