Pershing MS

Fine Arts Magnet

PIANO

PERSHING PANDAS

SINCE 1928

Audition

2026-2027 SY

Middle School Piano Audition

Pershing MS Fine Arts Magnet



Selected Guidelines

The Piano Magnet is a three-year program designed to develop young keyboard musicians in a well-rounded, repertoire based curriculum. As such, the curriculum is differentiated for students at all proficiency levels, and all students perform for one another. Students will learn technical, aural and analytical skills. They will delve into the the historical and cultural aspects of music. They will explore the many uses of their piano skills, including collaboration, accompanying, solo work, improvisation and composition. Students in all grades will play solos for adjudicated events, occasional social events and school concerts and recitals. At the end of their three year program, students will have acquired a vast musical and pianistic knowledge.

Program Goals:

- To pursue excellence in music and piano studies and to achieve steady growth
- To gain an understanding of the inner workings of music: theory, career readiness and collaboration
- To pursue perform in recital at least twice a year in each of their program years • To perform for feedback and a rating at the annual Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated

Step-By-Step Audition Process:

- Choose a piece to play. Don't choose the most difficult piece you have played, but rather one that you have mastered and that will show the most advanced level of proficiency. You may use a piece from your teacher or print one of your selections.
- Pieces appropriate for the audition are attached. Remember: you want to play the pieces that represent you at your very best!

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	Correct notes	Fingering	Posture	Interpretations	Musicianship
4	Rhythms, tempo and correct notes and octave placements are almost always in evidence.	Consistently uses standard fingerings to facilitate good hand position, shifts, and articulation.	Sits with strength and height; the hands are without tension; the fingers curved.	Excellent sense of style and character; dynamics and articulation are consistently observed.	Music has flow and expression; phrasing consistently shows artistic aptitude.
3	Right rhythms and pitches are usually evident, but some key rhythms or pitches are incorrect.	Uses standard fingerings most of the time, but occasionally misses some.	Sitting posture occasionally lacks strength; the hands and fingers are often tense.	Indicates some sense of the character of the piece; dynamics and articulation are usually observed.	Music is occasionally expressive; artistic aptitude is often apparent.
2	Significant rhythms, notes or octaves placements are incorrect or tempo is stilted.	Shows some knowledge of fingerings but misses printed fingerings with some frequency.	Sitting posture generally lacks strength or the hands and fingers are tense.	Displays a lack of character in the music or dynamics are inconsistently observed.	Music occasionally lacks expression; phrasing is usually lacking.
1	The music lacks tempo, meter or rhythm, and/or there are excessive wrong notes/octaves.	Often misses standard fingerings or printed fingerings.	Poor posture is the rule; the hands or fingers show consistent tension.	Performance lacks attention to basic indications of interpretation.	Music lacks flow and understanding of phrasing and nuance.

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Five categories will be used to determine the success of your audition. The categories are:

- correct notes • Correct fingerings
- Interpretation • General Musicianship
- Posture and Hand Position

The judges will also be able to write comments and observations on the adjudication sheet. The scoring and the comments are for the judges and the Piano Magnet Director only.

E V A L U A T I O N

Evaluation of the audition is based on a four point scale with four points being the highest and one point being the lowest in the following areas:

Correct Notes	4	3	2	1
Correct Fingerings	4	3	2	1
Posture and Hand position	4	3	2	1
Interpretation	4	3	2	1
General Musicianship	4	3	2	1

Scale(s) _____ [5 points max.]

Sight-reading: _____ [5 points max.]

Theory Score: _____ [10 points max.]

[25 points max.]

Evaluation total [x1.5]: _____

Student Name: _____

٥٠ points possible):

Honors	48 - 50 points
Excellent	43 - 47 points
Good	38 - 42 points
Unacceptable below ٣٨ points	

Student Name:_____ Age: _____

Evaluators: _____ _____

Comments:_____

_____

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Comments:_____

_____

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Piano Audition Music

Piano Preparation Music

Roller Coaster

Allegro (Fast tempo) ♩ = 120
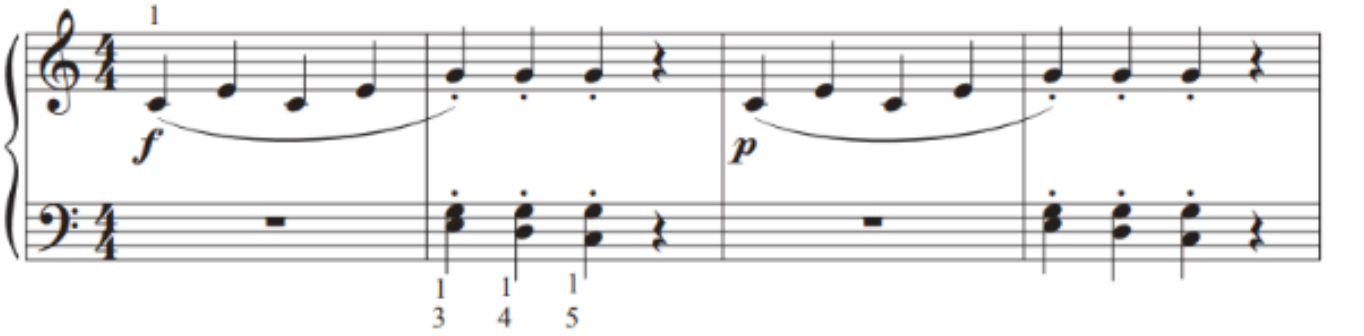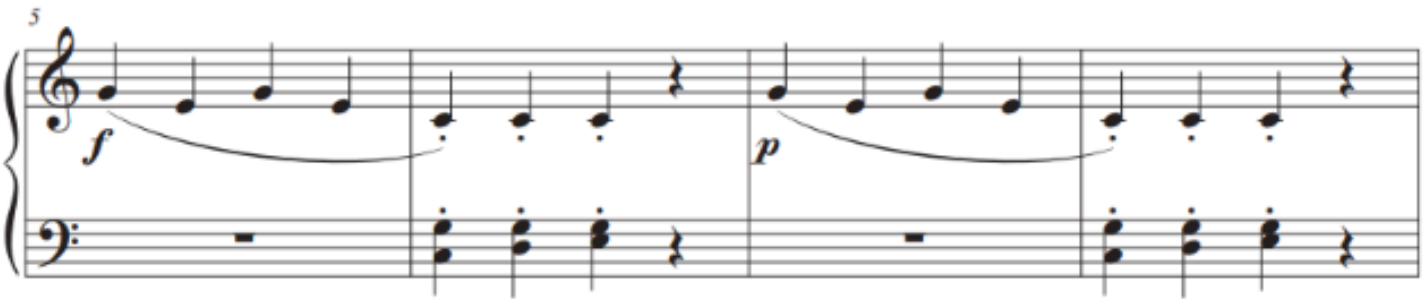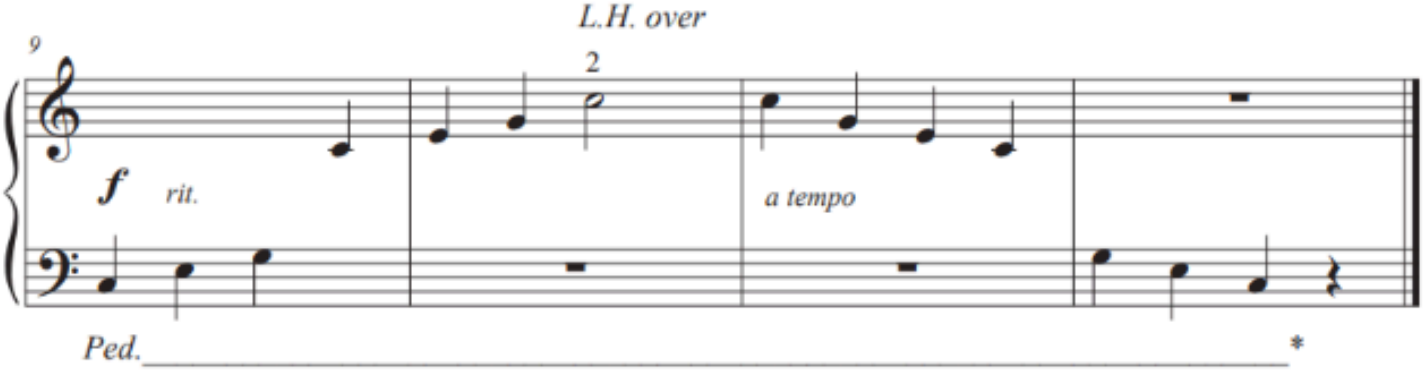
Glover-Stewart





