

Silver State Music Competition

Nevada Music Teachers Association

2026 NORTHERN NEVADA RULES

Purpose: This event is a competition that serves as a fundraiser for the Nevada Music Teachers Association. The proceeds are used for educational workshops and clinics to benefit students, teachers and parents. In 2026 it is open to piano only, and ribbons will be awarded first, second and third place in each category.

Eligibility: The Silver State Competition is open to any piano student of any age with the *exception of current college music majors/minors*. Participants may enter one or more categories.

When: The competition will be held November 7, 2026, at Steinway Piano Gallery. Students register online at nmmta.org with registration opening October 10th and closing October 24th. Students will find out their performance times by email 1 week prior to the event.

Judging: There will be one adjudicator in each session. The judge will select first, second and third places in each category and age group and will not give any written or verbal feedback to participants. Winners will be chosen based on a variety of subjective factors; it is not necessarily the most advanced repertoire or "most polished" musician who will win.

Format: Students play in sessions that resemble recitals. Winners are announced and ribbons are awarded immediately after the participant performs. Performers must stay until the end of the session.

Memorization: Classical Solo, Social Solo, Concerto repertoire must be memorized. Ensemble and Adult may use music.

Music: Music scores must be provided for the adjudicators. Unauthorized copies are not permitted.

Accompanists: Solo categories may *not* use accompanists. Ensembles may enter solo repertoire with accompaniment and all members will be judged as "collaborative performers". Teachers are not permitted to play in ensembles with their students. Concertos must have accompanists with only the soloist's performance being judged. Recorded accompaniments are not allowed.

Categories and Time Limits:

Classical Solo			Social Solo			Ensemble			Concerto			Adult *6		
Age*1	Fee	Time Limit	Age*1	Fee	Time Limit	Grade*2	Fee*3	Time Limit	Age*1	Fee	Time Limit*5	Age	Fee	Time Limit
6 & under	\$25	2 min	6 & under	\$25	2 min	PreK- 4 th grade	\$25	3 min	8 & under	\$35	4 min	Post High School	\$30	7 min
7-8	\$25	2 min	7-8	\$25	2 min	5 th -6 th grade	\$25	4 min	9-11	\$40	4 min			
9-10	\$25	4 min	9-10	\$25	4 min	7 th -8 th grade	\$25	5 min	12-14	\$40	5 min			
11-12	\$25	5 min	11-12	\$25	5 min	9-12 th grade	\$25	7 min	15-19	\$45	7 min			
13-14	\$30	5 min	13-14	\$30	5 min									
15-16	\$30	7 min	15-16	\$30	7 min									
17-19	\$30	7 min	17-19	\$30	7 min									

- *1 Age on the date of the Silver State Competition.
- *2 School grade of the oldest ensemble member, including accompanist.
- *3 Ensembles are \$25 for each performer.
- *4 Ensembles may enter classical or social music.
- *5 Cuts are allowed to meet the time limit.
- *6 Not open to current college majors or minors. Adults may enter classical, social or ensemble music.

Students may enter in more than one category, paying appropriate fees with each entry application. Each ensemble member requires an application and fee.

Classical Solo requires literature from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic or Contemporary periods and *may* include some jazz or ragtime repertoire. Social Solo music includes arrangements and simplifications of classical music, pop, light contemporary, movie and stage music, some jazz, hymns, pedagogical method books or music used to accompany groups. Students may enter their own compositions and arrangements in the social category. Ensemble category accepts classical and social repertoire. The Adult category accepts classical, social and ensemble music. **The chairperson may reclassify any entry as belonging to Classical Solo or Social Solo category.**

To apply visit nnmta.org and select the “Registrations” tab.