Date: September 1, 2019
From: Deborah White-Bondhus, Chair
10637 Green Mountain Circle, Columbia, MD 21044-2336

To: Teachers whose students want to apply for Credit

Online (at msmta.org/calendar.php, click on Credit Forms) you will find six forms:

1. **Permission Form** which the school principal must sign in order to take the piano examination for credit. This form must be sent to me along with your filled out application form and the check, by November 15, 2019. Keep in mind that some counties are not granting credit at this time. However, many are. Even though credit may be refused one year, it could be given another. Any student who would like to request credit should ask for it. If the school does not give credit, your student's application will automatically be put in for recognition.

2. **A Letter of Explanation** which can be presented to the principal with the Permission form explaining the program. Principals are very busy, and although they do receive letters from me about the program, they may find this added information helpful when making their decision as to granting permission for credit.

3. **The Practice Hours Form** must be filled in each week, and returned at the end of the year. This should be dated starting in September. You may have to estimate practice time for September if practice records were not kept.

4. **The Application Form** (MSTMA members will find this form in the Student Activities Booklet) which must be sent to me with a check and with the Permission form. Please indicate the repertoire and the technique to be prepared (See the Technique Addendum). We realize it is sometimes difficult to know in October exactly what will be played in April, but fill it out with what is projected to be played. Indicate appropriate timings for the finished work. **ANY CHANGES IN THE PROGRAM MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CHAIR AND THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE.** Changes must adhere to the requirements of level, three periods of literature and the 10 minutes minimum for repertoire. **MAKE SURE THAT AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF PIECES ARE ENTERED TO AMPLY COVER 10 MINUTES** so if the student speeds up when performing, they will still have enough time! No program changes will be allowed after April 1, 2019.

5. **The Student Data Sheet** should provide you with the details you will need to know. If you do have questions please feel free to contact me.

6. **The Technique Addendum** will give you the requirements for students at the different levels. The technique level should correspond to the repertoire level the student is playing. The curriculum committee has tried to make these standards uniform. If you feel your student has unique problems which warrant review of the Technique they will play, please call Deborah White-Bondhus 410-730-8295, about this IMMEDIATELY. The curriculum committee will review requests for changes of technique only for very special cases, and the changes would need to be made now as part of the overall application, not at the last minute. When filling in the technique in the application form, please spell out exactly the keys of the scales to be played, as F, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat Major, and d, g, c and f minor etc. If all scales are required, just write All Majors and minors so that we know that you know exactly what is required. There will be an additional 5 minutes allowed to hear the technical part of the examination.
You can also find The Curriculum Repertoire Guidelines in the same High School Exam section, which will help you to determine the level of your student's repertoire. Please use it as a guide when comparing other repertoire.

The examination judges' grade is one-half of the total grade. The other half is your grade. You will fill out the Student Data form grading your student for the year. The committee then averages the two grades together for the final grade to be turned in to the school. You should discuss this fully with your student so that you both have a good understanding of the procedure.

Thank you for the extra work entailed by you in this very special effort.

Deborah White-Bondhus, chair
THE MSMTA GAIL F. McDONALD HIGH SCHOOL PIANO EXAMINATION

Debbondhus@gmail.com
410-730-8295
Maryland State Music Teachers Association
Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association

September 1, 2019
THE MSMTA GAIL F. MCDONALD HIGH SCHOOL PIANO EXAMINATION
PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR ELECTIVE CREDIT FOR PRIVATE PIANO STUDY

__________________________________            _______________
Student's Name

____________________________   ____________  ____________
Address                                                City                     State/Zip

____________________________   ____________  ____________
Teacher's Address                                City                     State/Zip

____________________________   20__-20___     (_____)___________
Name of School                         School Year     School Telephone

____________________________   ____________________________
Address of School                                 City                     State/Zip

__________________________ I hereby give permission for this student to apply for elective credit for piano study.
__________________________ Permission is not granted.

________________________________________
Signature of Principal

Date

Name of staff person who will monitor the elective if other than the Principal: ____________________________
DATE: September 1, 2019

TO: High School Principals of Maryland Students

FROM: Deborah White-Bondhus, Chair, The MSMTA Gail F. McDonald High School Piano Examinations for Recognition/Credit of Private Music Study (reply to debbondhus@gmail.com)

SUBJECT: Students Who Wish to Apply for Credit for the 2020 MSMTA Gail F. McDonald High School Piano Examination.

Your student has presented you with a permission form to apply for transcript credit while participating in the Maryland State Music Teachers Association's High School Piano Examination. This exam, which takes place each spring, can be taken for either recognition or credit. Most of the 150 students from 100 different high schools who apply to take the examination each year apply to take recognition, but a smaller percentage choose to take it for credit.

The High School Piano Examination Program was developed in 1979 by MSMTA with the cooperation of the Maryland State Department of Education. For 39 years, many principals have given students permission to apply to take the Piano Examination for credit. Some students took this elective through independent studies, while others received it under fine arts and work-study programs. Students must study piano privately on a regular basis throughout the school year, keep a record of their practice time (a minimum of one hour per day), keep records of lesson time, repertoire classes, recitals, keyboard and theory tests, etc. They must demonstrate technical exercises over and above the ten minutes of memorized repertoire required of students applying for recognition only. A committee of nationally certified piano teachers approves the student’s repertoire. In April/May 2018, the student will perform his/her program for nationally certified adjudicators who will give the student a grade. The piano teacher of the student also gives the student a grade for the entire year. These two grades are averaged to the final grade for the year. Copies of the examination critiques, the student’s grade, and record of the practice hours are sent to the school. Some principals oversee this program directly: others appoint a staff member to oversee it.

This is a unique way for schools and professionals in the community to work together to enhance students’ educational options. Thank you for your consideration.
PRACTICE HOURS SHEET

THE MSMTA GAIL F. McDONALD HIGH SCHOOL PIANO EXAMINATION FOR CREDIT
MARYLAND STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

STUDENTS MUST KEEP WEEKLY HOURS AND TURN THIS IN TO THE TEACHER TO BE SENT WITH TEACHER’S GRADE BEFORE THE EXAM IN APRIL/MAY.

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<th>STUDENT’S NAME</th>
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<th>SCHOOL ADDRESS</th>
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<th>PRIVATE PIANO TEACHER</th>
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SCHOOL YEAR 20__20__

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<th>Week of</th>
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The following list is the minimum technique requirements for students applying to take the High School Piano Examination for CREDIT. Students should be thoroughly prepared in the level that corresponds to the level of music they are playing for the examination. The Curriculum Committee will expect the minimum requirements are met, and the committee must approve any change that deletes from the minimum. Students may, however, add technique above this minimum level.

**INTERMEDIATE**:

Scales: 7 majors and 7 harmonic minors to be played 2 octaves, hands together, M.M.= 100 to the eighth note.


Arpeggios Root Position, 2 octaves, separate hands, with thumb turns, M.M. = 72 to the triplet, in the keys of the scales.

**ADVANCED**:

Scales: 12 majors and 12 minors in 3 forms (natural, harmonic and melodic) 4 octaves, hands together, M.M. = 120 in the sixteenth note rhythm.


Arpeggios 12 majors and 12 minors in root position, 1st and 2nd inversions, 4 octaves, hands together, M.M. = 80 in triplet rhythm and Dominant 7 and Diminished 7 arpeggios in root position in or on any key, M.M. = 80 in sixteenth note rhythm.

Revised July 2019 by the H.S. Examination Curriculum Committee.
STUDENT DATA PERTINENT TO THE AWARDING OF ELECTIVE CREDIT FOR PRIVATE PIANO STUDY

Student’s Name ___________________________ School ___________________________

Student’s Address ___________________________ Address of School __________________ Zip

Private Piano Teacher ___________________________ Principal’s Name __________________

Teacher ___________________________ Address ___________________________ Phone Number of School __________________

Teacher’s Phone Number ___________________________ Student’s H.S. Grade __________________

Number of private lessons during the school year 20____ 20____ __________# of lessons

Number of class lessons ___________ : Repertoire classes __________________

Repertoire Level: _____Int _____Adv

(check one)

Festivals, Theory, Keyboard programs, Competitions, etc., in which student participated:

List any awards received:

List Repertoire for year (Please * memorized pieces):

Technique:

Baroque:

Classical:

Impressionistic:

Contemporary:

Piano Teacher’s Grade for the year___________ Comments:

Signature of Teacher____________________________________

------------------ To be filled out by MSMTA Chairman or Registrar---------------------

Grade student received on the High School Piano Examination____________

Final Grade: ___________ (Average of H.S. Exam judges’ and teacher’s grade for the year)

SIGNATURE OF MSMTA COORDINATOR OR REGISTRAR
MSMTA HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR PRIVATE PIANO STUDY

SIGN ___________________________ DATE ___________________________
2020 The MSMTA Gail F. McDonald High School Piano Examination for Recognition/Credit

DEBORAH WHITE-BONDHUS, Chair, 410-730-8295, debbondhus@gmail.com
ANN S. MATTESON, Co-Chair, 301-441-2885, annmatt@verizon.net
ELLEN SAKAI, Co-Chair, 301-441-8531

Date: April/May 2020. Students should be ready to take the exam by April 1, 2020. Applicants will be notified of the exact date at least two weeks before the examination.

Deadline for Credit: February 1, 2020. Student must have the principal’s permission and other forms. See “Credit students only” below.

Deadline for Recognition: February 1, 2020

Location: Examination centers located in Maryland.

Fee: $35.00. Application forms (see www.msmta.org to download forms) should be filled out by the teacher only. Teacher only must send one check for all entries, made payable to MSMTA to:

DEBORAH WHITE-BONDHUS, 10637 Green Mountain Circle, Columbia MD 21044-2336

Eligibility: This event is open to any piano student residing in Maryland and attending high school grades 9 through 12 or doing equivalent work in home schooling. The student must have continuous private piano study to correspond with the school year 2019-2020. The teacher need not be an MSMTA member.

Repertoire: All repertoire must be memorized. The program must have a minimum of three contrasting pieces from three different periods of literature, plus scales of the programmed pieces (minimum two octaves, hands together Intermediate in M.M. = 100 to the eighth note; two octaves, and four octaves, hands together at Advanced M.M. = 120 in the sixteenth note or triplet rhythm). There must be a minimum of 10 minutes of playing time, excluding repeats, at an appropriate tempo for each piece. Any changes in repertoire can be made with the Chair until April 1. After April 1, no changes (deletions or additions) will be accepted. Arrangements (such as Palmer edition of Pachelbel's Canon in D), music requiring accompaniment (i.e. concertos, duets, chamber, ensemble), or shortened versions are not acceptable. Students must present their music to the adjudicators. No photocopied music is acceptable without permission of the copyright holder. A syllabus for categorizing levels is available from the Chair or on the website.

NOTE: THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE WILL NOT CHECK TIMES. IT IS ENTIRELY UP TO THE TEACHER TO ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE TIMING IS SUBMITTED. IF STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE AT LEAST A TEN-MINUTE PROGRAM AT THE AUDITION, STUDENTS WILL NOT RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR THEIR PLAYING. THE TEACHER SHOULD PLAN FOR AN 11- OR 12-MINUTE PROGRAM.

Credit students only: In addition to the above repertoire requirements, students will be examined on technique including scales, cadences, and arpeggios. Credit students need to obtain the following: (1) Form for Principal’s Permission; (2) Hourly Practice Schedule Form (to log practice/lesson hours, to be verified and initialed by the teacher); and (3) Technique addendum. The Principal or appointed staff member will oversee the program. These forms are available on the Maryland State Music Teachers Association web site at www.msmta.org.

Adjudication: The adjudicators will hear each student for a minimum of 10 minutes (15 minutes for credit). Critiques will be mailed to the piano teachers who will see that their students receive them. Before the exam, the teacher will fill out an evaluation form (sent by the Chair) giving the student a grade for the entire year. The final grade will be an average of the piano examination grade and the teacher’s grade. For credit, copies of the critiques, practice hours, and an evaluation need to be delivered to the applicant’s high school with a request that the grade be entered on the student’s transcript by the student. Both Credit and Recognition need to be delivered to the appropriate school counselor by the student.

Certificate of Achievement and Report of Examination: After passing the piano exam, a Certificate of Achievement will be mailed to the piano teacher along with the Report of the Examination with the student’s final grade. A letter will accompany this for the school so that if the student wants the report placed in their permanent record folder at school, he/she can take this to the school. Grades for recognition students are not put on their transcript but are included in the student’s folder to accompany the student transcript to university.

For more information, contact one of the following:

Annapolis: Cecelia Wyatt, 410-263-8416
Baltimore/Towson: Ruth Peng, 410-666-1220
Columbia: Alla Merport, 410-480-0729
Greater Laurel: Wendy Dengler, 301-725-6930
Howard County: Constance Fischel 410-730-8660
Montgomery County: Ellen Sakai, 301-441-8531
Southern MD Patricia E. Blanchard 240-538-2065
Any Other areas: Ann Matteson, 301-441-2885
2020 The MSMTA Gail F. McDonald High School Piano Examination for Recognition/Credit

DEBORAH WHITE-BONDHUS, Chair, 410-730-8295, debbondhus@gmail.com

***EXAMINATION FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 1, 2020***

Check One: □ Examination for Elective Credit of Private Piano Study (Deadline: February 1, 2020). Fee $35
□ Examination for School Recognition of Private Piano Study (Deadline: February 1, 2020. Fee $35

Teacher only must send one check Payable to MSMTA to the chair,
DEBORAH WHITE-BONDHUS, 10637 Green Mountain Circle, Columbia MD 21044-2336

—Incomplete or illegible applications will be returned——Please type or print clearly for certificate—

Name: ______________________________________ HS Grade (9-12): ________

High School Name: ___________________________________________________________________

H.S. County: __________________________

Student Signature: ___________________________ Years of Private Piano Study: __________

Parent or Guardian Signature: __________________________

Exam Repertoire Level: (check one) □ Intermediate □ Advanced

All repertoire must be memorized. Program must have a minimum of three contrasting pieces from three different periods of literature. There must be a minimum of 10 minutes of playing time, excluding repeats, and at an appropriate tempo for each piece. Any changes in repertoire can be made with the chair until April 1. After that, no changes will be accepted. Arrangements, music requiring accompaniment, or shortened versions are not acceptable. Students must present their music to the adjudicators. No photocopied music is acceptable without permission of the copyright holder. Additional forms required for credit exams are available on the Maryland State Music Teachers Association web site at www.msmta.org.

NOTE: THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE WILL NOT CHECK TIMES. IT IS ENTIRELY UP TO THE TEACHER TO SEE THAT ADEQUATE TIMING IS SUBMITTED. IF THE STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE AT LEAST TEN MINUTES OF MUSIC AT THE AUDITION, THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR THEIR PLAYING. PLAN ON AN 11 OR 12-MINUTE PROGRAM.

Composition (Op. No., Movement, etc.) Composer Performance Time

1. _______________________________________________________________ ____________________________ _____________

2. _______________________________________________________________ ____________________________ _____________

3. _______________ ___________________________________________ ____________________________ _____________

4. _______________________________________________________________ ____________________________ ______________

□ Check here if you are adding additional repertoire on the reverse side of this page. TOTAL: __________

Credit only – List Technique Keys:

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules governing the High School Piano Examination, and I agree to abide by them. I have checked all blanks on this form to see if they are filled in accurately, especially the repertoire and playing times as listed above.

Teacher’s Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Address: __________________________________ City: __________________________ State: ______ Zip: _______

Email: ___________________________ Teacher’s Signature: ___________________________

Signature of Co-Teacher, Secondary Teacher, or Coach: ___________________________