

## Student Evaluations

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### Performance Examinations

Without exceeding the time limit, the examiner will hear the entire repertoire. Pianists and vocalists are required to perform all pieces from memory. Total time for individual examinations includes repertoire, technical skills, musicianship, and sight-reading. (Teachers are urged to consider these time limits in the selection of their students' repertoire.) Length of auditions is as follows:

- Primary and Level 1 – 10 minutes
- Levels 2 and 3 – 15 minutes
- Levels 4 and 5 – 18 minutes
- Levels 6 and 7 – 20 minutes
- Levels 8 and 9 – 25 minutes
- Levels 10 through 12 – 30 minutes

The examiner will make brief written comments on each student's performance. The entire audition will be scored as follows:

- Section 1: (A) Keyboard Skills and/or Technique  
(B) Harmonization and Transposition  
(C) Musicianship  
(D) Sight-reading

Maximum points: 10

- Progress: up to 6 points
- Achievement: 7 to 8 points
- Honors: 9 to 10 points

- Section 2: Repertoire

Maximum score: 100%

- Progress: up to 69%
- Achievement: 70% through 89%
- Honors: 90% to 100%

**Note: Recommendation for State Honors Award requires Honors in both Sections 1 & 2.**

### Determination of level:

1. The teacher may decide whether a student should be working for a Certificate of Progress or Achievement. Teachers are encouraged to enter those students for Certificate of Progress who do not meet all the requirements for a particular level. This allows a student to be recognized for work accomplished thus far. The teacher should check "Certificate of Progress" on the evaluation form. However, if a student is entered for a *Certificate of Progress*, but passes or even gets Honors in everything, they should be awarded a *Certificate of Achievement*.

2. A student may skip a level at any time.
3. A student must progress to the next level after having received a *Certificate of Achievement*.
4. A student may re-enter or progress to the next level after having received a *Certificate of Progress*.

## Theory Examinations

To qualify for a Certificate of Achievement at District Student Day, students are required to pass a written theory examination and an aural theory examination. Written theory examinations may be taken at the student's convenience within a specified time period. Sample written theory tests will be found in pages 1 e through 12 e of this Handbook.

The aural theory examination is a multiple choice test given at specific times for each level throughout the day. It is important that students arrive on time to be relaxed and begin the test with the group. The examiner will state the question and then play the example(s). After a pause, the question and example(s) will be repeated. The examiner should observe the class and make the pause long enough to allow all students to write down something before repeating or paraphrasing the question and playing the example(s) a second time. The examiner should repeat any of the questions as often as necessary, especially with rhythmic and melodic dictation. Above Level 6, it may not be necessary to repeat the question but the example(s) should be played at least twice. For more detailed suggestions, refer to "Music Dictation" (page xxv). Sample aural theory tests will be found in pages 1 f through 12 f of this Handbook. Aural rhythmic examples may be played either on a drum or on a single key of the piano, as determined by each Student Day Chair.

**Note:** An achievement score of at least 60% for Aural Theory and at least 75% for Written Theory is required to qualify for State Honors Medal. Students do not need to earn honors in aural theory or written theory to be eligible for the State Honors medal. They simply must pass the exams.

## Awards

The FSMTA Student Day program recognizes student advancement by the awarding of certificates. At District Student Day, the *Certificate of Achievement* or the *Certificate of Progress* is awarded. Certificates may be awarded in piano, voice, organ, all orchestral instruments, classical guitar and chromatic free-bass accordion.

- ***Certificate of Achievement*** - awarded at District Student Day to students who meet the requirements for repertoire, technique, sight-reading, and written and aural theory. It is awarded at the level at which the student has achievement scores in all areas (performance, technique, and theory). For example, a student who has an achievement score at Level 6, but has mastered a theory achievement score only at Level 4, will receive a *Certificate of Achievement* for Level 4. If the level of achievement is not as high as the level for which the student has applied, the *Certificate of Progress* will be awarded.

- **Certificate of Progress** - awarded at District Student Day to students whose teachers elect to place them in this category, or who do not meet the requirements for the *Certificate of Achievement*. Students receiving the Certificate of Progress may enter the next District Student Day at the same level or progress to the next level.
- **Certificate of Theory** - awarded at Level 7 and above (piano) or 5 and above (voice) to students who choose to participate in the theory exams only, and meet the achievement requirements. Honors in **theory only** does NOT allow the student to earn the State Honors Medal.
- **Certificate of Performance** - awarded at Level 7 and above (piano) or 5 and above (voice) to students who choose to participate in the Performance audition only, and meet the achievement requirements. Honors in Performance allows students to earn the State Honors Medal.

Certificates will include a sticker representing each examination (Performance, Written Theory, Aural Theory) for which the student achieves Honors.