

SA ORIGINAL COMPOSITION CONTEST

Chair: Alison Brown Schmidt 281-376-0712 pianotym@airmail.net

Eligibility: Student Affiliate members in grades 1-12 who have passed the 2007-8 TMTA Theory Test with a score of 70% or higher, or a Post 12th Grade SA member (Theory Test not required)

Contest Categories:
This contest has twelve divisions depending on the school grade and whether the composition is a solo or an ensemble (refer to the SA HANDBOOK).

General Information:

1. Entries may be composed for any medium.
2. A student may enter only one composition in a given division.
3. Compositions entered previously may not be re-entered in subsequent years.
4. Compositions may be in one or more movements, but the performance time for an entire work must not exceed 10 min.

Submittal of Manuscripts: See SA HANDBOOK and tmta.org

Criteria used in evaluating compositions:

- a. Observance of the basic skills in music manuscript writing
- b. Formal organization of material, variety, unity, etc.
- c. Logical use of rhythmic, harmonic and melodic ideas.
- d. Creativity and originality
- e. Idiomatic writing for instrument(s), voice, etc.

Awards: Each student will receive an Original Composition Certificate and a rating sheet evaluating his/her composition. It is hoped that the rating will encourage all students by enabling them to know the strengths and weaknesses of their work.

The compositions are judged locally (Leota Stilwell Contest), and all "excellent" and "superior" works are advanced to the state level at the consent of student and teacher. Compositions may be modified, using the suggestions of the local judge before sending the compositions to the state level for judging.

There are cash awards at the state level and the opportunity for a student's composition to be performed at the state convention.

Registration: Due by the HMTA October meeting:

- 1 The TMTA-SA Original Composition Application Form
to be paper-clipped to:
- 2 Two copies (or photocopies) of the manuscript which must be void of any identifying marks.
- 3 **Use form available at**
<http://tmta.org/sa_docs/OrigCompTEntry.pdf>

Fee:

- 1 \$15 per entry (from a student of an HMTA member)
- 2 A stamped, self-addressed envelope for a speedy return of the composition.

Teacher Responsibility: See standing Rules #1 and #6.

