



PIANO COMPETITION 2023

Terms & Conditions

GENERAL

1. The Competition will be held on Tuesday 6 June 2023 in the Recital Room of the Performing Arts Centre, commencing at 3:45pm and concluding at approximately 5:00pm. Lists of competitor's names and Divisions will be allocated shortly after the closing date for entries and students will be notified. The session will need to start punctually and entrants are expected to be prepared for their event in good time.
2. All students undertaking tuition within the College's Music Department Instrumental Program are encouraged to enter, as well as Elective Music students and also those taking piano tuition outside of school.
3. The Competition is open to the public, and competitors are to arrive at the commencement of the session (even if scheduled to perform later down the list) and stay for the duration of the afternoon's session. It would be beneficial to observe the other performers in order to get a sense of proceedings overall.
4. First Place holders will be expected to perform in the Waverley College Chamber Music Festival to be held later in the year and so should enter this event with this potential performance date in mind.

DIVISIONS

1. Entrants must choose from the following categories to make sure they are in the appropriate Grade area for their level of attainment, irrespective of the entrant's age. Grades given below reflect those of the AMEB. This, and repertoire selection should be discussed with your piano instructor.

Division 1: Elementary; Beginner (first year of learning) up to & including Grade 2

Division 2: Intermediate; Grades 3 and 4

Division 3: Upper Intermediate; Grades 5 and 6

Division 4: Advancing; Grade 7 and beyond

2. Applicants have free choice of repertoire selection, as there are no restrictions other than solo pieces only will be allowed (i.e. no duets, ensembles, etc. or any form of backing). However, the onus of choosing suitable material rests with the entrant. Suitability, quality of choice and degree of difficulty for the Division entered (e.g. presenting a work of Grade 4 level in the Division 1 category will be penalised) are taken into consideration by the adjudicator. Ensure you consult your piano teacher in this matter.
3. Unpublished or self-published works are permissible, provided a copy is handed in with the application form.
4. It is important to underline that choosing works outside the current capabilities of the entrant will not attain more marks as there is no discrimination in terms of difficulty vs. execution. Similarly, there is no bias towards fast, 'flashy' pieces as slower, expressive pieces are equally (and sometimes more) difficult to perform!

TIME LIMIT

1. A time limit will be applied and enforced. A maximum total performance time of up to 5 minutes per performer is allowed (with a 15 second leeway), yet there is no minimum duration. Entrants exceeding the time limit will hear a bell sound to indicate the time limit has been reached, and a second, continuous bell sound to instruct the entrant to cease performing if the 15 second leeway has been run over.
2. It is acceptable to present more than one work as long as the total time does not go beyond 5 minutes. Time will be calculated from the first note played to the finish of the last note, and therefore does not include announcement of the item(s), bowing or walking to and from the instrument. Note that if multiple pieces are presented, timing will continue between the performance of one item and the next, so this needs to be taken into consideration when choosing pieces. Competitors risk penalty or disqualification by not abiding to the time limit and will not be eligible for a prize and receive a 'comments only' report.

PRIZES

A prize will be awarded for First Place in each Division.

2. Place-getters for all Divisions will be announced at the end of the afternoon of performances. All entrants will receive a participation certificate, with place holders receiving 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize certificates. Entrants displaying a high standard of performance but who do not place will be considered for a 'Highly Commended' certificate.

RULES

1. Only one entry per student will be permitted. Applicants cannot compete in multiple sections.
2. Competitors must adhere to the order in which they are scheduled except in circumstances needing prior approval.
3. Entrants themselves are to clearly announce the title(s) and composer(s) of their performance item(s). At the conclusion of the performance, each entrant should bow to acknowledge applause from the audience. Check with your teacher about performance conventions and stage etiquette. A high level of personal presentation will be expected and also considered in overall deliberations.
4. Performance from memory is not compulsory though is encouraged, however, memorised work will not necessarily equate to a higher score.
5. Students are to ensure a tidy standard of their uniform and display a high measure of decorum at all times. Any entrant behaving in an undignified manner, or who uses offensive language or gestures directed to other competitors, the adjudicator, staff or observers, may forfeit adjudication and/or be removed from the Recital Room.
6. Each entrant deserves to be heard in silence whilst competing. Should there be disruptive conduct during a performance by fellow competitors, offenders will be made to leave the Recital Room. Therefore, any electronic devices should be switched off before entering the Recital Room, and mobile phones at least put to silent mode.
7. Legal requirements prohibit any person to record any entrant on any device whilst performing, or to record (in any form) any member of staff or the adjudicator at any time. Anyone found in breach will be asked to leave the room and the recording deleted. Waverley College reserves the right to videotape or photograph any entrant to document the event, unless an objection is lodged by a student or parent prior to the date of competing (see application form).

8. If a satisfactory level of performance is not reached, the adjudicator has the discretion to withhold prizes and issue a report only. Should the College or the adjudicator decide not to award any prize(s) in any Division, this decision shall be unalterable.

9. Any form of communication with the adjudicator at any time prior to or during the Competition is strictly not permitted by either an entrant or those associated with any entrant (staff excluded). The adjudication table must not be approached, nor may the adjudicator be spoken to at any time during the performances. If any entrant or person associated with an entrant is found to have made personal contact with the adjudicator before or during the event then that entrant will face immediate disqualification.

10. Any student who has been taught or coached, or is related to the adjudicator for a period of up to six (6) months before the date of the Competition will not be eligible to compete.

ADJUDICATION

1. We are pleased to welcome an external adjudicator. All competitors will receive a written report, which will be issued at the conclusion of the day of performances, at which time the prizewinners will be announced.

2. The adjudicator's decisions in accordance with the rules are final.

3. As a guide only, judging criteria will likely include - but is not limited to - the areas of technical proficiency, musicianship, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, pedalling, interpretation and stylistic insight and its communication, choice of repertoire, appropriate sense of individuality and conviction, and overall presentation.

4. The adjudicator will not be permitted to vary or 'interpret' any rules or conditions as outlined herein.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Please carefully complete and submit the google form (one form per entrant), and return to the PAC Coordinator NO LATER THAN Tuesday, 30 May 2023.

2. A complete and legible copy of the music with the competitor's name on it MUST BE provided with the application, this can be emailed or provided in hardcopy by 30 May. Any cuts or alterations should be clearly marked. If photocopies are attached, these will not be returned due to copyright regulations (even if available in the public domain), however published originals of works/books will be. Waverley College does not accept any responsibility for any unauthorised photocopies of music used by competitors. If a change in performance piece(s) is required after submitting an application, a copy must be presented prior to the day of performance.

3. Further enquiries may be directed to the PAC Coordinator, Mrs Kossenberg, on 9369 0623 or email: kkossenberg@waverley.nsw.edu.au or through the piano teachers at the College.

Good luck and happy practising!