

NAMTA 2021 Performance Audition Details

The Performance Auditions will be held ONLINE ONLY. Students will be required to submit videos of their repertoire selections through an online platform. Details regarding the process for submitting videos and scores will be forth coming.

Audition Timeline:

- January 31: Online Application Due (repertoire selection & theory score). Available in Member Resources.
- March 1: Score Submission Due
- March 15: Video Submission Due
- April 1: Judging will be Complete
- Due to COVID-19 there will be no Honors Recital this year

For questions about the Performance Audition, please email the chairs:

- Dan Landes: auditionchair1.namta@gmail.com
- Dana Meyer: auditionchair2@gmail.com
- Sarah Barham: sarah.k.barham@vanderbilt.edu

Entry Deadline:

NAMTA members must have their MTNA membership number available to access the application form. If your MTNA/TMTA/NAMTA membership is not current, you will not be able to access the application form. Non-MTNA/TMTA/NAMTA members may participate in the Performance Auditions. However the application fee for non-members is \$100.00 for each student entered. To participate as a non-member, please contact either Sarah Barham (piano) or Dana Meyer (strings).

Fee: The fee is \$25 for all solo entries and \$10 for each performer in an ensemble. Teachers can pay online by visiting **Google Pay** and entering the user name treasurer.namta@gmail.com. Please include your name and event in the memo area.

Or, teachers can write **one check made payable to “NAMTA” with the memo "Performance Audition"**. Send the check to NAMTA Treasurer:

Simone Parker
442 Bluff Dr.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Guidelines and General Information

An important aspect of musicianship is the opportunity for students of members and non-members to enter auditions and competitions.

NAMTA has three categories in which students enter auditions: Elementary (Grades K-5), Junior (Grades 6-8), and Senior (Grades 9-12).

NAMTA Performance Auditions follow the TMTA state guidelines to provide a number of benefits. These include:

1. Worthwhile goals for teachers.
2. Goals and opportunities for students.
3. Constructive criticism to students and teachers.
4. A purposeful program to develop musicianship and performance skills.
5. Opportunities for achieving the highest possible standards in the art of musical instruction and performance.

Performance Requirements

1. In order to participate in the NAMTA Performance Auditions, a Performance Auditions Application Form must be filled out online for each student and submitted no later than January 31, 2021. This form can only be accessed from the NAMTA website. Also, NAMTA members must have their MTNA membership number available to access the application form. If your MTNA/TMTA/NAMTA membership is not current, you will not be able to access the application form.
2. All participants must have studied with their teacher/co-teachers for a minimum of six months prior to the NAMTA auditions, and must still be with the same teacher/co-teachers at the time of the auditions.
3. Repertoire must include a minimum of three pieces representing three of the following periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, Modern, Contemporary. Evaluations will be based on the quality of the performance, not the difficulty of the music.
4. Memorization is required except for avant-garde works written after 1950. The student will bring two published copies of the non-memorized music to be performed. Compositions written for prepared piano are not permitted.
5. Students must provide the judge(s) one score for each work listed on the application through an online form that is due on March 1, 2021. Music must have a measure number at the beginning of each system. It is not necessary to number every measure. This conforms to TMTA and MTNA standards.
6. Instrumentalists may perform this year without an accompanist.
7. Once an application has been submitted, no changes can be made regarding repertoire selections or theory tests and scores.
8. Video Submissions will be submitted via a YouTube unlisted link. The video submission must be all the pieces performed in one take without cuts.

Follow these instructions: [View video tutorial](#)

1. Sign in to YouTube, and click on the camera icon with a plus in it on the top right corner of the screen, then click “Upload Video”.
2. Select the file from your computer that you want to upload, then click upload.
3. Under title, write the student's first name, initial of last name, and NAMTA Performance Audition 2021.
4. Under description, write the titles of your pieces and the composers.
5. Under Audience, select “No, it’s not made for kids”.
6. Then click “Next” twice (bottom right corner) to advance to the “Visibility” screen.
7. Select “Unlisted”.
8. Click “Save”. Copy the link on the next window and paste the link into the Video Submission Form

9. Due to COVID-19 there will be no Honors Recital this year

Rules for Competition

Please refer to the section in the [TMTA/MTNA Guidelines and Applications](#) booklet “Rules Applicable to All Auditions.”

Performance Times

Maximum Performance Times: Grades K-5: 10 minutes Grades 6-8: 15 minutes Grades 9-12: 20 minutes. The judges may choose to start and stop any piece.

Theory & Musicianship Exams

NAMTA does not hold a theory day for testing students. NAMTA teachers administer the Musicianship Tests to their own students, usually during the month of January in order to report the test results on the NAMTA Performance Auditions Application Form which is due by January 31. Teachers can share testing responsibilities with colleagues if they choose.

All students in grades 3 through 12 entering solo auditions at the local level are required to take the TMTA Musicianship Tests. Pianists and organists take four tests. Instrumentalists and vocalists take three. All may choose their tests from any of the eight categories. If they wish, they may use the piano for some of the tests. There are also six levels of sight-reading and technique for flute. A passing score is an average of 70 on the examinations taken. Categories exempt from the Musicianship Tests are: K-2, Ensemble, Collegiate and Adult.

There are eight tests with eight levels each, including: Written Theory, Aural Theory, Sight Reading, Keyboard Harmony, Terms, Transposition, Music History and Technique. Pianists must take four exams and all other students take three exams. A total average of 70% is considered passing. Students in grades 1-2 and university students are exempt from musicianship exams. Piano students must take an examination in a selected level of difficulty from FOUR different areas. Non-keyboard students must take an examination in a selected level of difficulty from three different areas to be selected from Music History, Terms and Signs, Written Theory, and Aural Theory.

A student may select an area at any level of difficulty. A minimum entrance level is neither required nor suggested. The student need not enter the four selected areas at the same level of difficulty.

The grade of 70 or above is a passing grade for all of the examinations. Students must receive an average score of 70 or above on all selected areas to be eligible to advance to State Auditions. To determine the average score, scores below 50 should be counted as 50. For example, a student received scores of 92, 68, 71, and 25. To determine the average score, add 92, 68, 71, and 50 for the sum of 281. Divide 281 by four and arrive at the average score of 70.25. This student is eligible to advance to State Auditions. Students who score 70 or above on any particular level should progress to a higher level the following year, provided, of course, that the same area is selected the following year.

In order for your students to participate in the NAMTA YAAA Competition or the TMTA State Auditions (competitions), your students must have completed and passed the TMTA Musicianship Tests (Theory Tests) and those scores must be reported on the NAMTA Performance Auditions Application Form as described above. Also, the students must have made a SUPERIOR in the NAMTA Performance Auditions

In order for your students to participate in the NAMTA Honors Recitals, your students must have made a SUPERIOR in the NAMTA Auditions. A passing grade on the Theory Test is not required.

If you are a new MTNA/TMTA/NAMTA member and have not received a hard copy of the TMTA Musicianship Manual, you can get a copy [here](#) or by contacting [Barbara Hildebrand](#). There is a charge for the hard copy: \$15.00, plus \$8.50 shipping. **Scores for musicianship exams will not be accepted after the deadline for the Performance Audition Application.**

Application and Registration Fees

1. **Please submit all applications online.** If this is not possible, please contact president.namta@gmail.com
2. Indicate Musicianship Level by Numbers 1-8 and test scores in percentages. (DO NOT USE ROMAN NUMERALS!)
3. Under repertoire, **include opus numbers, names of movements and Musical Period.**(Repertoire must use three of the five musical periods.)

Application deadlines and performance audition dates will be strictly followed. TMTA allows students to enter auditions at another location if there is a conflict.