

Participation in the Junior Festival Program of NFMC

Students may participate in the Junior Festival program of NFMC if they meet the following requirements. **The most important requirement** is that the student must currently be studying with a teacher who is a current member in good standing of the National Federation of Music Clubs. To participate in a festival in Washington State, the student's teacher must also be a member of Washington State Federation of Music Clubs (WSFMC) and meet the following criteria.

1. Each teacher of Festival Entrants must be a senior member of NFMC;
 - As a Senior Club Member, or
 - As a Senior Individual Member
2. Each Junior Festival entrant must be a Junior Member of NFMC and must be under 19 years of age;
 - As a Junior Club member of their teacher's Junior Club (Studio), or
 - As a Junior Individual Member

In Washington State we currently have 11 Senior Clubs comprised of over 100 Senior Club Member music educators. Each of these teachers works with students who make up their Junior Club and may enter their students if they desire to do so.

In Washington State, each Senior Club hosts a Junior Festival in their local area as a group to facilitate the planning, organization and expense required to fulfill the requirements of the NFMC Junior Festival.

Currently, students at our festival perform in piano, voice, flute, string instruments among others. Most of our festivals host students studying piano and we have one vocal festival held each year. There are two Senior Clubs who include a few string and woodwind events. Students also participate in the Federation Theory testing event.

If you do not currently study with a Federation Senior Member but are interested in the Junior Festival, please check our website for the directory of Senior Clubs in our state to contact the president of the club nearest you. Each club will be able to assist with information regarding instructors with available openings for students.

Students in Washington State who are not studying with a Washington State Federation Senior Club Member are unfortunately not eligible to participate in the NFMC Junior Festivals in Washington.

Frequently Asked Questions regarding our Junior Members

Federation Junior Festival & Competitions and Awards

My son/daughter is interested in the Junior Festival program in Washington. How do we get started?

First, your son or daughter must be a current student of a music teacher who is a current member of the Washington State Federation of Music Clubs (WSFMC) and the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC). The member teacher must also be affiliated with a group or Senior Club who hosts a Junior Festival or hosts his/her own Junior Festival. The teacher is responsible to communicate all the necessary requirements to each student who participates in Junior Festival.

My son/daughter studies with a teacher who is “not” a Federation member. Can he/she participate in the Junior Festival?

Unfortunately, a student **cannot** participate in Junior Festival unless their current teacher is a Senior Member in good standing of NFMC and WSFMC. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

My son/daughter is a member of a junior orchestra or symphony that is a Washington State Federation Junior Associate Club. What does this membership offer for the individual student?

As a Junior Member of a Junior Associate Club, the student can enter many competitions available at the state, regional and national levels of NFMC such as Junior Composition, Essay and Musical Performance. Many of these competitions include awards.

As stated earlier, the student is **not** able to participate in the Junior Festival program **unless** they are a current student of a music teacher. The teacher must be a current member of the NFMC and WSFMC. The member teacher must also be in a group who hosts a Junior Festival or hosts his/her own Junior Festival.

Where can I find more information about the Competitions and Awards available to Junior Members?

Please follow this link for a listing of the many competitions available to our Junior Members.

<https://www.nfmc-music.org/competitionscategory/junior-division/>

Where can I find more information about the Junior Composers Competitions?

Please follow this link for a listing of the Junior Composers Competitions.

<https://www.nfmc-music.org/competitionscategory/junior-composers-awards/>

What are the Federation Cups (formerly called “Gold Cups”)?

Students may earn Federation Cups through the Junior Festival program. They are awarded on a point rating system.

How do I learn about the Junior Festival repertoire requirements?

As members of NFMC and WSFMC, each teacher is required to have the official Festival Bulletin which outlines all the rules and requirements for the Junior Festival. The Bulletin also includes the required repertoire for all instruments, levels and performance categories. The teacher works with the student to select repertoire that adheres to all Festival requirements.

What is the required repertoire for the Junior Festival?

In most categories, two pieces are performed for memory at the Junior Festival. The first is a selection from an American Composer and the second piece is chosen by the teacher and student. There are specific guidelines depending on the student’s performance level and the instrument and there are exceptions to this repertoire requirement for categories such as Piano Concerto, Vocal Musical Theater and other necessary adaptations to the requirements.