



**Music Teachers' Association of California**  
Palo Alto Branch

## **AUTUMN FESTIVAL 2020**

online event

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Dear Applicant,

Autumn Festival 2020 is going online this year and we have changed the application procedure. Please, review the following information carefully.

**Purpose:** To motivate and inspire students of all levels to excel at their instrument and enjoy music making and to provide students with an opportunity to perform and receive an evaluation of their performance.

**Qualifications:** Students of any age, level, and instrument are welcome to apply. Piano students will be evaluated based on their performance, not on the type of piano or keyboard used, or whether it was recently tuned. For Strings Evaluations: to comply with social distancing mandates, live accompaniment is not required. The teacher and student may select the option best for the student from the options below:

-Live accompaniment - if someone in the household can accompany the student

-Pre-recorded accompaniment or an accompaniment program.

-No Accompaniment

The student's evaluation results will not be affected by the accompaniment choice.

Please, note that this year there will be no ensemble evaluations

**Online Festival Procedure:** The festival will be held in a series of virtual pre-recorded YouTube playlists. Virtual auditions and evaluations will be held on **Sunday November 22, 2020** and will be posted on a private YouTube channel afterwards for a limited duration of two weeks.

After the virtual audition students will receive a certificate of participation, and the judges' evaluation. Excellence ribbons will be assigned to students by the following criteria. Piano students who receive an "Excellent" rating from 2 judges will be awarded a ribbon. String students who receive one "Excellent" rating will be awarded a ribbon. All awards and certificates will be given to teachers after the festival.

### **APPLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES**

**October 31** – Application Fee deadline

**November 1-10 (11:59pm)** – online application period

Important: even though the evaluation date is Nov 22, your YouTube recording has to be submitted during the application period. Please, plan accordingly.

**Repertoire Guidelines:**

Students should perform one piece from the classical repertoire (similar to CM repertoire). The level placement is to be determined by the teacher and the CM syllabus can be used for reference.

Maximum performance time is 5 minutes. Recordings exceeding 5 minutes will be stopped by Judges.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE****Application Fee (\$30) – deadline October 31, submitted by teacher:**

1. Please write the participant's full name on a slip of paper. List all participants if you're registering more than one.
2. Write one check in the amount of all applicants (\$30 x number of applicants) payable to MTAC, Palo Alto Branch and mail the check along with the participants list to:  
**Mina Furmansky, 792 W McKinley Ave., Sunnyvale, Ca 94086**

**Online Application Procedure:**

1. The Application period will open on Nov.1 and close on Nov.10 at 11:59pm PST.  
A link to apply will be posted at <http://www.mtacpa.org/> and will also be sent to the Palo Alto branch members by email. It can also be accessed through the link below:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScox\\_wyB\\_pCRDATZ3LPKM3HbTIBoe-M0gQrrzyfoMY8XYsKkA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScox_wyB_pCRDATZ3LPKM3HbTIBoe-M0gQrrzyfoMY8XYsKkA/viewform)
2. Participants will upload a video recording of their performance on YouTube. Please see the note below on how to do this safely.
3. Last, you'll give us a link to your YouTube recording, some information, and a PDF of the sheet music at the application website.

**Participation at the Festival is on a first come first serve basis. Once the total performance time has reached its maximum capacity, subsequent applications will not be accepted.**

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

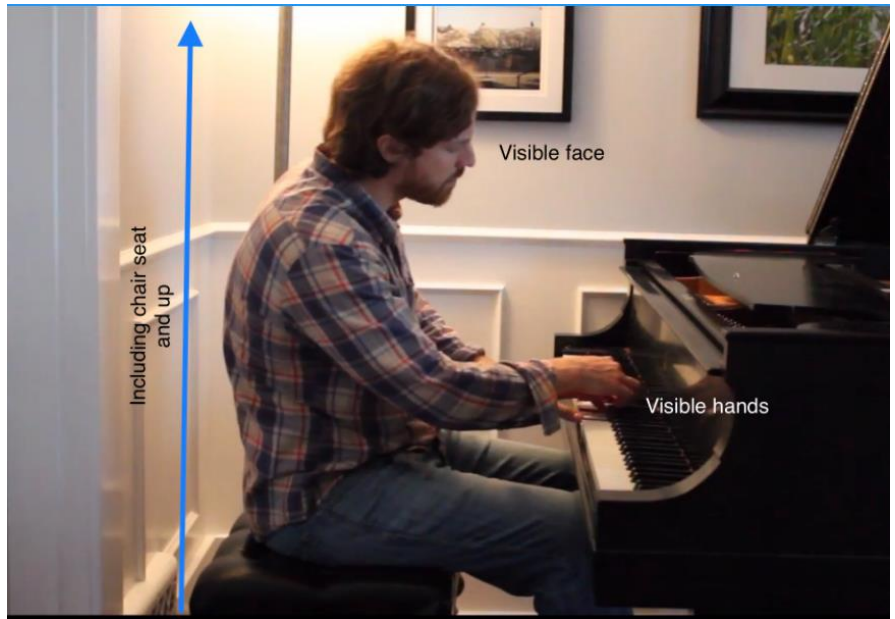
The purpose of the Autumn Festival is to motivate and inspire students of all levels to excel at their instrument and enjoy music making. The Festival provides students with an opportunity to perform and receive an evaluation of their performance. The following guidelines will ensure a smooth run of the virtual event.

**Video Instructions:**

1. Video recording should be good quality, but does not need to be professionally produced.  
Recording with a smartphone would be an acceptable method of recording.
2. Video recordings must be made with one fixed camera angle, focused on the performer with their face and hands visible.
3. All participants should play from memory.
4. Students should dress formally as they would for a live performance
5. Video recording must be unaltered and unedited
6. The video should be titled as detailed in the YouTube Recording Guideline below.
7. Video recording can be completed in a studio, home, school, or any location of the student's choice, but should abide by any current shelter in place and physical distancing mandates.

## How to Frame Your Video (examples):

Piano students are recommended to angle their camera so that it focuses on their face, hands and keyboard.



## YouTube Recording Guidelines:

We are concerned about your privacy and want to ensure YouTube is used safely as a platform for the festival this year. YouTube submissions can have different visibility settings and for the safety of our participants we will accept only 'Unlisted' links. Once submitted, your recording will be used only for the purpose of organizing the Autumn Festival 2020 online event and a Private festival playlist will be available to participants for two weeks only.

Please follow these steps to submit an 'Unlisted' YouTube video for Autumn Festival 2020:

1. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), press "Create" icon on the top right corner of the screen and choose 'Upload Video':



 Upload video

2. Press 'Next' and input required info as follows:
  - **Title:** AF20\_FirstLastName *Example: AF20\_JohnJohnson*
  - **Add Description:** Piece title and composer's name *Example: Minuet in G by J.S. Bach*
  - Change 'Public' to '**Unlisted**'
3. Press 'Next' and choose 'Cancel' on Select Audience page questions.
4. Press '**Upload**'
5. Press '**Share**' and choose '**Copy link**'. Save this link for the application.

## Music Sheet PDF:

You will need to submit a music sheet PDF of the performed piece during the online application. All PDF scores need to be marked with measure numbers. Maximum PDF file size 10MB.

In the event you need to withdraw an application after submission, please contact Elena Akopova at [sfcmkeyboard@gmail.com](mailto:sfcmkeyboard@gmail.com). Unfortunately we will not be able to issue refunds.

We are excited for this virtual edition and look forward to creating another memorable Autumn Festival with you!

Please direct any questions to Elena Akopova (408)838-3878  
Email: [sfcmkeyboard@gmail.com](mailto:sfcmkeyboard@gmail.com)