

25th Annual Sonatina Festival

Saturday, November 8, 2025
www.sonatinafestival.org



The 25th Annual Sonatina Festival aims to raise awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the Sonata and Sonatina musical forms. As many music auditions and competitions are held in the spring, this festival encourages musical preparation during the fall semester by providing a performance goal for pianists of all ages and levels. We hope you'll participate in this exciting music-making event!

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

- Students will be evaluated with other entrants in their age category. Entrants may choose in-person competitive (eligible to be selected for the Winners Recital and/or be named a trophy winner), in-person non-competitive (comments only), or online/video non-competitive (comments only) options. Non-competitive performance entries are for judge's comments only and are not eligible for trophy or recitalist consideration.
- Festival Entry Fee: \$30 per entry (non-refundable)
- Entry forms and fees are due Wednesday, October 22, 2025.
- In-person entrants will receive their audition time via email by Saturday, November 1.
- Entrants choosing to enter video performances must email their video link and score PDF by noon on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Please note this deadline is one week before the in-person festival. Refer to this packet for complete information and instructions.
- Duets, adults, and teaching professionals are also eligible to participate. Piano and other instruments are welcome to enter.
- Memorization is required (except for non-competitive entries, adults, duets, and teaching professionals). A sample adjudication form can be found at www.sonatinafestival.org.
- Entrants will play one movement of a selected Sonatina or Sonata without repeats. Elementary-level students not yet ready for a classical sonatina may enter a piece in Rondo, Binary, Rounded Binary, or Ternary form. All other entries must be titled as Sonatina or Sonata to be eligible.
- Judges will award trophies to one-third of the performers in each age category. Judges may also name a chosen Recitalist as well as an Alternate Recitalist in each category. In the event the recitalist is unable to perform at the Festival Recital, the alternate will be invited to perform. Decision of the adjudicator(s) is final.
- In-person entrants must provide an original score for the judge with measures numbered. No photocopies will be allowed. IMSLP downloads are discouraged.
- Appropriate performance attire is required—no jeans, leisurewear, tennis shoes, etc. please.
- Auditions are closed. Only the judge and the entrant are allowed in the room.
- The festival is held at Madison Christian Community, 7118 Old Sauk Rd, Madison WI.
- The **Festival Recital** featuring performers selected by the adjudicator(s) will be held Saturday, November 8 at 7:00pm at Madison Christian Community, 7118 Old Sauk Rd, Madison WI.
- Trophies will be awarded at the recital. Teachers may pick up their student packets and unclaimed trophies after the recital.



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- Entry forms are collected online at this link: <https://forms.gle/DFfff9ZWWAMTEDvJ6>
- Entry fees are paid via check or money order and must be postmarked by October 22, 2025.
- Confirmations will be emailed by November 1, 2025.
- It is preferred that the teacher mail in one check per studio. Teachers, if you are having the parent complete the online form, please provide the parent with the complete and correct Title, Movement, Composer information.

Information you will need to complete the online entry form (DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM):

- Entrant Name _____
- Parent/Guardian Name _____
- Contact email _____
- Type of entry: student 18 or under, adult, duet, teaching professional
- Entrant birthdate: ____/____/____
- Entrant Age (as of November 1, 2025) ____
- Instrument _____
- Title: _____
- Movement (number and name): _____
- Composer: _____
- Performance length (minutes): _____ *This is important to provide accurate information so the festival runs on time.*
- Length of study (how long have you taken formal lessons on your instrument): _____
- Teacher's Name _____
- Teacher's email _____
- Choose in-person competitive, in-person non-competitive, or video non-competitive option
- Teacher, parent, or high school volunteer assistance is appreciated. Please indicate if you are willing to help with the festival (1-2 hr shifts)
- Schedule preferences: no conflicts, request morning (8a-12p), request afternoon (12p-4p); plan to "save the day" or at least half the day. Siblings and duets will not be scheduled together.
- Send one check or money order payable to *Music By Mickey*. Mail to: **Mickey Lytle, 608 Hamlets Cir, Verona, WI 53593.**
- Late payments will be scheduled last or may not be scheduled if there is not room. **Do not be late.**

Questions? Contact: Mickey Lytle email sonatinafestival@gmail.com call/text 608-576-0675



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NON-COMPETITIVE VIDEO ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Competitive and in-person non-competitive entrants: this page does not apply to you.

VIDEO PERFORMANCES ARE DUE BY NOON SATURDAY, NOV 1, 2025

It is not recommended to wait until November 1 to complete this process.

Please refer to the pages in this packet for instructions on recording, uploading, and scanning.

1. Record your video and upload to youtube (required)
2. Scan a PDF of your music score (recommended) with measures numbered
3. Submit your video link (required) & your score PDF (recommended) by emailing sonatinafestival@gmail.com with your name and online entry in the subject line (i.e. "Jane Smith online entry").

Video Recording Guidelines:

1. All videos must be submitted via an unlisted youtube link.
2. Videos can be made at home by the student, in the teacher's studio, or in a performance hall or church. The quality of the instrument, location, or quality of the video will not be a factor in judging.
3. Video recordings should be made with one fixed camera angle, focused so that the performer is visible at all times. Pianists should have their face, fingers, and feet visible at all times. Instrumentalists using live accompanists should have the accompanist visible at all times.
4. To ensure quality and consistency of the videos, set up the camera from the audience's perspective, use proper lighting, use appropriate performance attire, and limit background noise.
5. Entrants should NOT introduce themselves or announce the piece being recorded.
6. A performance bow at the conclusion of the performance is suggested, but not required.
7. Video must contain repertoire submitted on the original entry form. For entrants submitting more than one movement/entry, submit one video per entry.
8. No editing is allowed.
9. Students and teachers should review videos before submitting to check sound quality and microphone placement (if applicable).
10. Avoid undue stress. Do not wait until the deadline to submit videos.

11. A high-speed internet connection is recommended.

Video Upload & Music Score PDF Instructions

Video Upload using YouTube

1. Sign in to YouTube.
Select "Create a video and more" in the upper right corner, then click "Upload video." If you do **not** already have an account, you will be prompted to create one when you select "Upload video." Follow the prompts to do so, then proceed to the next steps below.
2. Click "select file" and locate the file you'd like to upload OR drag the file into the popup window.
3. Follow the prompts and **ensure your video is uploaded as "Unlisted."** If it is private, the judge will not be able to view it.
4. Copy the link created and paste it into an email. Email your entry to sonatafestival@gmail.com and include the link (required) and the PDF of your score (recommended).

Music PDF using Genius Scan - While you are encouraged to provide a PDF of your music for the judge, it is not mandatory. There will not be a penalty if you are unable to provide a judge's copy. Judges are able to provide more specific and complete comments if they are able to view the score. Do not submit a PDF if you do not own the original score!

If you would like to use a smart phone to create a digital copy of your music, Genius Scan is a free app that allows you to take pictures of each page and combines them into one file.

Genius Scan -

1. Install Genius Scan app onto your electronic device.
2. Open the application on your device and allow access to your camera.
3. Click the blue and white camera icon on the lower right corner.
4. Scan/take a photo of each page of your music (in order) by pressing the orange button for each page.
5. Once all pages are scanned, click the "check mark" at the bottom right.
6. Scroll through your scans/photos and make sure they are in the correct order and clear.
7. Rename your file at the top of the screen with the title of your piece (it defaults to the time/date of your scan).
8. Share/send your pdf to your email by clicking on the greater than sign at the top right.  You can also upload this PDF to Google Drive or save it to your device.

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SONATINAS:

Rondo:

Musical form in which a main theme or section alternates with one or more secondary themes, called *episodes*. In its simplest form, the rondo is very close to the ternary form of a A-B-A pattern. More often the rondo consists of a main theme and two episodes (pattern A-B-A-C-A).

Binary Form:

Also called "two-part song form," consists of two sections (two musical sentences), A and B, both of which are usually repeated.

"Rounded" Binary Form:

Occurs when the second section of the binary form concludes with a restatement of the first section in whole or in part.

Ternary Form:

"Three-part song form," pattern A-B-A or A-B-C.

SONATAS:

Exposition:

Contains the main theme, a second theme in a related key (usually the dominant), and often also a closing theme.

Development:

Contains one or more previously presented themes or theme fragments "developed" into varied new sound patterns, moving freely through new keys and leading directly into the recapitulation.

Recapitulation:

A repetition of the exposition section with all themes in the original key

SONATAS AND SONATINAS

Sonata and sonatina are essentially identical musical forms. The sonatina is a "little sonata," usually shorter and easier to perform than a sonata. The word "sonata" comes from the Italian *sonare*, "to sound," and originally it meant merely a "sound piece," (a musical thought sounded on one or more instruments). In its early form it was a composition of two or three distinct, thematically related sections on the pattern of A-B, or A-B-A, as developed by the classical masters (Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven). It became a larger, extended, and unified musical structure built on two or three contrasting themes, presented in a continuous melodic flow in related keys with connecting transitional passages. This structure, usually referred to as "sonata-allegro" form or "first movement" form, consists of three sections: Exposition, Development, and Recapitulation. The sonatina does not always contain all the components of the sonata form. In its simplest examples, it is a small three-part song form (A-B-A) with the melodies simply stated, without thematic expansions and developments. Sonata, and often sonatinas, too, usually consist of two to four independent, self-contained parts called movements. The second movement can be simple two- or three-part song form and the last movement is usually a rondo.

Taken from "An Introduction to Playing Sonatinas" by Denes Agay