
MTAC SOUTH BAY BRANCH
GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES
ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE COMPETITION

- A. Judges will select a maximum of four winners whose total performance time will not exceed 60 minutes. These winners will perform as soloists with the Beach Cities Symphony. Judges will select a first and second alternate who will be able to perform with the Beach Cities Symphony in the event that a winner is unable to perform. As per our agreement with the Beach Cities Symphony, there can be no winners with duplicate pieces. We recommend that the judges also choose honorable mentions, at their discretion.
- B. Judges must write comments clearly and legibly on all repertoire performed.
- C. Judging must be accurate and fair. Comments are to be supportive, constructive and helpful to the student. There should be sufficient commentary to justify the selection of the winners.
- D. Judges' written comments on an inadequate performance must be tactful yet meaningful and must encourage improvement. Care must be taken not to write criticism of the teacher.
- E. Judges must refrain from any audible, visible, or other type of response to the entrant's performance. Judges are not permitted to applaud an entrant's performance.
- F. Judges may not engage in any conversation with entrants, teachers, or the entrants' parents.
- G. Judges do not have the authority to make decisions concerning the presentation, the length of the entrant's program, or the repertoire, in regard to satisfying repertoire requirements of the competition.
- H. Judges are encouraged to use the highest standard when rating a performance.
- I. Students must present the music as written and may delete only the tutti sections. No transcriptions or abridged editions are allowed.
- J. **THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL.** However, the decision of the judges may not override the rules of the competition.
- K. If a judge becomes aware at any time that he/she has any prior relationship, communication, or familiarity with a performer, or any communication with a performer prior to the competition, this judge is required to recuse himself/herself from the judging of that performer.
- L. A judge shall not have any communication with a performer before, during or after the competition.
- M. Judges must sign all comment sheets and the final winners list provided by the Chair of the competition.