

THE HOUSTON FORUM YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Presented by the Forum Music Teachers Association

Saturday, May 15th, 2027

Moore School of Music at the University of Houston

Eligibility

Any piano student enrolled in a public, parochial, or private elementary, junior, or senior high school in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, or Oklahoma may enter. For the purpose of this competition, home schools are considered private schools.

Registration & Fees

- **Deadline:** Completed registration forms and entry fees are due on April 1, 2027. Checks must be postmarked by this date; no registration changes will be made after the due date. The competition will be limited to the first 165 entries received.
- **Entry Fees (per student):**
FMTA members - \$45 | Non-FMTA members - \$80.
Entry fees are not refundable.
- **Submission Guidelines:** Registration and information may be requested by the teachers only. Registering teachers must request the registration form by email from lalielbakidze@yahoo.com. Teachers will be notified of performance times for their students two weeks prior to the competition. Performance times may not be requested, or changed.
- **Inquiries:** Participating students must address any questions or inquiries regarding the competition to their teachers. Teachers may contact HFYAC Chair Dr. Lali Elbakidze-Vachev with any remaining questions at lalielbakidze@yahoo.com.
- **Payment Methods:** Only one check or a Zelle payment from the teacher, not a student, will be accepted.
 - **Zelle:** Payment should be made using Forumactivities12@gmail.com. In the MEMO section of the transaction, please include: your name, the event name – HFYAC, and number of contestant entries.
 - **Check:** Checks should be payable to: FMTEF (Forum Music Teachers Educational Foundation), and sent to Dr. Lali Elbakidze-Vachev, 1107 Del Norte St. Houston, TX 77018.

Awards

- **Monetary Awards:**
 - **Division IX:** 1st place - \$150; 2nd place - \$100
 - **Division X:** 1st place - \$200; 2nd place - \$150
- **Trophies & Ribbons:**
 - First, Second, Third and Fourth place trophy awards for winners in each division.
 - Honorable Mention Rosette Ribbon awards for up to six finalists in each division.
 - Finalist Ribbons for all contestants progressing to final rounds.
 - Participation ribbons and critique sheets for all contestants.

Competition Rules & Procedures

1. The competition features ten age-based divisions for ages 8 to 17 years old. Contestants are eligible to enroll in any division, provided their age does not exceed the listed age for the division on September 15, 2026.
2. Former first place winners must advance to the next higher division.
3. A contestant may enter only one division.
4. A division may contain more than one group; each group is given separate awards. Students of the same teacher will be divided into different groups, when possible.
5. For each division, a preliminary round (closed to the public) may be necessary before determining winners in the final round (open to public). Awards will be presented immediately following the final round.
6. Contestants who are unable to play in the final round, if chosen, are ineligible to compete in the preliminary round.
7. The required repertoire for each division is listed below and must be performed by memory.
8. All judges' decisions are final.
9. Uncivil behavior by a parent, teacher, or student will result in immediate removal from the competition event premises. The student(s) of the removed parent or teacher are immediately disqualified from the competition. The competition chair or representative makes this decision, which is final and may not be appealed. This rule exists in order to provide all contestants and their families a safe and welcoming environment. Disqualified participants may be subject to elimination from any future Forum MTA events.

Required Repertoire

Important reminder about copyright infringement law: Although participants are not required to bring their music to this competition event, participants must own a legal publication to compete in all Forum MTA events.

DIVISION I (AGE 8):

Aeolian Harp by William Gillock. Published by Alfred Music, available in [Aeolian Harp: Piano Sheet](#)

DIVISION II (AGE 9):

Allegro in A Major by Wilhelm Friedmann Bach. Published by Alfred Music, available in [The Classical Spirit \(1750-1820\), Book 2](#)

DIVISION III (AGE 10):

Scherzo in A Major by Johann Nepomuk Hummel. Published by Alfred Music, available in [The Classical Spirit \(1750-1820\), Book 2](#)

DIVISION IV (AGE 11):

Sonatine, Mov I – Moderately fast by William Gillock. Published by Willis Music, available in [Classic Piano Repertoire: William Gillock](#)

DIVISION V (AGE 12):

Ostinato by Béla Bartók. Published by Boosey & Hawkes, available in [Bartók: Mikrokosmos - Volume 6](#)

DIVISION VI (AGE 13):

Sonatina, Mov I – Allegro giocoso by Aram Khachaturian. Published by G. Schirmer Inc., available in [Sonatina \(1959\) For Piano](#)

DIVISION VII (AGE 14):

Canción y Danza 6 (Song and Dance No. 6) by Federico Mompou. Published by Edward B. Marks Music Company, available in [Canciones y danzas - Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8](#)

DIVISION VIII (AGE 15):

Impromptu in A-flat Major, Op. 29 by Frederic Chopin. Published by Polskie Wydawnictwo Muzyczne, Available in [Impromptus Op. 29, 36, 51](#)

DIVISION IX (AGE 16):

Partita No. 5 – Preambulum, BWV 829 by Johann Sebastian Bach. Published by G. Henle Verlag, available in [Six Partitas BWV 825-830](#)

DIVISION X (AGE 17):

Ballade, Op. 118, No. 3 by Johannes Brahms. Published by G. Henle Verlag, Available in [Piano Pieces op. 118](#)

INFORMATION ABOUT REPEATS:

Division II, *Allegro in A Major* by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach, is to be performed without repeats, except the D. C. al Fine (omitting repeats in M8, M16, and M32). All other categories are expected to be performed with all indicated repeats.