

EMTA Musicianship Festival (EMF)

# Teacher Information Letter

Saturday, May 3, 2025, Live with Prerecorded Performance Videos due April 18th, 2025

Location: Edgewood Baptist Church, 20406 76th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98026

Sponsored by Edmonds Music Teachers' Association



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## What is the Edmonds Musicianship Festival?

The Edmonds Musicianship Festival (EMF) is a “field day” of musical events providing a full day of musical fun. All students of EMTA members, and others (by permission), may enter.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

1. **March 22** by 11:59 pm ONLINE Teacher **Registration Due** via the [Online Registration Form](#)
2. **April 14th** during the EMTA General Meeting – **Information and Training** (if requested and needed) for Musicianship Festival Teacher Volunteers. **Teacher Packets** will need to be picked up.
3. **April 18th** by 11:59 pm ONLINE- **Students upload files** for performances and composition that they are registered for using the Student-Upload Form. The format for student video and composition submissions on Jotform is as follows.
  - Performance: YouTube URL Link
  - Composition: PDF and mp3 file or YouTube URL Link
 ALSO: the [Non-Teacher Volunteer Form](#) is due on this day (April 18<sup>th</sup>!)
4. **May 2nd** from 3:00pm to 5:00pm is **festival set-up time!**
5. **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:00am to 3:00pm is the day of the **Edmonds Musicianship Festival**. Teacher Volunteers: please arrive at 8:30 am to open your rooms and be ready for the festival participants.

### IMPORTANT TERMS:

For the sake of saving space in this document, I am using shortened names for important links and documents. I have tried to refer to each link and document with the same wording each time

- “[Online Registration Form](#)” is the 2025 EMTA Musicianship Festival and Music Literacy Program Student Registration Form. Teachers fill out this form to register the students in their studio.
- “Student/Parent Information Letter” is the 2025 Musicianship Festival Parent Information Letter. Teachers may give this letter to families to inform them of the festival and gather information about what events their student is interested in doing.
- “Student Upload Form” is the 2025 Musicianship Festival and Music Literacy Student Submissions. This form is where students will upload videos of their piano solos, and/or the pdfs and videos of their compositions.
- “[Non-Teacher Volunteer Form](#)” is the 2025 EMTA Musicianship Festival Volunteer Registration. Volunteers who are not teacher-members of EMTA fill out this form.
- “EMF 2025 Teacher Registration Worksheet.” This is a table that teachers can print and use while gathering information before registering their students.

## REGISTRATION

### ITEMS NEEDED FOR REGISTRATION AND PREPARATION:

Documents found on the EMTA website under “Protected – Member Information” ([www.edmondsmusicteachers.org](http://www.edmondsmusicteachers.org))

1. **Student/Parent Information Letter** – To collect information from your students. You can hand this to them directly and they can fill it out and return it to you!
2. Here are some **references for choosing appropriate levels** for your students. Use as many as you need:
  - a. [Piano Performance Leveling Guidelines](#)
  - b. [Music Literacy Program Guide on the WSMTA Website](#)
  - c. [Sight-Reading Reference Sheet](#)
  - d. [Language of the MLP](#)
3. You can use the **EMF 2025 Teacher Registration Worksheet** to prepare to fill out the registration form. There is a copy at the end of this letter.
4. **ONLY TEACHERS complete the [ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM](#). This is the ONLY ACCEPTED form of registration. (Do NOT register with WSMTA)**
5. Other preparation materials:
  - a. [MLP Checklists](#)
  - b. [MLP Scale Reference Sheet](#) (Technique and Applied Theory for Levels 3-10 only)
  - c. [MLP Resources List](#)
  - d. Rubrics for [Sight-Reading](#) and [Rhythm](#)

### VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS:

1. ***If you plan for your students to participate in the EMF, you are required to help with some aspect of the festival.*** If you absolutely cannot attend on May 3rd, another arrangement can be made with approval of the EMF Chairs. Performance and Composition judging will be on Zoom and will take place before the festival.
2. **Teachers AND students participating in the Excellence in Music Awards are REQUIRED to volunteer** at some aspect of the Musicianship Festival as well.
3. **Teacher Volunteers** will be assigned their duties over email correspondence directly with Mary. ([maryroselessons@gmail.com](mailto:maryroselessons@gmail.com)).
4. All **Non-Teacher Volunteers** (students, parents, friends, spouses) will sign up through the [Non-Teacher Volunteer Form](#).

### INSTRUCTIONS – FIRST STEPS:

1. **Distribute the Student/Parent Information Letter** as soon as possible to your students.

2. **Collect forms and payment** from parents (payable to you, the teacher.) The form is in the Student/Parent information letter.
3. **Register your students** ONLINE at using the [Online Registration Form](#).
4. **Note:** Teachers only need to register students online; *students will upload their own YouTube Link for performances, pdfs of repertoire for performance (only required for Level 6 and above), pdfs of composition, and mp3 or 4 or YouTube Link for composition.*
5. **After** teacher registration is complete, *students upload their performances and compositions* to the Student Upload Form. Deadline for performance and composition files is April 18th.

## TIPS AND TRICKS FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION:

1. **Do not worry about the UPLOADS.** That information comes AFTER registration. STUDENTS will upload their own information at Student Upload Form
2. **Take your time** filling out the [Online Registration Form](#). YOU ONLY FILL IT OUT ONE TIME. Have your students return the form in the student/parent information letter. Once they are compiled, then do the [Online Registration Form](#).
3. **Note:** If you realize you've made a **mistake after you've submitted the form**, contact Dawn Taylor-May at [emtawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:emtawebmaster@gmail.com) and she will help you!
4. **Note:** When you are filling out the [Online Registration Form](#) and all the categories, it's easiest to **use the TAB key** to move from box to box, left to right. If you press it over and over it will take you to the next line.
5. **If you are registering over 30 students**, you will need to fill out a second [Online Registration Form](#).
6. **Pay using the [Online Registration Form](#):** Teachers can only complete the submission once they have paid for the TOTAL entry fee for all their students. This MUST be done online.
7. **Breathe.** You've got this.
8. **Remember you are an awesome teacher** and we appreciate you!

## FEES:

**All fees are non-refundable.** Students must pay the full fee of \$35.00 even if they enter only one event of the Edmonds Musicianship Festival.

## To whom do I direct my QUESTIONS:

**BEFORE YOU SEND AN EMAIL:** The answer to your question might already be in this letter!

1. For **registration questions**, please contact Dawn Taylor-May at [emtawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:emtawebmaster@gmail.com)
2. [emtawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:emtawebmaster@gmail.com)
3. For **MLP questions and Teacher-Volunteer questions**, please contact Mary Walker-Lieberman at [maryroselessons@gmail.com](mailto:maryroselessons@gmail.com)



4. For **Non-Teacher Volunteer questions** contact Brooke Shirts at [brookeshirts.piano@gmail.com](mailto:brookeshirts.piano@gmail.com)
5. For **scheduling questions**, please contact Laurie McFarland at [treasurer@edmondsmusicteachers.org](mailto:treasurer@edmondsmusicteachers.org)

## OVERVIEW OF CATEGORIES:

Students may choose up to 9 events from the “Music Literacy Program Examinations” and “Performance Options” Lists. IN ADDITION, they may also enter a project and/or a composition, for a possible total of 11 events!

## MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM EXAMINATIONS

1. All 5 of the MLP exams are available this year and students can choose to take 1 to 5 of these exams. There are 10 levels for each exam.
2. **Technique, Rhythm, and Sight Reading (TRS)** will be judged in one room by one teacher. Students will be scheduled for this event. (It is recommended that Sight Reading exams be 2 levels lower than the student performance level. For example, if the student performs at Level 5 for their performances, then Level 3 would be appropriate for Sight Reading.)
3. **Listening** will be held in a large room with up to 30 students spaced around the room. Each Listening Level will have a specific time allotted, so it is important that students come on time for this exam. NOTE: IF STUDENTS DO NOT COME AT THEIR TIME, THEY CANNOT MAKE THIS ONE UP!
4. **The Theory Exam** is the only exam that will not be scheduled. Students can take this exam at any time that they are available between 9 and 1 pm on the day of the festival in the theory room.

## PIANO SOLO PERFORMANCE INFORMATION:

1. Students can upload 1, 2, or 3 **video performances of piano solos**. ALL PIECES MUST be from a **different time-period** category. Please see “Performance Rules” on p. 6 for a definition of each musical time-period.
  - a. Baroque Era
  - b. Classical Era
  - c. Romantic Era
  - d. Contemporary Era
  - e. Non-Classical Era
2. When you register online, you MUST **choose a LEVEL for each performance**. *You do not need to indicate the time-period when registering.* You can use the [Piano Performance Leveling Guide](#) to determine the levels of your students’ pieces.
3. Video and Upload Instructions

- a. Students will upload their YouTube videos using the Student Upload Form by April 18<sup>th</sup> 2025.
- b. There is a **MAXIMUM performance length of 3 minutes per piece**. If it is longer, the judges may grade down the performance.
- c. Students' face and hands must always be visible in the video. It is preferable to see the feet as well.
- d. **Pieces that aren't memorized** will automatically receive 1 level lower for ribbons.
- e. Every performance piece **MUST** have its OWN YouTube link. \*\*\*DO NOT RECORD ALL PIECES IN ONE VIDEO\*\*\*

## OTHER PERFORMANCE OPTIONS:

In addition to the 3 solo piano performance videos, students may compete in **ONE additional LIVE PERFORMANCE**.

1. Piano/Duet Ensemble Performance (any Level)
2. Voice Performance (any Level)
3. Other instrument performance (woodwinds, string, bass, percussion)

## ADDITIONAL OPTIONS:

1. **Compositions** (due April 18th) – pdf and mp3, mp4 or YouTube link to the Student Upload Form). Judging for composition will be based on the use of: Melody, Harmony, Neatness of Manuscript, Imagination, and Form. Please limit compositions to 3 minutes.
2. **Projects using the subject of music:** art, history, research paper, craft, food, etc. Projects will be showcased at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Edmonds Musicianship Festival. *All projects must be at the festival location by 8:30 on May 3 to receive a ribbon.* Once the project has been judged, it can be retrieved by the student. All judged projects must be picked up by 1:30pm on the day of the festival.

## DEADLINE:

The [Online Registration Form](#) and payment is due by 11:59 pm on March 22nd, 2025. Late entries will not be accepted. It is too difficult to schedule events for so many students if we don't have sufficient time. **THERE ARE NO MAILED REGISTRATIONS OR CHECKS FOR PAYMENT. EVERYTHING IS ONLINE!**

The Student Upload Form is due by 11:59 pm on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Late entries will not be accepted. It is too difficult to schedule online adjudications for so many students if we don't have sufficient time.

## EMF RULES AND CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS:

### PERFORMANCE RULES:

1. Time Limits for Performances - Because of the number of entries and online judging, **ALL performances must be 3 minutes or shorter**. Please time pieces and practice cutting them off early at lessons. Have students include their favorite part. Mark the spot where the student will begin playing if it is not the beginning of the piece for levels 6 or higher.
2. **Memorization** - Students are encouraged to memorize their pieces. If pieces are not memorized, students will be allowed to perform. *HOWEVER: If performance pieces are not memorized, awards will automatically be reduced by one level.*
3. Only **Students registered for Level 6 or higher will upload a pdf of their repertoire** on the online student form. No pdf is necessary for Levels 1-5.
4. Rules by category:
  - a. **Baroque, Classical, Romantic Era Piano Performance** - any level Students may play any piano solo composition by an appropriate period composer. Maximum playing time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity. Adaptations of a theme are acceptable.
  - b. **Contemporary Era (20th -21st Century Classical) Piano Performance** - All levels may participate. Students may play any piano solo composition by an Impressionist or Modern period composer, i.e., Debussy, Bartok, Gershwin, Prokofiev. Maximum playing time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity.
  - c. **Non-Classical Piano Performance** - any level. Students may play any piano solo composition whose style is not listed in the categories above. This includes, jazz, folk, rock, patriotic, hymns, pop, ethnic or any special arrangements for piano. Maximum playing time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity.
  - d. **Piano Duet/Ensemble Performance** – any level Students may play a duet/ensemble with other instruments. Four-hands, one piano piece(s) may also be played. *Memorization is NOT required for this category.* Duet partners must be at the same level or within one level of each other. Maximum playing time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity.
  - e. **Voice Performance** – any level Students must be currently studying voice with a current EMTA member or a teacher who has obtained special permission to participate in the Edmonds Musicianship Festival. Students sing one solo piece and/or duet. *Solo pieces must be memorized.* Anyone may accompany the student if there is a piano accompaniment. Maximum performance time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity.



- f. **Other Instrument Performance** – any level Students must be currently studying a musical instrument with a current EMTA member or a teacher who has obtained special permission to participate in the Edmonds Musicianship Festival. Students sing one solo piece and/or duet. Anyone may accompany the student if there is a piano part. Maximum playing time is 3 minutes, subject to a possible time cut. Omit repeats except when essential to the piece's form or continuity.

## DESCRIPTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR OTHER EVENTS:

1. **Composition** - All levels may participate. Composition online submission deadline is April 18th. A pdf and an audio file (mp3, mp4 or YouTube link) should be included with all composition submissions. *Please do NOT put your name on the pdf file.*
2. **Projects** – All levels may participate. Project subjects should be of a musical nature. They may be visual art projects, history projects, research papers, crafts, foods, musical transcriptions or transpositions, engineering projects, etc. Please feel free to surprise us and have fun with this! PROJECT INFORMATION on a 3x5 inch notecard, write Student Name, Student Age, Grade, Level of Parent Help (1= No help, 10= Significant help), and the teacher's name on the back of the notecard. If the project warrants an explanation, then have the student write or type a description on a separate sheet of paper.

## OTHER

### TRANSCENDENTAL RIBBONS

This year the Transcendental Ribbons will ONLY be given to extraordinary Projects, Compositions and MLP (100% on all 5 Exams). These Ribbons will not be given for any of the performance categories. This festival has historically been non-competitive, and we want to keep it that way.

### SCHEDULING

Remember that we don't take scheduling requests. However, our team works very hard to group the students' events together so that they are usually at the Edmonds Musicianship Festival for 2 hours maximum. Higher levels will take more time, especially for the Theory Exam. If you have concerns, contact Mary Walker-Lieberman at [maryroselessons@gmail.com](mailto:maryroselessons@gmail.com)

## EMF REGISTRATION WORKSHEET

(See next page)

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## EMF 2025 Registration Worksheet

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