

*MSMTA Claudette L. Horwitz Junior Distinguished Music
Achievement Award*

Dr. BOK HWA KIM, Chair, eymbhk@yahoo.com

This award for eighth grade students is designed to honor distinguished participation in MSMTA events accumulated during a student's sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade years.

Deadlines: Documentation and application form may be sent at any time during the student's eighth-grade year, but no later than **June 1, 2024**. Plan at least one month from the time of application to receive the plaque.

Award: An engraved plaque from MSMTA.

Requirements: An eighth-grade student in the 2023-2024 school year must have earned at least **500 points** from no fewer than **five** different MSMTA events, two of which must be from two different MSMTA performance events (which includes the Composers Circle), listed on the application form during sixth- through eighth grades only. To get service points, a signature is required from someone in charge of the event.

Eligibility: The MSMTA Junior Distinguished Music Achievement Award is open to students of any instrument. Events entered and/or won during, but not prior to, the 2021-2022 academic year will qualify for this award. In the case of the Keyboard Musicianship and Theory, students may not duplicate levels or modules. No points earned toward the Junior DMA Award can be used for the Senior DMA Award.

Application: Application form should be sent to the chair with photocopied documentation (i.e., critiques with the grade and signature of the judges, tests with scores, etc.) for all events. Do not send program listings, or pictures of ribbons. Documentation will not be returned. Mail these to:

DR. BOK HWA KIM, 3070 Forum Place, Ellicott City, MD 21042

NOTE: Junior DMA points are awarded for the quality of performance rather than for placement (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). All critiques, competitive and non-competitive, will include an evaluation of the quality of the performance. The chart below will be used to determine points for filling out the application form.

Point System

Superior	50 points
Excellent	40 points
Very Good	30 points
Good	20 points
Fair	10 points

This system applies to all events except Keyboard Musicianship, Theory, Accompanying, and Composers Circle. The points for these events can be found on the Junior DMA Application Form.

In events with multiple judges, **all** critique sheets must be sent. **Grades will be averaged in cases where individual judges give different ratings for the same event.**

If there are any questions regarding the above, please contact the DMA Chair, or the Vice President of Student Activities.

*MSMTA Claudette L. Horwitz Junior Distinguished Music Achievement Award
Application Form*

Dr. Bok Hwa Kim, 3070 Forum Place, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Student: _____ Phone: _____

Teacher: _____ Phone: _____

Teacher's Address: _____

Teacher Email: _____ Application Date: _____

*Please refer to the point system found in the SA Handbook when filling out this application. **Note: In events with multiple judges, send ALL critique sheets with this application.** (Gottlieb, Chase, Concerto, etc.)*

MTNA/MSMTA Events	Grade 6 2021-2022	Grade 7 2022-2023	Grade 8 2023-2024
MTNA Composition Competition			
MTNA Junior High School Competition			
Miriam Gottlieb Memorial Competition			
Doris Chase Sonata Awards			
MSMTA Junior Concerto Competition			
MSMTA Intermediate Concerto Competition (one or two movements)			
Spring Festival: Solo Competition (any instrument)			
Spring Festival: Piano Ensemble (maximum two groups per year)			
Spring Festival: Instrumental (Piano accompaniment in these events falls under the "Service Points" category.)			
MSMTA Chamber Music Festival			
Theory Testing Program: maximum of two tests per year with a score of 70 or above (Level 1 or above accepted)			
Keyboard Musicianship Program: maximum of two tests per year List final MSMTA points only (Level 1 or above accepted)			
Accompanying in MSMTA Concerto, Orchestral, Piano and Voice Festivals: Participant 20 pts (10 min. playing time; minimum difficulty: Vivaldi concerti)			
MSMTA Composers/Improvisers Circle: Participant 20 pts.			
Local Association Events: maximum three per year, 15 pts. per event			
Service points: maximum three per year, 15 pts. per event. May include volunteering at any MSMTA event.			
TOTAL POINTS EARNED:			

I certify that this student has earned 500 points through his/her participation in at least five of the events listed above; two must be from two different MSMTA performance events (which includes the Composers Circle). Documentation is enclosed.

Teacher's Signature: _____

Dear colleagues:

As the chair for the Distinguished Music Award, I have encountered over the years some recurrent issues when processing application. To avoid confusion and delay in the process, I would like to list a few important clarifications here as a reminder to all DMA applicants:

- 1) Please use the correct form for the CURRENT year;
- 2) An event is credited by the corresponding SCHOOL year, and not the calendar year (anything before the commencement of 6th grade for the Junior Award and 9th grade for the senior award will not be credited);
- 3) An application should be submitted during the student's 8th-grade school year for the Junior Award, and 12th-grade school year for the Senior Award;
- 4) If a student have enough credits with all corresponding documents, the application could be submitted earlier in the year (in other words, there is no need for you to wait till May to send in your application);
- 5) Only TWO theory tests (in different levels) and TWO musicianship tests (in different levels) are allowed per school year (for theory and musicianship tests, each level would be credited ONLY ONCE, and are not transferable from Junior to Senior);
- 6) The maximum score for the musicianship test is 50 points, NOT 60;
- 7) Only TWO scores (with different groups) in the Spring Festival Piano Ensemble events are allowed per school year;
- 8) Participation as a piano accompanist in any Spring Festival instrumental ensemble event should be counted in the "Service points" category;
- 9) No school band/orchestra/choir concert/trip would be counted towards service points;
- 10) You may call for your intention to apply but, without submitting the proper paperwork, you should not expect the reviewing/plaque-ordering process to begin immediately;
- 11) Please submit copies of the actual adjudication/critique sheets, test scores and programs, instead of award certificates or pictures of ribbons
- 12) Please verify that dates are clearly marked on all event documents;
- 13) If you want to guarantee that your DMA recipients' names are printed in the MSMTA newsletter, you should submit all application material no later than MAY 31st that year;
- 14) If you would like to receive the plaques by a certain date, please keep in mind that, just to be safe, the processing time is two weeks for me, and an extra 2-6 weeks for the trophy supplier (especially during their busy season from April to May);
- 15) Please do not contact the trophy supplier directly, for they have stressed that they preferred only one contact;
- 16) Please double-check the point-calculations and the spelling of applicant's names, and make sure that all relevant documents for events listed on the form are in place before you send in the application;
- 17) Should you have any further question, please do not hesitate to email or call me.
- 18) Required school concerts are NOT acceptable as service points.
- 19) Applications and inquiries should be send by the teacher and NOT the parents/students.

Thank you for your support and participation. And all the best for the coming school year!

Sincerely yours,
Bok Hwa Kim
Junior/Senior DMA chair

Requirements for
Junior Distinguished Music Achievement
Award

1. Must earn at least 500 points from at least five different MSMTA events.
2. At least two of these five must be two DIFFERENT MSMTA performance events, which can also include the Composers Circle. A local MSMTA Scholarship event will count as an MSTMA Performance event.
3. Local Association events: no more than three per school year - 15 points each
4. Community Service: no more than three per school year - 15 points each
5. Festivals and Competitions: a student must receive a minimum of a "Good" rating (20 DMA points), or an average of 20 points between two judges to qualify for the DMA.
6. Theory and Keyboard: Levels 1 and above accepted

Requirments for
Senior Distinguished Music Achievement
Award

1. Must earn at least 600 points from at least six different MSMTA events.
2. At least three of these six events must be three DIFFERENT MSMTA performance events, which can also include the MTNA Composition competition and the Composers Circle. A local MSMTA Scholarship event will count as an MSMTA Performance event.
3. Local Association events: no more than three per school year - 15 points each
4. Community Service: no more than three per school year - 15 points each
5. Festivals and Competitions: a student must receive a minimum of a "Good" rating (20 DMA points), or an average of 20 points between two judges to qualify for the DMA.
6. Theory and Keyboard: Levels 3 and above accepted
7. High School Exams
Score: (combining teacher and adjudicator averages)
A+ or an A = 50 points
A- = 45 points
B+ = 40 points
B = 35 points
B- = 30 points

Request that Concerto critique sheet follow other festivals and competitions, with "Superior, Excellent, Very Good, Good, and Fair" and NOT letter grades.