

# Young Artist Solo & Ensemble Festival

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Performance & Accompaniment

- 1. What are the rules regarding accompaniment?** Recorded piano tracks are permitted for students who do not have a live accompanist. Additionally, students are welcome to act as their own accompanist (e.g., a vocalist playing the piano while singing).
- 2. Are "Art Songs" or specific genres required?** No. There are no specific genre restrictions; students are encouraged to perform pieces that best showcase their abilities.
- 3. What is the expected performance length?** Each student is allotted a 15-minute time slot. The piece should not exceed 7 minutes to allow time for the clinician to work with the performers.

### Registration & Requirements

- 4. Are there any pre-submission requirements?** No. Beyond the initial registration form and fee, there are no pre-submission requirements (such as audition recordings or digital files). Students simply need to arrive prepared to perform on the day of the festival.
- 5. What are the obligations for teachers and parents?** There are no administrative obligations for teachers or parents other than ensuring the student is registered. However, a parent or guardian should plan to remain in the building with the student throughout their time at the festival.
- 6. Who must attend the event with the student?** It is not mandatory for a school director or private teacher to be present. Students may attend with just a parent or guardian.

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### Event Logistics & Format

- 7. What is the time commitment on the day of the festival?** This is not an all-day commitment. Students are only expected to be present for their designated warm-up time and their scheduled performance.

**8. How many rounds are included in the 2026 event?** The 2026 format consists of a single round held at the Seton Hill Performing Arts Center on May 2nd. There are no preliminary screening rounds or recordings required this year.

**9. How are students grouped and evaluated?** Evaluation is focused on individual growth. Each student will receive personalized feedback from the adjudicators.

**10. Is this a competitive or non-competitive event?** The 2026 festival is strictly non-competitive. There will be no rankings (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place) as the goal is to provide an educational and supportive performance experience where students can receive constructive feedback.

**11. When will I receive my performance time?** The full performance schedule will be announced and distributed shortly after the registration deadline has passed.

**12. Can family or friends attend the performance?** Yes, family and friends are welcome to attend the performance (space-permitting.)

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