

## RIBBON FESTIVAL 2023

Dear Teachers: The Middle West District of the Ohio Music Teachers Association will host its annual Ribbon Festival at **Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio**, on **Saturday, November 18, 2023**. This event provides students of any age or skill level with an opportunity to perform for a qualified judge in a recital setting. Each participant will receive a comment sheet, a blue ribbon and a certificate. Information about the Festival is provided below. Your cooperation in following these guidelines is necessary and greatly appreciated:

1. Each student will perform **ONE** solo (preferably memorized).
2. Total performance time should not exceed:  
Beginner through Intermediate – 5 minutes; Advanced – 8 minutes
3. Vocal, piano, and/or string solos are permitted.
4. Students should bring the printed score with all measures numbered. This score will be used by the judge during the performance. **Photocopied music will not be accepted.**
5. Students are required to stay for the entire recital (approximately one hour).
6. Fees (nonrefundable):
  - a) The fee for students of OhioMTA members is \$15.00 for each participating student.
  - b) Teachers who are not OhioMTA members may have students participate by remitting a \$20.00 teacher participation fee in addition to \$16.00 for each participating student.
7. Regarding the scheduling process:
  - a) **Be prepared for students of each teacher to be scheduled over several hours throughout the day. If the student must perform at a specific time of day write the reason on the STUDENT ENTRY FORM.**
  - b) For siblings or relatives who need to perform in the same recital hour, be sure to indicate the request clearly on the STUDENT ENTRY FORMS of both students.
  - c) If a student's sibling or relative is studying with a different teacher and they need to perform in the same recital hour, include the name of the sibling AND the other teacher on the STUDENT ENTRY FORMS of both students.
  - d) Changes in the program (other than cancellations) will not be made after Thursday, November 2nd. Changes made after this date will not appear in the printed program.
  - e) Cancellations should be reported by the teacher in advance (if possible) to Paula Deardurff or on Festival Day at the check-in table for the assigned room.
8. Each teacher should:
  - a) Complete one copy of the TEACHER INFORMATION FORM.
  - b) Complete a STUDENT ENTRY FORM for each participant.  
**All forms should be completed by the teacher, not students!**
  - c) Send only one check made payable to OhioMTA Middle West.
  - d) Mail all forms and one check to cover the fees of your students to:  
Paula Deardurff  
537 Hillcrest Dr. Bellefontaine, OH 43311  
(937) 593-8326 home (937) 935-0616 cell

**DEADLINE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

In addition to the TEACHER INFORMATION FORM and the STUDENT ENTRY FORM, you will find a page titled FESTIVAL RULES AND GUIDELINES. You should make copies of this sheet and distribute to each participant. Be sure that students know and understand the rules.

The facilities for the day include two performance rooms each with a Steinway grand piano. The Gilliom Room (located in Mosiman Hall) is a large room with a performance area and seating on risers for approximately 100 people. Yoder Recital Hall is an auditorium with a large stage; it can seat approximately 300 people.

You will be notified of your students' performance times approximately 14 days prior to the festival. Best wishes as you prepare for the Ribbon Festival!

Sincerely,

Paula Deardurff