

FSMTA Competitive Events report addendum
Fall Executive Board Meeting
Oct. 24, 2008
Tampa

Ad hoc Committee Report: Proposed Guitar Competition

Our committee has had numerous e-mail discussions concerning the rationale for starting a guitar competition that would be included as one of the competitions in the FSMTA competitive events. Committee members see this as one approach to encouraging a broader diversity of music and types of instruments represented within FSMTA.

Several years ago, MTNA eliminated the Guitar event from its competitions. As a result, there are few teachers of the guitar, particularly those whose main instrument is guitar, who are members of FSMTA because these teachers mostly do not see FSMTA as offering very much that is pertinent to them.

Of the Guitar faculty members who teach in Florida colleges and Universities the committee believes that many more of these people would consider becoming FSMTA members if they perceived that there was more to offer them and their students in FSMTA. More should be done to reach out to these potential members, and to other qualified teachers of the guitar, and a Classical Guitar competition would be a positive step in this effort.

With this in mind, we think it could only be a positive development to incorporate a guitar competition for college and high school students into FSMTA competitive events. The proposed format would require students to perform two to three memorized pieces from contrasting styles and historical periods. Committee members Joseph LaBonte and Rex Willis, who are both Guitar teachers and active FSMTA members, will help with formulating the specific requirements and with compiling a suggested Repertoire list.

MOTION: In order to encourage greater diversity and participation in FSMTA competitive events, the committee moves that FSMTA initiate an annual Classical Guitar Competition as part of the FSMTA Competitive Events beginning in May 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles Turon
Joseph LaBonte
Rex Willis