

# C O W E T A - F A Y E T T E M U S I C T E A C H E R S A S S O C I A T I O N

## Piano Guild Discussion with Jan Adams

September 27, 2022

11:00am – Zoom Meeting

### Notes and Overview:

- Piano Guild Date and Location: Fri. & Sat., May 5 & 6, 2023, at Townsend Center for the Performing Arts, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
- Enroll online at [pianoguild.com](http://pianoguild.com). It is \$85 to join the National Guild of Piano Teachers.
  - There are student fees as well (see syllabus)
  - Students receive report card, certificate, and pin
- Students may enter at any level: Elementary, Intermediate, and Preparatory.
  - Elementary A B C D E F– for very beginning students until able to play early Bach dances and the earliest Clementi sonatinas.
  - Intermediate A B C D E F – IA-IB, early Bach dances; IC, short Bach Preludes and Fugues; ID-IF, Bach Inventions, easier sonatinas by Clementi, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.
  - Preparatory A B C D (High School level) – Bach Two/Three Part Inventions, movements from French and English Suites, WTC Preludes and Fugues, Sonatas by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven
- Other Classifications
  - All categories may also enter as “Hobbyist” – no memorization
  - “Duet/Duo/Trio/Quartet”
  - “Jazz/Pop” – Different jazz styles, movie music, arrangements
  - Social Music Test – see syllabus for exact requirements, hymns, patriotic songs, folk songs, etc.
  - Bach Plaque (15 Bach Pieces), Sonatina Plaque (5, all movements), Sonata Plaque (5)
  - “Special” Category for gifted students playing above their age level
- Number of Pieces
  - Pledge – 1 memorized piece, certificate, bronze pin
  - Local – Red Star 2 pieces, Blue Star 3 pieces, bronze pin
  - District – Red Star 4, Blue Star 5, Gold Star 6, bronze pin
  - State – Red Star 7, Blue Star 8, Gold Star 9, silver pin
  - National – Red 10, Blue 11-12, Gold 13-14, gold pin
  - International – 15-20 pieces
  - Students can build their repertoire and repeat pieces the following year, just make sure that all pieces remain at comparable levels. In other words, don’t have an Intermediate student playing pieces that are Elementary.
- Repertoire Requirements
  - EA can include pre-reading pieces, EB minimum 8 measures, EC minimum 16 measures, ED plus no minimum measure requirements
  - All repertoire must be memorized
  - **Published** Arrangements/Transcriptions are allowed (except for special diplomas and medals) and should be classified according to the era in which the arranger lived.
  - IA+ with 4+ pieces must include all four periods of music



- Da capo/repeats not required
- Each movement of sonata, sonatina, or suite will count as one piece
- A Bach Prelude and Fugue would count as two pieces
- Theme and Variations count as 1 piece, all variations must be played
- The IMMT – The Irreducible Minimum Musicianship Test
  - Students will be asked by the judge to play through scales and cadences from EB onward
  - Samples:
    - EB – Scales in the keys of the pieces, one octave, hands separate or together, cadences I-V or I-V7 in root position, hands separate or together
    - IA – Scales of pieces, two octaves hands together, eighth note rhythm at 60 bpm; cadences of pieces I-IV-I-V or V7-I, root position, hands separately.
    - PA – Scales, four octaves separate or together, sixteenth notes at 72bpm; cadences I-IV-I-V-V7-I, root position, hands together
  - Songs in a minor key, for IMMT, should use harmonic minor scale/cadence
- Musicianship Phases
  - Can be done in lieu of a piece
  - Phases allowed:
    - 1 phase for 5-6 pieces
    - 2 phases for 7-9 pieces
    - 3 phases for 10-11 pieces
    - 4 phases for 12-14 pieces
    - 5 phases for 15-20 pieces
  - Include:
    - Scales
    - Chords/Cadences
    - Arpeggios
    - Ear Training
    - Transposition
    - Improvisation
    - Sight-Reading
- Report Card and Grades
  - Report Grade rates students with up to 47 possible checks in various categories, including Accuracy, Tone Quality, Technique, Rhythm, Memory, Phrasing, Dynamics, Pedal, Ending of Pieces, Interpretation, Repertoire, IMMT, and Phases.
  - C's = Commendation, A's = Needs Attention
  - To pass, student must not have 16+ more A's than C's
  - To determine a rating, subtract the A's from the C's:
    - Superior Plus – 28-44 or more Cs than As
    - Superior – 18-27 more Cs than As
    - Superior Minus – 14-17 more Cs than As
    - Excellent Plus – 11-13 more Cs than As
    - Etc. (see syllabus)
- Other opportunities and advantages
  - Diplomas, scholarships, composition competition
  - Adult students can participate
  - Transfer students with prior Guild records will seek teachers who participate in Guild



# REPORT CARD

Pupil's first & last choice of pieces

Pupil No. 4 of Teacher's Group

## Analysis of Pupil's Performance

PUPIL'S PROGRAM		JUDGE: CHECK RATINGS ON LINES:	C*'s	Judge: write below the no. of each piece in which C's occur:	A*'s	Judge: write below the no. of each piece in which A's occur:
Composers	Titles of Pieces					
1st - 1. Costley	Softly Whisper	ACCURACY: Time Values	/	2	/	1 - dotted half notes, starting M. 22
2. Gurlitt	Waltz	Correct Notes	/	3		
3rd - 3. Balak	Five Note Sonata	Rests	/	2		
4.		Tempo Indications	/	2		
5.		Marks of Expression				
6.		TONE QUALITY: Warmth	/	1		
7.		Vitality	/	2		
8.		Legato-Blending	/	2		
9.		Singing Tone				
10.		Sensitivity	/	1		
11.		TECHNIQUE: Clean-Cut				
12.		Arm and Wrist Ease	/	3 - good articulations		
13.		Fingering	/	overall, good		
14.		Fluency	/	" "		
15.		Velocity				
16.		Command of Touches	/	3		
17.		RHYTHM: Accent				
18.		Steadiness of Beat	/	2	/	3 - pick a slightly slower tempo, so everything is really "lacked in"
19.		Continuity - Momentum	/	2		
20.		Flexibility	/			
		MATURITY IN MEMORY	/	overall, great		
		PHRASING: Slurs	/	3		
		Proper Grouping	/	3		
		Rise & Fall-Melody Line				
		Range of Shading				
		Finesse in Endings of Phrases				
		DYNAMICS: Contrast	/	3		
		PEDAL: Well-timed	/	1		
		Legato Connection	/	1		
		Avoidance of Blurs	/	1		
		Add'l Pedal Effects				
		Use of Soft Pedal				
		CONVINCING ENDINGS OF PIECES	/	2		
		INTERPRETATION: Style	/	1		
		Balance - Mel. & Acc.			/	2 - can you project a little stronger melody over the LH accomp?
		Structural Design	/	1		
		Clearness of Voices				
		Nuances				
		Climaxes				
		Feeling Imagination	/	1		
		REPERTOIRE: Baroque, Classic, Romantic, & Modern	/			
		IMMT	/	CM, 6M		
		Added Phases				
		TOTAL NO. OF C'S	26	TOTAL NO. OF A'S	3	

### Key to Judge's Checks on Lines:

C - special "Commendation"

A - "Needs Attention"

Unchecked Lines - Satisfactory for ability, age, and time studied.

If the Judge signs the attached Certificate, the pupil has passed.

### JUDGE'S ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Congratulations on a successful first build audition. Your playing is detailed and extroverted, seemingly like your personality! You make the most of playing this beautiful grand piano in the

Judge's Signature

hall by using a nice range of dynamics + articulations.