

**DOWNERS GROVE MUSIC CLUB
Virtual Piano Festival 2022**



**REMOTE PARTICIPATION
VIDEO SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

www.downersgrovemusicclub.org
pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates **Sunday, February 27, 2022** Video Submissions Due 11:59 PM
 Sunday, March 13, 2022 Virtual Honors Recital (details to follow)

Eligibility

1. Students:
 - a. up through high school grade 12 are eligible;
 - b. Must live outside the Chicago Metro area which makes it impossible to participate in-person;
 - c. May be entered in one of the FIVE Festival Levels.
2. Teachers: members of the Downers Grove Music Club are eligible to register students. If you are not a member of the DGMC, we welcome you to join in order to be eligible to enter students in this event. If you are a returning member, please be sure your annual dues have been paid for this club year. New memberships and renewals may be done online at www.downersgrovemusicclub.org. Annual dues are \$30.00 for an individual membership.

Registration and Fees

Registrations are accepted online at <https://www.downersgrovemusicclub.org/pianofest.html>. Online registrations will be open November 1, 2021 through February 1, 2022.

Fees:

- Festival registration fee is \$25.00 per student

Payments are accepted online with a credit card, or may be paid by check payable to
DGMC
P.O. Box 551
Downers Grove, IL 60515

DOWNERS GROVE MUSIC CLUB

Virtual Piano Festival 2022



REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIDEO SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

www.downersgrovemusicclub.org
pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org

PIANO FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

The Piano Festival consists of five levels, graded from Level 1 to Level 5. Students are assigned to one of these levels by the teacher. Each level has specific and unique performance requirements of the scale/chord progression and repertoire selections, as outlined in the Required Repertoire list available on the Downers Grove Music Club website.

Festival Performance Requirement - Scales and Chords

Each student must play a scale and chord progression from memory. See required repertoire list for specific octave and chord requirements for each level.

- It is preferred that the scale and chords are in the same key as one of the musical pieces, but not required.
- The scale must be played in parallel motion, hands together. The chords must be played hands together. Failure to play the scales and chords in the manner stated will result in a zero score for that portion.
- Use of the damper pedal on the chords is optional.

Festival Performance Requirement - Music Selections

- All students will perform two pieces, memorized;
- Both pieces must be from the list of Required Repertoire;
- Each piece selected must represent a different period in Music History as identified in the list of Required Repertoire. For example,
 - A level 1 student must select one piece from the combined periods of Baroque/Classical/Romantic and the second piece from the 20th Century period,
 - A level 2 or 3 student must select one piece from the combined periods of Baroque/Classical and the second piece from the combined periods of Romantic/20th Century,
 - The level 4 and 5 students may select one piece from any of the 4 periods – Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Impressionistic/20th Century – and then select the second piece from the other 3 periods.
- The books listed on the list of Required Repertoire are given as guidelines. If you have a comparable edition of the piece from a different editor and/or publisher, it will be permitted as long as the arrangements are the same as the book listed and not in a different key or an easier version. Take note that some original scores are found in a book compilation as well as sheet music; either is permitted.

Festival Performance Evaluation

The student performance videos will be given to a highly qualified judge for review, to be completed during the week after the video submission deadline. The judge will rate and comment on memory, accuracy of notes, accuracy of rhythm, tempo, technique, phrasing and articulation, dynamics, balance between hands, tone quality and pedaling (when applicable), style and interpretation. Students aim to

DOWNERS GROVE MUSIC CLUB

Virtual Piano Festival 2022



REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIDEO SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

www.downersgrovemusicclub.org
pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org

achieve the highest score possible, but more importantly, they will receive judge's comments which are invaluable when learning the piano. The evaluation sheets and Honors Recital invitations will then be made available to the teachers.

- A point system is used to evaluate each of the aspects of musicianship listed above:
 - 10 Superior Performance
 - 9-8 Excellent performance, minor defects
 - 7-6 Good performance, needs improvement
 - 5-4 Fair performance, needs more work
- Total Scores Possible
 - Levels 1 and 2
 - Scale and Chords = 10 points
 - Each performance piece = 50 points
 - Total = 110 points
 - Levels 3, 4 and 5
 - Scale and Chords = 10 points
 - Each performance piece = 100 points
 - Total = 210 points

If either the required scales/chords and/or the musical pieces are not performed from memory, the student will be disqualified from being invited to the Honors Recital.

Honors Recital

The video submission of the student's piece recommended by the judge for inclusion in the Honors Recital will be shown at the recital. These students will be invited to attend remotely.

All awards (medals, trophies and cash prizes) will be given to the teachers. It is asked that all remote participants try to attend; however, time zone challenges are completely understood. In these cases, participants that cannot attend may make a video recording of themselves sending a greeting to those in attendance.

Festival Awards:

- All students entering the Festival will receive a certificate of participation;
- Students, recommended by the judges based on an exceptional performance, will be invited to the Honors Recital.
- Honors Recital participants will receive an additional merit award.

DOWNERS GROVE MUSIC CLUB

Virtual Piano Festival 2022



REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIDEO SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

www.downersgrovemusicclub.org
pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org

PERFORMANCE VIDEO SUBMISSION

- The student's performance may be filmed at home or at another location of their choice.
- Create **THREE** separate video files:
 - Scale and chord progression
 - Piece #1
 - Piece #2
- For each video:
 - Begin filming with the student seated at the piano, facing the camera, hands in lap and smiling.
 - Students must introduce themselves and what they are playing at the start of each video. (If this is too difficult for a younger student, someone else may do this for the student. This additional identification of the video is important to make sure the judge is evaluating the correct student's performance.)
 - After the introduction, the student should then wait 3 to 5 seconds before beginning to play. (This is a good opportunity for the student to turn to face the piano and think quietly as they prepare for their performance.)
 - When the student is done, return the hands to the lap, face the camera and smile for about 3 to 5 seconds.
 - Additionally, for the two videos of the pieces,
 - then the student must hold up their published copy of the music.
 - After this the video may be ended.
- The video files need to be named to include the Student's name (last name then first name) and a unique file identifier (1, 2 or 3).

For Example, Suzy Smith is in Level 1 and is performing the C Major Scale, *Old German Dance* and *Sneaky Sam*. Her files would be named:

- Smith Suzy 1 (for the scale)
 - Smith Suzy 2 (for piece #1)
 - Smith Suzy 3 (for piece #2)
- Upload these files by the above deadline date and time to Dropbox using the appropriate link for the student's level:
 - Festival Level 1 Link: <http://bit.ly/DGMCPF1>
 - Festival Level 2 Link: <http://bit.ly/DGMCPF2>
 - Festival Level 3 Link: <http://bit.ly/DGMCPF3>
 - Festival Level 4 Link: <http://bit.ly/DGMCPF4>
 - Festival Level 5 Link: <http://bit.ly/DGMCPF5>

If you have recorded the video on your phone and are unable to transfer the file on your computer to re-title it, you may still submit to the appropriate link as long as you contact us via email with the correct information, so we know to whom these files belong.

DOWNERS GROVE MUSIC CLUB

Virtual Piano Festival 2022




REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIDEO SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

www.downersgrovemusicclub.org
pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org

VIDEO RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

By submitting the student's performance videos to the DGMC Dropbox, you are granting the Downers Grove Music Club permission to use any of the videos on its website, social media, and an unlisted YouTube channel if selected for such purpose. If you do not wish to grant permission for such use, please contact the event organizer regarding this at pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org.

FILMING

- Cell phones are good devices for filming the videos. **Make sure the phone is held horizontally** (wide on the top and bottom, narrow on the sides). **Do NOT film with your phone vertically.** You can also use a video camera – you don't have to use your phone if you have access to something better.
- 
- If possible, use a USB MICROPHONE plugged into the phone (not the internal phone mic). If you do not have a mic, removing the phone from its case can improve the sound quality.
 - Try to eliminate as much external noise while filming as possible (i.e., a phone ringing)
 - Hold the camera as steady as possible or use a tripod.
 - For filming the scale, please have the camera showing a close-up of the hands on the keys so the judge can evaluate the student's fingering.
 - Check the lighting to make sure the student and piano are nicely lit without reflections.
 - Don't forget to review the video for good audio (is it loud enough) and visual quality.

PERFORMANCE TIPS

- The student's attire must be recital dress. Videos of the selected students will be compiled for the Honors Recital. (Please refer to Video Release Authorization earlier in this document.)
- Have the piano tuned. Make sure the piano is clear of all music as well as unnecessary clutter.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact us with questions via email: pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org.
However, in the case of an emergency regarding any of the above during the event, you may text or call Gloria Salazar at 630-464-7544.