



EMTA

Edmonds Music Teachers Association

BRINGING MUSIC TO OUR COMMUNITY

Student Awards Gala



Saturday, May 30, 2026



3 pm, 4 pm and 5 pm



HARTLEY MANSION:

2320 Rucker Ave, Everett, WA 98201



Student Awards Gala

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2026 WA STATE YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT

The Young Composers Project gives students of WSMTA members the opportunity to submit their compositions for judging and comments by qualified adjudicators.

- **7th Grade: Lillian Mergler (Teacher: Marie Wollam-Mergler) Fountains of Despair**
- **9th Grade: Naomi Baumann (Teacher: Tanya Otto) Wings Meet Wind**

2026 EMTA PIANO STATE RECITAL COMPETITION

The State Recital Competition is a competition to choose EMTA Chapter Representatives for the Washington State Conference Honors Recital and Alternates for the District Honors Recital. Winners of this competition will represent EMTA at the Washington State Music Teachers Association Conference. Alternates will be identified and participate in District I Honors Recital.

- **Isabel Yang (Teacher: Allan Park) Scriabin: Etude op. 42, no. 5**
- **Joel Rice (Teacher: Jensina Oliver) Debussy: Prelude #7 - Book 1, Ce qu'a vu le vent d'ouest**
- **Bryant Bui (Teacher: Jensina Oliver) Kabalevsky: Seven Good-Humoured Variations on a Ukrainian Folksong, Op. 51, No. 4**
- **Jozef Kocaj (Teacher: Roxanne Kar) Liszt: Consolation no. 3**

2026 EMTA VOICE STATE RECITAL COMPETITION

The State Recital Competition is a competition to choose EMTA Chapter Representatives for the Washington State Conference Honors Recital and Alternates for the District Honors Recital. Winners of this competition will represent EMTA at the Washington State Music Teachers Association Conference. Alternates will be identified and participate in District I Honors Recital.

- **Saisha Agarwal (Teacher: Shih-Yi Kuan, unable to perform today)**

2026 EMTA EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC AWARDS PROGRAM

EMTA has established a new Excellence in Music Awards Program to replace the previous Joan E. Brown Scholarship award. The new Excellence in Music Awards Program will support and encourage students to be active in their EMTA community and acknowledge exceptional ability, application and meritorious accomplishment by giving financial assistance to those students in grades 7-12.

- **7/8 Grade: Laurel Bjur (Teacher: Valerie Gaithright) Mier: Waterfront Jazz**
- **7/8 Grade: Yiling Sun (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Beethoven: Sonata in E Major, Op. 14, No. 1, III. Rondo**
- **9/10 Grade Category: Radmila Sabirova (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova. Unable to perform today)**
- **11/12 Grade Category/Joan Brown Scholarship Winner: Dylan Le (Teacher: Angela Michael) Lecuona: Andalucia**

AWARD CEREMONY



Student Awards Gala

Saturday, May 30 at 4:00 PM

HARTLEY MANSION: 2320 Rucker Ave, Everett, WA 98201

2025 MUSIC ERA FESTIVAL: Romantic Era

The Time Era Festival was created to help students appreciate the differences between the Baroque (1600-1750), Classical, (1750-1820), The Romantic (1820-1900) and the Modern (1901 to Present).

- **Best of Festival: Yuxin Sun (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin, Etude op.25 #2**
- **Best of Festival: Ella Chung (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin, Mazurka op.17 #4**
- **Best of Festival: Chloe Nari Wang (Teacher: Allan Park. Unable to perform today)**
- **Best of Festival: Miyako Berman (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin, Mazurka op.24 #4**
- **Best of Festival: Yu Yan Perrie Lam (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin, Nocturne op.15 #2**
- **Best of Festival: Alvin Lee (Teacher: Allan Park) Chopin, Etude op. 25, no. 12**
- **Best of Festival: Junhao Fang (Teacher: Allan Park) Lyapunov: Transcendental Etude Op.11 No.10, Lezghinka**
- **Best of Festival: Joyce Ye (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin Andante Spianato**
- **Best of Festival: Angelina Mitrianu (Teacher: Yelena Balabanova) Chopin Etude Op.25 #1**
- **Best of Festival: Brandon Oskar (Teacher: Allan Park) Rachmaninoff: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor (1931), 1st movement**

AWARD CEREMONY



Student Awards Gala

Saturday, May 30 at 5:00 PM

HARTLEY MANSION: 2320 Rucker Ave, Everett, WA 98201

2025 JAZZ, RAGS AND BLUES FESTIVAL

The purpose of this festival is to encourage the exploration of Jazz, Rags, and Blues. The festival will take place in a masterclass setting in which each performer will perform and receive feedback by the adjudicator. Each student will receive a brief written evaluation and achievement certificate. The festival also features a workshop to teach improvisation and jazz techniques.

- **Best of Festival Jazz Junior: Alice Liang (teacher: Shaoming Greene) Dring: Pink minor No.1 from Colour Suite**
- **Best of Festival Blues Junior: Vitus Wei (teacher: Shaoming Greene) Capaldi: Someone You Loved**
- **Best of Festival Rags Junior: Colin Ip (teacher: Frances Goei) Fina: Bumble Boogie**
- **Best of Festival Jazz Junior: Lillian Mergler (teacher: Marie Wollam-Mergler) Morgan, Ceora**
- **Best of Festival Blues Junior: Philipp Kim (teacher: Vera Borodina) Letanka: Way Out West**
- **Best of Festival Rags Junior: Xiwen Hu (teacher: Shaoming Greene) Joplin: Maple Leaf Rag**
- **Best of Festival Jazz Senior: Cash Fishburne (teacher: Frances Goei. Unable to perform today)**
- **Best of Festival Blues Senior: Kate Nguyen (teacher: Marie Wollam-Mergler) Timothy Brown, Shades of Blue**
- **Best of Festival Rags Senior: Owen Greene (teacher: Allan Park) Confrey: Kitten on the Keys**
- **Best of Festival Jazz Senior: Qiancang Dai (teacher: Shaoming Greene) Wolf: Nostalgia (Vágyódás)**
- **Best of Festival Blues Senior: Jasmine Garcia (teacher: Angela Michael) McLean/Olson: Blues in A**
- **Best of Festival Rags Senior: Jozef Kocaj (teacher: Roxanne Kar) Joplin: Breeze from Alabama**

AWARD CEREMONY