

MMTA AUDITIONS HANDBOOK

Updated August 13, 2020

Regulations, Forms and Information

for

MMTA Honors Auditions
MTNA Competitions

District Auditions: Video Submissions Due September 13, 2020

State Auditions: Video Submissions Due October 17, 2020

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Find the latest MMTA Audition info online at
<https://missourimta.org/>

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COMPETITIONS/AUDITIONS OVERVIEW

PURPOSE:

One of MMTA's goals is to create the musicians and audiences of the future. Competitions and auditions can play an important role in this process, helping to bring out the best in young musicians by giving them the chance to perform alongside the best young musicians from across the state.

These events are "competitions" in the sense that ratings are given and winners chosen. But they are not competitions in the sense of being confrontational or antagonistic. We do our best to make the events a positive growth experience for *everyone* involved. Making good music is important; in comparison with that, winning a trophy, medal, or certificate isn't very important at all.

There are two distinct types of performance competitions that MMTA runs: MTNA Competitions and MMTA Honors Auditions.

ABOUT THE MTNA COMPETITIONS:

The Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Competitions are national in scope. The Missouri Music Teachers Association (MMTA) runs the Missouri State level MTNA competitions. The winners from the state MTNA competitions proceed to the Division level, which is by video submission; Divisional winners compete at the MTNA National Conference.

The performance level of MTNA entrants is generally very high, and a program of substantial length is required. Because of the high level and large repertoire required, relatively few competitors enter in each age group and medium.

Rules and deadlines for the national MTNA Competitions are set by MTNA. The details are given in the April/May issue of *American Music Teacher* and in the *Competition* section of MTNA's web site, MTNA.org. For the most part, Missouri state MTNA auditions must simply follow the rules, procedures, and deadlines set forth by MTNA. A few specific guidelines and a list of contacts for the Missouri state MTNA competitions are given in the "MTNA Performance and Composition Competitions" (see p. 12 below).

Many of the MTNA competitions are underwritten by corporations and so are named after the sponsor. MTNA competitions are divided into three main levels by age: Junior, Senior, and Young Artist.

ABOUT THE MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS:

MMTA Honors Auditions were created to allow a very broad participation of students. With few restrictions, music students of *any* age, *any* level of experience, and *any* performing medium (instrument or voice, solo or ensemble) are eligible to participate.

Although winners are chosen and ratings given, MMTA Honors Auditions are specifically designed to be a positive experience and a learning opportunity for *all* students who enter them.

Pre-collegiate entrants in MMTA Honors Auditions first play in the District Auditions, which are held in late September. District Audition participants receive a rating of I, II, III, IV, or V. Those receiving a I rating may play in the State Auditions, which are held in late October or early November each year.

There are no District Auditions for Collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions participants. Collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions participants proceed directly to the State Auditions.

Rules and procedures for the MMTA Honors Auditions are given in the section "MMTA DISTRICT and STATE HONORS AUDITIONS" below.

MMTA DISTRICT AND STATE HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Deadlines and audition dates:
District Application Deadlines: Sunday, Sep 6
District Video Submissions: Sunday, Sep 20
State Application Deadline: Sunday, Oct 18
State Video Submissions: Sunday, Oct 25

NOTE: Due to video submissions being online and no state conference, auditions fees are lower for this year.

2. The student entry fees for both collegiate and pre-collegiate STATE auditions will be \$25.
3. Auditions fees are also \$25 for all districts
4. The memorization requirement for **ALL** levels of the MMTA pre-collegiate auditions is as follows:
All vocal music must be memorized. All piano solo must be memorized except for 20th Century avant-garde piano compositions. Memorization of music for brass, classical guitar, organ, percussion, strings and woodwinds is optional.
All ensembles may use music.
5. When registering online, you will NOT need to send any paperwork through the mail. All auditions information is located at www.missourimta.org. When registration opens, online links will be available at this site for registration and payment. **All registration happens online.**

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS:

Deadlines, fees, applications

Pre-Collegiate

1. Follow online instructions for registering online (www.missourimta.org). **The District Application Deadline is Sunday, September 6 by 11:59pm.**
2. All teachers MUST also pay online at www.missourimta.org OR mail one check (payable to MMTA) to MMTA's Executive Secretary for the District Auditions fees of \$25 per entry. If paying by check, send one check with all student fees.
3. **The Video Submission Deadline is Sunday, September 20 by 11:59pm.** District Auditions are administered by the district chairs. Due to the fact that it takes time to sort through video submissions and for adjudication to happen remotely, results may not be posted for several weeks. District chairs will facilitate the dispersal of individual comment sheets and will also make the results available online.
4. **State Auditions:** For students receiving "I" ratings at the district level, follow online instructions for registering online (www.missourimta.org). **The State Application Deadline is Sunday, October 18 by 11:59pm.** Then make sure to pay online at www.missourimta.org OR send both the student fees (\$25/student) in one check to MMTA's Executive Secretary by this same deadline. Applications postmarked after this date will not be accepted. NOTE: MMTA has waived the teacher fee for this year due to the fact that there is no in-person conference.
5. **The Video Submission Deadline is Sunday, October 18 by 11:59pm.** State auditions are administered by the MMTA Pre-Collegiate State Chair and other state officials. Due to the fact that it takes time to sort through video submissions and for adjudication to happen remotely, results may not be posted for several weeks. State chairs and other state officials will facilitate the dispersal of individual comment sheets and will also make the results available online.

Collegiate

1. Follow online instructions for registering online (www.missourimta.org). **The State Application Deadline is Sunday, October 18 by 11:59pm.**
2. All teachers must also pay online at www.missourimta.org OR mail one check (payable to MMTA) to MMTA's Executive Secretary for the State Auditions fees of \$25 per entry by the deadline. If paying by check, send one check to cover all students' fees. NOTE: MMTA has waived the teacher fee for this year due to the fact that there is no in-person conference.
3. Please be sure to indicate COMPLETE repertoire title information, plus appropriate movement or tempo designations.
4. If participants from only one school are registered in any area (brass, organ, etc.), those participants will be notified and given the option of canceling their auditions.
5. **The Video Submission Deadline is Sunday, October 25 by 11:59pm.** State auditions are administered by the

MMTA Collegiate State Chair and other state officials. Due to the fact that it takes time to sort through video submissions and for adjudication to happen remotely, results may not be posted for several weeks. State chairs and other state officials will facilitate the dispersal of individual comment sheets and will also make the results available online.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Students in all performing media are eligible, including ensembles. Piano ensembles must use a single piano only.
2. Students must be studying with a teacher whose MMTA-MTNA dues are paid by the District Audition deadline date for pre-collegiate entries OR by the State Audition deadline date for collegiate entries. Teachers who are not MMTA members may enter students if they pay the Non-member Teacher Fee of \$100 by the same deadlines.
3. Collegiate members of MTNA/MMTA may enter students in the MMTA district and state Honors Auditions if they have paid the collegiate student membership for both state and national organizations by the deadline for the auditions entry. These collegiate members will be expected to pay the registration fee for the state auditions at the collegiate student rate in order to be eligible to enter students in the state auditions. Collegiate students may enter collegiate-level MMTA Honors Auditions or MTNA Competitions themselves and still be eligible to enter their own students in the MMTA Honors Auditions. (Please note this rule applies to MMTA Honors Auditions only—because of MTNA rules, collegiate members are NOT eligible to enter students in the MTNA competitions.)
4. To meet the Missouri residency requirement, one or more of the following must be true:
 - a) The teacher resides in the state of Missouri
 - b) The student resides in the state of Missouri
 - c) The place of music study is in Missouri (for instance, at a Missouri college or university).
5. Collegiate contestants must be Senior High graduates, but they need not be enrolled in a college or university.
6. Students entering MTNA Competitions may not enter the MMTA Honors Auditions in the same performing medium (Please note—this includes both District and State MMTA auditions—MTNA competitors may not enter *either* level of MMTA auditions, in the same medium).
7. All pre-collegiate MMTA Honors Audition entries MUST begin at the District Auditions. Pre-collegiate students receiving a "I" rating at the District Auditions are eligible to enter the State Auditions in November.
8. All collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions entrants proceed directly to the State Auditions; for collegiate students there are no District Auditions.
9. In the event that a member of an ensemble is not able to perform at the state or district auditions, the ensemble may play with a substitute member (i.e., a teacher or older student) for comments but not for a rating.

GENERAL REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. The general repertoire requirement is for the performance of two or three compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods. The specific number of compositions and the audition length vary by age group and medium; see below.

NOTE: for the Pre-School and Elementary levels, the two contrasting pieces must be chosen from DIFFERENT method books or DIFFERENT editors. Any questions regarding repertoire should be directed to the District Chair or State competition officials BEFORE the registration deadline

2. Memorization is required for some age groups and mediums and is optional for others; see below.
3. Concertos are not allowed in piano auditions; however, concertos are allowed in the brass, percussion, string, and woodwind auditions.
4. Simplified arrangements will not be accepted for piano solos.
5. Sets of variations or multi-movement sonatas or sonatinas may be used as one of the compositions.
6. For pre-collegiate entrants, repertoire may *not* be changed between District and State Auditions.
7. For collegiate entrants, repertoire may *not* be changed following submission of application.
8. NOTE: Students are **NOT** required to submit scores since the competitions are online this year

SPECIFIC REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Pre-school (including kindergarten):
Two compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods chosen from different method books or different editors. See memorization requirements, below.
2. Elementary Level (1st through 6th grade):
Two compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods chosen from different method books or different editors. See memorization requirements, below.
3. Junior High Level (7th, 8th, 9th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.
4. Senior High Level (10th, 11th, 12th grade):
Three compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.
5. Collegiate Level (Undergraduate and Graduate):
Three compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.

MMTA CHAMBER MUSIC AUDITIONS – NEW

3. Junior High Level (7th, 8th, 9th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 8 minutes - no memorization requirement.
4. Senior High Level (10th, 11th, 12th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 10 minutes - no memorization requirement.
5. Collegiate Level (Undergraduate and Graduate):
NEW – ONLY TWO compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 12 minutes - no memorization requirement.

MEMORIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

Pre-Collegiate and Collegiate Levels

All vocal music must be memorized. All piano solo must be memorized except for 20th Century avant-garde piano compositions. Memorization of music for brass, classical guitar, organ, percussion, strings and woodwinds is optional. All ensembles may use music.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS TIME LIMITS

Class	Performance Time	Video Time Limit
Pre-school thru Elementary 3	5 minutes	20 minutes
Elementary 4-6	7 minutes	20 minutes
Junior High 7-9	8 minutes	20 minutes
Senior High 10-12	12 minutes	20 minutes
Senior High Voice	10 minutes	20 minutes
Collegiate	12 minutes	30 minutes
Collegiate Voice, undergrad.	10 minutes	30 minutes
Collegiate Voice, grad.	12 minutes	30 minutes

If the program exceeds the time frame (Performance Time) it may be stopped by the adjudicator. It is recommended that in choosing repertoire, competitors adhere closely to audition times so that judges can hear most, if not all, of the student's program. These time limits apply for both District and State Auditions.

MMTA acknowledges that many pieces (particularly for piano and for older age groups) exceed the Performance Time allotted for the competitions. In an effort to make online competitions both equitable and manageable for the adjudicators, please adhere to the Video Time Limit guidelines listed above (20 minutes for Pre-Collegiate and 30 minutes for Collegiate). There will not be a penalty for exceeding the time frame. Judges will be encouraged to adhere to these time limits when reviewing recordings.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. All submissions must include video where the performer (and when applicable) the accompanist are clearly visible. The quality of the recording device, the space where the recording is made, and the instrument used will not be factors in adjudication.
2. For auditions requiring memorization, make sure it is clear in the video that no printed music is present. For piano, the performer's face, fingers, and feet should be visible, and the camera should be angled in such a way that the adjudicator can see that there is no printed music inside the piano.
3. In the instance of live accompaniment, competitors should make the best possible effort for the accompanist to be visible in the video while also adhering to safe practices regarding social distancing and other precautions as prescribed by local health and decision-making authorities.
4. Competitors will upload individual videos of each musical selection to an unlisted YouTube channel and then submit a link to the appropriate auditions chair.
5. If you would like to include subtitles of the piece/movement, that is fine, but make sure there is nothing on the video identifying the competitor's name, teacher, or other personal information.

NOTE: Students are **NOT** required to submit scores since the competitions are online this year. Competitors/teachers are encouraged to keep an original copy on hand, in the rare instance that a judge might request it for a more obscure or unknown work

ACCOMPANIMENT FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Accompaniment is **NOT** required for video submissions this year and judges will be instructed to disregard this as a factor in adjudication
2. If the competitor chooses to use a live accompaniment, MMTA strongly encourages them to use best practices for safety as prescribed by local health and decision-making authorities.
3. Teachers are allowed to accompany their students in the MMTA Honors Auditions
4. CD's and online platforms such as SmartMusic.com, Appcompanionist.com, Piano Accompaniments.com and Acapella may be utilized as is appropriate. Recorded accompaniments are allowed.

CLASSIFICATION OF MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Pre-collegiate piano: Students are grouped by grade (pre-school, kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, etc.)
2. All other pre-collegiate (all media except piano solo, including piano duets): Students are grouped into these classifications:

Pre-school	Grades 7-9 (Junior High)
Grades 1-3	Grades 10-12 (Senior High)
Grades 4-6	

3. Collegiate undergraduate: College undergraduates are grouped into lower and upper divisions. If a certain division has only one entry, competition officials may, at their discretion, choose to combine the lower and upper divisions in that category.
4. Graduate: Graduate students in a particular medium are grouped together.
5. If ensembles have students in different grade levels, place ensembles in the level where the majority of the students are. If an equal number of students are from each level, the ensemble must be placed in the highest level. Examples:

Grade Levels of Students	Ensemble Grade Level
4 th , 5 th , 5 th , 5 th	5 th
5 th , 8 th , 8 th , 9 th	8 th
7 th , 7 th , 9 th , 9 th	9 th
9 th , 11 th	11 th

Collegiate ensembles must be composed entirely of college students.

6. Any classification with 30 or more entries will be randomly divided into two groups for adjudication.

7. For classifications that include different instruments or mediums (ie, voice, brass, woodwinds), any classification judged sufficiently large by competition officials may be divided into smaller categories according to medium. For instance, upper collegiate voice may be divided into upper collegiate men's and upper collegiate women's voice, lower collegiate brass into upper collegiate high and upper collegiate low brass, and so on. The decision to subdivide a classification in this way shall be at the sole discretion of competition officials.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS ADJUDICATION

1. **Decisions of judges are final and may not be questioned by participants, parents, or teachers.** Please explain this rule in advance to students and parents and abide by it carefully. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find adjudicators for MMTA Honors Auditions, and one reason is because of too-frequent violation of this rule.
2. Judges will write an evaluation sheet for each student.
3. Pre-collegiate students will be assigned a rating of I, II, III, IV, or V. At District Auditions no plus or minus ratings will be used. At State Auditions, plus and minus ratings may be used.
4. In all classifications at the state level, judges may select a Winner, Runner-Up, and one or more Honorable Mentions. A judge may also opt to declare no winner, runner-up, or honorable mentions within a given category.
5. Teachers and students should, insofar as reasonable, avoid meeting with adjudicators immediately prior to the auditions or making any comment or taking any action that might bias the adjudicator or have the appearance of doing so.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS AWARDS

1. Pre-Collegiate: All students will receive a certificate. Medals will be awarded to students receiving Runner-Up, Honorable Mentions, or I ratings.
2. Collegiate: Students selected as Winner, Runner-Up or Honorable Mention will receive a certificate.

POLICY ON PICKING UP AWARDS/COMMENT SHEETS

1. Comment sheets will be sent to the teachers after adjudication has been completed and results are posted online.
2. Certificates, medals and trophies will be delivered to district chairs to distribute to teachers/competitors in each district

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS STATE CHAIRS

MMTA State Honors Auditions Chair (Pre-school thru Senior High)

Jennifer McAtee 417-425-9977
3016 Iris Dr.
Lancaster, TX 75146
jennifer.mcatee@dcccd.edu

MMTA Collegiate Honors Auditions Chair

Dr. Hyunki Yoon 816-501-4869
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Massman Hall - Room 11
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hyunki.yoon@rockhurst.edu

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS DISTRICT CHAIRS

District	Chair	Phone	Email
I	Michelle Rautmann 511 N 25th St. Saint Joseph, MO 64501	816-232- 3946	25thstreetpiano@gmail.com
II	Dr. Xin Gao School of Arts & Letters Truman State University 100 E. Normal Ave. Kirksville, MO 63501	660-785- 4440	xingao@truman.edu
III	Aine Wendler 101 W. Minor Dr. Kansas City, MO 64114	816-527- 7415	aine@wendlerpianostudio.com
IV	Nancy Dreier 4413 Rockhampton Cir. Columbia, MO 65203	573-445- 8344	ndreier573@aol.com
V	Dr. Wei-Han Su Missouri State University Department of Music 901 S National Ave. Springfield, MO 65897	417-836- 6850	WeiHanSu@missouristate.edu
VI	Caroline Hixson 6419 Marquette Ave Saint Louis, MO 63139		SLAMTA.DistrictsChair@gmail.com
VII	Emily Parker 133 N Main St. Ironton, MO 63650	573-546- 0202	eparker@arcadianacademyofmusic.com

MMTA DISTRICTS

District I (Northwest) Buchanan Caldwell	Andrew Atchinson DeKalb Gentry	Clinton Daviess Holt Livingston	Grundy Harrison Worth	Mercer Nodaway
District II (Northeast) Knox	Adair Clark Macon	Lewis Linn Schuyler	Marion Putnam Sullivan	Scotland Shelby
District III (West Central) Cass	Bates Carroll Jackson	Clay Henry Platte	Johnson Lafayette	Ray St. Clair
District IV (Central) Boone Callaway Camden Chariton	Audrain Benton Gasconade Howard Maries Miller	Cole Cooper Montgomery Morgan Osage	Moniteau Monroe Ralls Randolph Saline	Pettis Phelps
District V (Southwest) Cedar Christian Dade Dallas Douglas	Barry Barton Howell Jasper Laclede Lawrence McDonald	Greene Hickory Ozark Polk Pulaski Shannon	Newton Oregon Texas Vernon Webster Wright	Stone Taney
District VI (East) Franklin Wash.	Crawford Dent Pike	Jefferson Lincoln Ste. Genevieve	St. Charles St. Francois	St. Louis Warren
District VII Butler Cape Girardeau Carter	Bollinger Iron Madison Mississippi	Dunklin Pemiscot Perry Reynolds	New Madrid Scott Stoddard Wayne	Ripley

MTNA PERFORMANCE AND COMPOSITION COMPETITIONS

MTNA RULES, REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION

Due to many changes this year because of video auditions, all information and application forms will be found at www.mtna.org under the subheadings of Engage and Competitions.

MTNA competition application forms are available online only and must be submitted electronically. The application forms will *not* be printed in *American Music Teacher*.

In addition to the information given in the rules for each specific competition, there are general rules that apply to *all* competitions given at the beginning of the MTNA Student Competitions insert in *AMT* and on the MTNA web site under the title “General Competition Guidelines”. Please make your students aware of these general guidelines, as well as the specific rules for the student’s division and age group.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR MTNA AUDITIONS

1. All submissions must include video where the performer (and when applicable) the accompanist are clearly visible. The quality of the recording device, the space where the recording is made, and the instrument used will not be factors in adjudication.
2. For auditions requiring memorization, make sure it is clear in the video that no printed music is present. For piano, the performer’s face, fingers, and feet should be visible, and the camera should be angled in such a way that the adjudicator can see that there is no printed music inside the piano.
3. In the instance of live accompaniment, competitors should make the best possible effort for the accompanist to be visible in the video while also adhering to safe practices regarding social distancing and other precautions as prescribed by local health and decision-making authorities.
4. Competitors will upload individual videos of each musical selection to an unlisted YouTube channel and then submit a link to the appropriate auditions chair.
5. If you would like to include subtitles of the piece/movement, that is fine, but make sure there is nothing on the video identifying the competitor’s name, teacher, or other personal information.
6. Please keep in mind that these are submission guidelines for the Missouri State-level MTNA competitions. It is good to also refer to www.mtna.org for all rules and regulations pertaining to MTNA at the national level.

NOTE: Students are **NOT** required to submit scores since the competitions are online this year. Competitors/teacher are encouraged to keep an original copy on hand, in the rare instance that a judge might request it for a more obscure or unknown work.

MTNA TEACHER DUES

The teacher’s MMTA/MTNA dues must be paid according to the deadlines listed on MTNA’s website in order for a student to be eligible. Generally the teacher dues deadline for MTNA competitions is the second Wednesday after Labor Day and the same date as the MTNA competition application deadline.

Teachers who are not MTNA members may enter students in MTNA competitions by paying a non-member teacher fee.

MTNA CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

MTNA Chamber Music competitions remain in the new format with a later entry deadline and NO state competitions. The entry deadline will be Wednesday, December 2, 2020, with applications available Wednesday, November 4, 2020. For more information, please visit: https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/Chamber_Music.aspx

STATE WINNERS OF MTNA COMPETITIONS

1. **It is important for all students to review the results, which will be posted online.** Winners will be contacted by the state officials via email notifying them that will advance to the next round of competition. Much information is needed from each winner immediately after each competition.
2. Students who enter the MTNA competitions have assumed financial and personal responsibility to continue through each of the remaining levels.
3. **Division competitions will be an ONLINE-ONLY VIDEO round.** [Click here](#) for the details of the

Division competitions process. An additional division video submission fee of \$20 will be required for those advancing to the division level

4. State winners will required to submit their videos by December 2, 11:59 p.m. Eastern time.
5. If the state winners have not submitted their video by the deadline, we will contact the alternate immediately. They will have until December 8 to submit their video for the division competitions.
6. Division winners will be the national finalists at the National Conference in Atlanta, March 13-17, 2021. In the event that the National Conference cannot take place in person, it will instead be held online. National competitions would then happen via video, like the division competitions.

MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS

Reminder: All applications must be submitted to the appropriate national chairman before the student competes, by the published deadline (See April/May issue of *AMT*). The deadline for performance competitions is Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 3pm EST. Be sure to keep a copy of the application for yourself.

Teachers must verify the accuracy of all information submitted in the application before submitting to national coordinators. Correcting mistakes in applications has been a major cause of delay in scheduling your state auditions.

MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Please check with the MTNA website (www.mtna.org) for correct information. All entries are submitted on-line.

Since the State competitions will be by video submission, all videos will be due by Sunday, October 25 at 11:59pm. Results will be announced by Monday, November 16 online, and individual comments will be sent to all competitors.

STATE MTNA AUDITIONS CHAIRS

MTNA Student Composition Competitions

Jacob Gotlib
106 Hillel
Columbia, MO 65211
(573)-884-9478
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MTNA Junior/Senior Competitions

Daniel Ketter
Missouri State University
Department of Music
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897
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MTNA Young Artist Competitions

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sharlabenderstudios@gmail.com

MMTA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MMTA Executive Secretary

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