To: Students participating in Vocal & Piano Solo Contest & their parents
From: Jordan Murray, Coordinator for Park Tudor entrants
When: Saturday, February 8, 2020
Where: Noblesville Middle School, located at 19900 Hague Road, Noblesville.

The Indiana State School Music Association Piano and Vocal Solo/Ensemble district level contest will be held on Saturday, February 8 at **Noblesville West Middle School located at 19900 Hague Road** in Noblesville. Participation in this contest is open to students in grades five through twelve who participate in our school's music program.

The **DEADLINE** for entries to be turned in to the PT Music Department: **Tuesday, November 26 by 3:30 p.m.**

Accompanists for Contest: Members of the Park Tudor music faculty may be available to serve as an accompanist. See cost below. If participants choose to use a PT accompanist, the accompanist will rehearse with each student twice at school prior and plays at contest. You are welcome to secure your own accompanist if you prefer.

- The entry fee for a vocal or piano solo is \$15.00.
- The entry fee for a vocal ensemble is \$7.00 per student.
- The accompanist fee (including two rehearsals) is \$30.00 (ie:, a vocal solo with accompaniment totals \$45.00).
 - Vocal ensembles will split the \$30 accompanist fee between all participants.
 - i.e.: A group of 4 would each pay \$7.50 toward the cost of the accompanist (\$14.50 including entry fee).
- If performing in multiple events, please write just one check.
- Checks should be made payable to Park Tudor School and turned into Mr. Murray (FA163).
- Please note that all entry fees are non-refundable.

What to Wear:

Your appearance is part of your total performance. Dress up a bit – definitely no jeans or athletic wear. Girls should wear a nice slacks outfit or dress. Boys should wear a shirt and tie with nice slacks.

When to Arrive:

You should plan on arriving at least 20 minutes before your performance time. Check in with the door keeper of your performance room first thing and see if they are running on time, late, or ahead of schedule. Performance schedules are affected by many variables that might mean that your child will not perform at the exact time as scheduled. Please be patient. All warming up and rehearsing needs to be done AT HOME prior to arriving at contest.

Meeting your Accompanist:

Singers should wait outside in the hall right by their **performance room** for their accompanist to arrive. Your accompanist will be playing for many other people and rooms tend to get off schedule. If the judge calls your name to perform, please tell them you are there and are waiting for your accompanist who is playing for someone else. The judge will go ahead and take the next person on the schedule if they are present and ready. **DO NOT go looking for your accompanist - they will come to you ASAP.**

Proper Contest Etiquette

In the HALLS: NO loud talking right outside the door to a performance room. In the ROOMS: Quiet, respectful listening - Applause is appropriate after a performance DO NOT enter or leave a room during a performance - wait until in between. All cell phones MUST be silenced in the contest site.

Checks should be made out to Park Tudor School (in memo note, put *Fine Arts*). Please turn in forms and checks to Mr. Murray or Sherri Gapinski in Fine Arts office.

Performance Times:

A time schedule for all students competing will be available about two weeks prior to contest. A schedule of all PT entrants will be posted on the FA page prior to contest along with instructions and a site map. **Because performance times cannot be requested, it is wise to reserve the entire day for this important event.**

Music for the Judge:

The judge needs an original of the music (no copies!) with the measures numbered. The only exception to this rule would be if you were singing a song transposed on the computer or purchased through musicnotes.com. You then supply the judge with a copy of the transposition. **Mr. Murray will supply the judge's copy of the music for all of his students.** Vocal students who study privately will need to bring their own copy of the music for the judge. Please number your measures. **If your music is not numbered, the judge automatically lowers your rating one level (i.e. a gold rating becomes a silver rating.)**

Your Performance:

After the judge has called your name and you have given him your music, make yourself comfortable at the piano or in the front of the room (singers). The judge will look up from your comment sheet and give you the "go ahead" when they are ready for you to begin your performance. The performance rooms are "open" for anyone who would like to listen! **Parents - please come in and listen!**

After your Performance:

Sit down in the room and wait for the judge to finish your evaluation. DO NOT go and stand next to their desk as they are writing. When they are finished they will return your music and hand you an index card. On it will be your name and a rating: (G) gold, (S) silver, (B) bronze, or (P) participation.

Your Rating:

The importance of contest is the **preparation process** and **your experience**, NOT your rating. Be proud of your work and graciously accept the rating the judge gives you. **Thank the judge for listening to you.**

Medals:

You will take your index voucher card to a "medal table" to exchange it for your medal! You are free to leave after your performance and you have picked up your medal. Fifth graders – please wear your medals to school the following week for our assembly on Wed., February 11 which will recognize you.

Comment Sheets:

At the end of the day, I will pick up all of Park Tudor comment sheets. I will distribute them to students in school the following week. They are yours to keep and they make nice scrapbook memories.

Group One State Entries:

• All students entered in Group One level and receiving a gold rating are eligible to advance to state contest on Saturday, February 22.

• Vocal events will take place at Perry Meridian High School with piano events across the street at Perry Meridian Middle School.

• I will **automatically** enter those students and will pay your entry fees unless you tell me ahead of time that you are unable to perform at state on Feb. 22nd.

• I will have the business department bill your parents for your state entry. Costs will be the same as District contest.

• Please make sure to check the <u>www.issma.net</u> website and access this list if you are entering this top level. You MUST select your contest piece from this list. You are also required to perform by memory at state level competition.

Food: The cafeteria at Noblesville Middle School will be open all day.

What if I am Unable to Perform?

If you are unable to perform on February 8, please email Mr. Murray as soon as possible. This is a courtesy to your accompanist if you are a singer and to the contest site office and judge to inform them of your inability to perform that day. I am responsible for turning in a list of our students who will not be performing by 8 AM that morning.

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How Contest is Judged:

ISSMA judging is based upon how well the student interprets and performs the written music. The student is NOT in competition with other entrants.

Both singers and pianists are given a rating and feedback on specific criteria shown below.

Vocal Categories:

- 1) Intonation: Accuracy of tonal center
- 2) Tone Quality: Resonance, control, placement, focus, and consistency
- 3) Breathing Technique: Use of diaphragm, relaxation, depth, and support
- 4) Note Accuracy: Singing pitches as notated
- 5) Rhythmic Accuracy: Note/rest values, duration, steadiness, and meter
- 6) Diction and Enunciation: Clarity, pronunciation, consonants, diphthongs, and dialect
- 7) Interpretation: Appropriate tempo and style
- 8) Musicianship: Expression, dynamics, phrasing, and emotional involvement
- 9) Other factors: Stage presence, poise, posture, and selection of music

Memorization is NOT required of vocal solos at the District level, but it is strongly encouraged.

Piano Categories:

- 1. Accuracy of notes: Precision of notated pitches
- 2. Rhythm: Note/rest values, steadiness, metric flow, style
- 3. Technique : Arm, Wrist, Fingers: Precision, fluency, flexibility, and fingered patterns
- 4. Technique: Articulation, Pedaling: Control, command of touches, sensitivity
- 5. Interpretation: Tone, tempo, style, ornaments, use of rubato, character and mood
- 6. Musicianship: Dynamics, balance, expression, phrasing and nuance
- 7. Other Factors: Stage presentation, poise, posture, appropriate cuts, selection of music, memorization (Group 1 only)

Judge's Copy: The soloist MUST supply the judge with an ORIGINAL copy of the music with measures numbered. **Failure to number the measures automatically drops your rating down one category.**

Description of Group Levels:

- Group 5 A soloist in grade 5-8 entering for the first time/Level of music: Easy
- Group 4 A soloist in grades 5-12/Level of music: Easy
- Group 3 A soloist in grades 5-12/Level of music: Medium Easy Medium
- Group 2 A soloist in grades 5-12/Level of music: Medium Medium Difficult
- Group 1 A soloist in grades 9-12/Level of Music: Difficult MUST be from the current required Group 1 ISSMA list.

Some final reminders

You are representing Park Tudor School - be on your VERY best behavior. Accept your rating graciously and THANK the judge for listening to you. Enjoy your performance and HAVE FUN!

Questions?

Please call or email Mr. Murray. 317-415-2793 or jtmurray@parktudor.org.

Checks should be made out to Park Tudor School (in memo note, put *Fine Arts*). Please turn in forms and checks to Mr. Murray or Sherri Gapinski in Fine Arts office.

Please detach this form and return it to your classroom music teacher no later than Tuesday, November 26.

Name: _____ Grade _____

Private Teacher (if applicable)

Eligibility:

From the ISSMA rules and regulations comes the following statement regarding the eligibility of students: "All students in grades 5 through 12 participating in an ISSMA event must be members of Music Organization under the curricular supervision of the member school's Music Department."

Students in grades 5 through 8 are automatically eligible due to their curricular music requirements.

Attention US students:

Please circle the music organization(s) you are currently enrolled in at Park Tudor School.

	US Band	US Orchestra	Journeymen	Girls Ense	mble		
	Park Tudor Singers	Madrigal Singe	rs A	oplied Music/Mu	sical Theatre		
Please check the correc Solos:	t event(s):						
Girls' Voice:	Boys' Voice:	Piano Solo:					
Barbershop Quartets Male Barbershop Quartet		eble Barbershop Qu	artet:				
Small Vocal Ensemb Treble Vocal Ensemble:		•		Mixed Vocal Ens	semble:		
	Male Vocal	Ensemble:			Madrigal (a capella):		
Group Number (TO B Event #1 Name:	BE FILLED OUT BY CL	ASSROOM TEACH	ER OR PRIVA	TE INSTRUCT			
Event #2 Name (if enteri	ing multiple events):			Group I	Number:		
If entering Group ONE, p	please enter the followi	ng information:					
Song Title:					· · · · · · · ·		
Composer: List #				ist #:			
Accompanist (check Will use a school accom	one):				mpanist		
 Total Amount of Money Due: Solo: \$15, plus \$30 if accompanist needed. Ensemble: \$7 per person. If accompanist needed, \$30 will be divided between ensemble members 							
Student Signature:				Date: _	Date:		
Parent Signature:				Date:			

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