## **MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA**

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Incorporated 1897



# Certificate of Merit® Panel Auditions and Young Artist Guild Guidelines

2015-2016

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Panel Auditions program is for extraordinary students, who have demonstrated artistic and technical skill and polish at a near-professional level. For example, performance quality should be at a higher level than the Convention Festival standard (above 5+). The *Certificate of Merit*<sup>®</sup> *Panel Auditions and Young Artist Guild Guidelines* (*"Panel Guidelines"*) have been provided to assist teachers regarding the requirements, policies, and procedures of the Panel Auditions program (*"Panel"*).

These *CM Panel Auditions and Young Artist Guild Guidelines* cover the essential aspects of the program and address the most frequently asked questions that have arisen over time. In addition to the *Panel Guidelines*, the provisions set forth in the *CM Policies & Procedures*, such as those regarding student, parent, and teacher conduct, also govern the Panel Auditions program, wherever applicable. For your convenience, dates and new or modified policies are marked in red.

Only "Path A" CM Evaluations that were passed prior to July 2012, and any CM Evaluations passed after July 2012, will be counted towards CM Panel Auditions eligibility.

Updated information and documents are regularly posted at the MTAC website regarding Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Program, including CM Panel Auditions. Teachers must login (<u>www.mtac</u>.org/login) to access these updates.

For any questions regarding the Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Panel Auditions program, please contact your **Branch CM Chair**.

## **PART ONE: PANEL AUDITIONS**

## SECTION 1. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT® PANEL AUDITIONS

The Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Panel Audition program ("Panel") is composed of two separate Audition rounds: (1) Regional Panel Audition ("Regionals"), and (2) State Panel Finals Audition ("Finals"). Students participate in Regionals as a *replacement* for his or her regular Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Evaluation.

Students who are selected by the Judges in Regionals advance to the Finals round, where students further audition for consideration for one of three Panel Awards Divisions: Panel Honors Recitals, Panel Master Class, or Young Artist Guild ("YAG"). Finals students must be selected by the Judges in the Finals round to be awarded to a Panel Award Division, and not all Finals students will be awarded to Panel Award Divisions.

Each of these Award Divisions includes a performance at the MTAC's Annual Convention and in some cases, monetary awards or scholarships. Successful students are only awarded one time in each of the Panel Award Divisions: once a student has been awarded in a particular Division, they cannot participate in that same Division again (some Instruments have exceptions, details below).

Panel applicants have the option to apply additionally for Non-Panel Convention Recitals consideration, so that if a student does not advance in Regionals to Finals, or from Finals to the Award Divisions, a student still has an excellent opportunity to perform at MTAC's Annual Convention, if they qualify.

Panel Auditions are held in both Northern and Southern California (the "North" and "South") at various sites, and generally occur between the end of February through the first week of April.

## SECTION 2. CM COUNCIL: PANEL CONTACT INFORMATION

Throughout these Guidelines, teachers are advised to contact the following CM Council-Panel Coordinators for questions or information specific to your discipline, program, and/or region. Communications with Panel Coordinators also follow the "Line of Communication" as established in the *CM Policies & Procedures*.

Pamela Lam, Piano Panel Regional Coordinator (South) Grace Yu, Piano Panel Regional Coordinator (North) Gloria Ho, Strings Panel Regional Coordinator (North) Tammy Tsai, Strings Panel Regional Coordinator (South) Sharlae Jenkins, Voice Panel Regional Coordinator (North & South) Chris Steffanic, Winds Panel Regional Coordinator (North) Emily Senchuk, Winds Panel Regional Coordinator (South) Peggy Taylor, Harp Panel Regional Coordinator (North & South) Marie Kaneta, Panel Finals Coordinator (South) Lauren Goodall, Piano Panel Finals Coordinator (North) Nicole A. Burns, Young Artist Guild Coordinator pamlam@usa.net gracemyu@yahoo.com gloho@att.net thedancinviolin@gmail.com sharlae.mtac@gmail.com chrissteffanicmtac@outlook.com emsenchuk@earthlink.net peggy09876@yahoo.com piano.kaneta@gmail.com goodall4@comcast.net

## SECTION 3. PANEL AUDITIONS APPLICATION

There are multiple stages to the application for Panel Auditions, in order to account for a student's potential progression from Regionals to Finals or YAG consideration, as follows:

#### 3.1 First-Stage Application: Regular CM Registration (DEADLINE: October 31)

- (a) **Online Registration Deadline.** The first stage of Panel Registration is the same as the regular CM Evaluations Online Registration in the fall of each year at www.mtac.org/login.
- (b) **Panel Checkbox.** The Online Registration includes a checkbox for "Panel" which must be checkmarked to apply for Panel. Online Registration closes by October 31.
- (c) Young Artist Guild Checkbox. In addition to the Panel checkbox, teachers must mark the "YAG" checkbox for students who are also applying for YAG. Online Registration closes by October 31.
- (d) **No Repertoire Input.** Teachers do not input any repertoire at this time. Submitting Panel repertoire will occur in the second stage of the application in January.
- (e) **Scheduled Time-Slot.** Submission of this First Application provides a student with a scheduled time-slot at Regionals.

### 3.2 Second-Stage Application (January, February, March)

- (a) January 2-15 Repertoire Submission. Teachers must login to the CM Online Registration system again between January 2-15 to input Panel students' repertoire.
- (b) **Branch Honors Checkbox.** If a Panel applicant wishes to be considered for Branch Honors, the teacher must mark the Branch Honors checkbox in the online form and check their own Branch's criteria for Branch Honors. The Regionals Judges will ultimately select the piece for Branch Honors, if the student has applied and qualifies.
- (c) Non-Panel Convention Recitals Checkbox. If a Panel applicant wishes to be considered for Non-Panel Convention Recitals, the teacher must mark the checkbox and include Convention Recitals information (Theme, New Materials, or Festival only). Convention Recital requirements, including timing, must be observed. If a student applies for consideration and qualifies, Non-Panel Convention Recitals offer another Convention performance opportunity in the event a student does not proceed from Regionals to Finals, or from Finals to Panel Award Divisions, but demonstrates solid performance quality at Regionals that meets the standards for non-Panel Convention Recitals.
- (d) **YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List.** YAG applicants must submit two (2) completed and signed copies of the *YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List* (downloadable at www.mtac.org/login) to the Panel Regionals Coordinator by **January 31**.
  - YAG applicants who do **not** submit two (2) signed YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List by January 31 will be treated as if they did not apply for YAG consideration. If such student advances to Finals after Regionals, his/her Finals Audition will be limited to **10 minutes** and will only be considered for Panel Honors Recital and Panel Master Class, and will not be considered for YAG.

### 3.3 Third-Stage Application (if Student Advances to Finals): *CM Panel Finals Audition Application Form* (DEADLINE: March 10), including Side A and B

When a student has been chosen to advance from Regionals to Finals, teachers must submit an additional application form in order for the student to be provided a scheduled time-slot for Finals Auditions.

- (a) **CM Panel Finals Audition Application.** The *CM Panel Finals Audition Application* form (downloadable at www.mtac.org/login) must be fully completed, signed, and submitted along with the application fee, and must be postmarked by **March 10**.
- (b) **One Check Only.** Teachers with more than one Finals student must write **one** check drawn on the teacher's account (combining all Finals students' fees), and send it to the appropriate Instrument Panel Coordinator, postmarked by **March 10**.

## 3.4 Revert to Regular CM Evaluations; Non-Panel Status (DEADLINE: January 15)

CM Teachers may change a student who originally applied for Panel to Non-Panel (regular CM Evaluations) status by notifying both the Branch CM Chair and the appropriate Panel Coordinator no later than **January 15**. After **January 15**, students are not permitted to revert back to Non-Panel (regular CM Evaluations) status. This means students will be expected to perform at Panel Auditions as scheduled at the Panel venue, and if they do not appear and perform without prior notice and/or legitimate excuse, they will be treated as a "No Show" and forfeit the Panel Audition and CM Evaluation. Those who do not appear and perform with prior notice and excuse approved by Branch CM Chair may qualify for a Make-Up regular CM Evaluation (see *CM Policies & Procedures*, Section 7.16).

## SECTION 4. PANEL AUDITIONS POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR REGIONALS & FINALS

#### 4.1 MTAC Policies & Procedures

By participating in the Panel Auditions program, teachers, parents, and students fully understand and agree to abide by the provisions contained in these *Panel Guidelines*, in addition to those contained in the *CM Policies & Procedures*, *CM Syllabus*, and MTAC's *State Bylaws*, which together govern the CM Panel Auditions program.

#### 4.2 CM Line of Communication

For any communications, conflicts, or problems that arise with respect to Panel Auditions, please follow the Line of Communication and Conflict Resolution procedures provided in the *Certificate of Merit*® *Policies & Procedures*, available online at www.mtac.org/login. For questions, please contact your Branch CM Chair.

#### 4.3 No Make-Up Panel Auditions

Due to the logistics and operational requirements of the program, there are **no make-up Panel Auditions for Regionals and Finals** for students who are absent from their scheduled Audition time, even if due to sickness or injury, no exceptions. However, if a student misses their Regionals Audition for legitimate reasons such as severe sickness, injury, emergency, they may still perform a **make-up regular CM Evaluation**, provided they follow the procedures in the *CM Policies & Procedures* and contact their Branch CM Chair.

#### **4.4 Closed Panel**

Parents, teachers, and other students are not permitted to be present during the Regionals and Finals Auditions, and must not loiter near the Auditions room, out of fairness and respect to all participants.

#### 4.5 No Teacher's Name on Music

To preserve fairness and impartiality in adjudication, the teacher's name cannot appear on any music that is submitted to Judges at any time, for Regionals and Finals.

#### 4.6 No Photocopies

Students must bring original scores for all repertoire to be performed. Photocopied material will automatically disqualify a student from consideration for Finals and the student will receive an "Ineligible for Certificate" rating. (Exceptions: copies to facilitate page turns or out-of-print material accompanied by publisher's written consent; downloaded print music must bear authorized logo or source.)

## 4.7 Judges' Decision is Final

The decision is in the sole discretion of the Judges, and the Judges' decision final with no exceptions. Teachers, parents, and students are **not** permitted to discuss the Panel Auditions with Judges. Failure to comply with this rule may lead to disqualification of the student from all current and future Convention performance opportunities. The teacher, if involved, may also be subject to disciplinary action.

## 4.8 Each Piece Prepared in Entirety (No Pre-Cuts by Student)

Each Piece must be prepared in its entirety. Pre-determined editing or cutting out parts of a piece by the student is **not** permitted. Judges may interrupt or stop a performance in the middle of the piece for the sake of time, but only the Judges may make the determination as to where the student should stop playing.

### 4.9 Proper Attire

As Panel Auditions are for artist-level students, appropriate performance attire is expected. Female students: dresses and skirts - knee-length or longer, blouses with modest neckline and fully-covered midriff, dress slacks. Pianists should also have covered shoulders (due to camera angles, if submitting video or for concert recording). Male students: dress slacks and dress-shirt with tie, or collared shirt with sweater. All performers should wear dress shoes that are silent on stage. Sweatshirts, jeans, T-shirts, and sports shoes are inappropriate.

### 4.10 Panel Accompanists

Parents may serve as an accompanist for both Regionals and Finals. Teachers may serve as an accompanist for their own student at Regionals, but not for Finals due to possible identification by a Judge.

## 4.11 Convention; Failure to Perform

In accordance with the *Certificate of Merit® Policies & Procedures*, students who have been accepted to participate in a State Convention Program, but who do not attend or appear at the Program without adequate reason or notification of absence to the CM Council Recital Coordinator, shall be disqualified from participating in any subsequent Convention program for the next two (2) years. Other disciplinary measures may also be imposed for teachers or studios who demonstrate a repeated pattern of non-excused absences.

Students do not qualify for YAG membership, and do not receive any YAG membership benefits including monetary awards and certificates, unless they perform live, in person, at the YAG Concert at Convention in the same year that they were selected and invited to join YAG.

## 4.12 Video-Recording Submissions

Piano Panel students are required to perform a **live audition** for both Regionals and Finals, in the North and South. For the other Instruments, for Regionals/Finals (including YAG) in the North or South, **and in the sole discretion of MTAC**, if registration numbers do not support a live Panel Audition in either the North or South, students will be notified that they may submit an **unedited DVD** recording of their Panel Audition to the applicable instrument Panel Coordinator by the stated deadline. Submissions must strictly follow the **Video-Recording Submission Requirements** (see **Appendix A**). Please do not submit a **DVD unless you have heard from the appropriate Panel Coordinator that such submission is a permissible option.** 

## **PART TWO: PANEL REGIONALS**

## **SECTION 5. REGIONAL PANEL AUDITIONS**

#### **5.1 Regionals Format**

Regionals has a similar format to regular CM Evaluations, with some key distinctions as follows:

- (a) **30-Minutes YAG Auditions; Two Judges.** The Regional Panel Audition ("Regionals") for YAG applicants consists of a 30-minute Audition performed before two Judges. Non-YAG Panel applicants will be heard by one (1) judge only.
- (b) Regionals Audition Components. The Regionals Audition consists of a Performance component (Repertoire and Technique, following *CM Syllabus* requirements) and a written Theory Examination, including Ear-Training. The Theory Examination is the same as regular CM Evaluations. There is no Sight-Reading component required for Regionals.
- (c) **Regionals Auditions Centers.** For all South students and Piano students in both North and South, Regionals occur at a Regional Auditions Center, and not at the student's home Branch. Strings, Voice, and Wind Panel North Regionals Audition Centers are determined on an annual basis, depending on registration.
- (d) No Make-Ups. Due to operational and logistical reasons, there are no make-ups for Regionals.

#### **5.2 Regionals Venues**

Regionals Audition Centers include one site in the North, and four sites in the South. Teachers will receive notice as to the location and dates of Regionals Auditions via email. Please also check www.mtac.org/login > CM Newsletter for venue and other information updates.

#### **5.3 Regionals Auditions Period**

Regionals typically occur in the **last weekend of February** and the **first weekend of March**, depending on Instrument. Please see the Appendices for specific Instrument Timelines.

#### 5.4 Panel Repertoire Submission

- (a) Between January 2 January 15, teachers must enter the Repertoire for Panel applicants via the CM Online Registration system at www.mtac.org/login.
- (b) Students must perform the same pieces as listed on the online Evaluation Report Form. Students who perform pieces that are **not** listed on the online Evaluation Report Form will be disqualified from consideration for Branch Honors and Convention performances, unless the teacher has received prior authorization from the Regional Panel Coordinator to change the listed repertoire after January 15.

#### 5.5 Technique

Please see specific Technique requirements for each Instrument in the applicable Syllabus (same as CM Evaluation).

## 5.6 Theory & Ear-Training

(a) **Same as CM Theory Examinations.** Panel students must complete a corresponding-level Theory Examination, which includes Ear-Training. The Theory Examination is the same as the regular CM Theory Examination, and is taken at the teacher's Branch during the regular CM Evaluations period.

- (b) **Finals: 80% or Higher Required.** Panel students must achieve 80% or above to be eligible for Finals. Highschool students (grades 9 and above) who achieve 90% or above are exempt from the Advanced (Level 10) Theory Examination for all future CM Advanced (Level 10) Auditions and Panel Auditions.
- (c) **Theory Testing Deadline**. Theory testing of all Finals applicants must be completed by **March 10**, but preferably earlier to provide enough time to submit the Finals application, which is also due on **March 10**. If the Branch CM Evaluation date is after **March 10**, the teacher should make arrangements with the Branch CM Chair to administer the test with a designated proctor by the March 10 deadline.

## 5.7 Non-Panel Convention Recitals for Regionals Candidates

- (a) **Qualification.** If a student is not selected from Regionals to advance to the Panel Finals Auditions, but has demonstrated solid performance quality that meets the standards for non-Panel Convention Recitals, the student may be selected by the Judges to be awarded to non-Panel Convention Recitals (Theme, New Materials, or Festival, not Ensemble).
- (b) **Prior Application Required.** In order to be considered for these Convention Recitals, teachers must have included the Convention Recital and repertoire piece for which the student should be considered during the CM and Panel Online Registration process. For more information regarding Convention Recitals and related repertoire and time-limit requirements, please see *CM Policies & Procedures*.

### 5.8 Regionals Results; RAL and IC Ratings

If a student's performance results at Regionals does not meet the criteria for Regionals or Finals, and either they: (i) did not **qualify** for non-Panel Convention Recitals, or (ii) did not **apply** to be considered for non-Panel Convention Recitals, then the student's performance at Regionals will be treated as the equivalent of a regular CM Evaluation, and he/she will be rated accordingly. It is possible for a student to receive a "Remain At Level" (RAL) or "Ineligible for Certificate" (IC) rating at Regionals.

- (a) **Panel RAL Rating.** In addition to those policies regarding the "Remain at Level" rating set forth in the *CM Policies & Procedures,* Panel Students may receive an automatic RAL for not having ALL pieces memorized. Exception: Winds has no memorization requirement.
- (b) **Panel IC Rating.** The policies are the same as those set forth in the *CM Policies & Procedures*, Section 6.17.

#### **5.9 Regionals Results**

Regionals results will be posted within 48 hours online at www.mtac.org/login (Teacher Home Page) following the completion of all Regionals Auditions throughout the state of California.

## **PART THREE: PANEL FINALS AUDITION**

## **SECTION 6. PANEL FINALS AUDITION**

A student's selection for advancement to the Panel Finals Audition is a significant honor in and of itself, and is a great achievement for all students who successfully advance to the Finals round. At Finals, students further audition for consideration into one of three Panel Award Divisions, but not all will be awarded into a Panel Award Division. Many Finals students have advanced into Finals more than once, before their selection for any of the Panel Award Divisions. Finals students who are not awarded into a Panel Award Division still have an excellent opportunity to perform at Convention at a Non-Panel Convention Recital, if they have previously applied for such consideration and qualify based on the selection of the Judges.

## **6.1 Panel Finals Audition Application**

When a student has been selected from Regionals to advance to Finals, teachers must submit an additional application for Finals consideration – **it does not happen automatically**.

- (a) **Application Form.** To apply for Finals Auditions for Awards Divisions consideration, Finals applicants must complete and submit the *CM Panel Finals Audition Application* (downloadable from www.mtac.org/login), along with an additional fee. YAG applicants must also complete the indicated sections on the application form. **All fees are non-refundable.**
- (b) **Page A of Application Form; Copies Required.** Teachers must complete all the information on *Page A* of the *CM Panel Finals Audition Application* and **make two (2) copies.**
- (c) Page B of Application Form; Copies Required. Teachers must also complete all the information on *Page B* of the *CM Panel Finals Audition Application* and make five (5) copies. Using a large manila envelope (9x12), submit all seven (7) copies along with one check to the appropriate Panel Coordinator postmarked by March 10. Teachers with more than one Finals student must send in one check that totals all Final students' fees.
- (d) **Signatures Required.** Applications submitted without all signatures will not be processed and the student will not be scheduled for Finals Auditions.
- (e) **No Teacher's Information.** Do not include the teacher's or studio's identifying information on the *CM Panel Finals Audition Application Page B* form or on the music that is submitted to the Judges.

## 6.2 Finals Format

Students who are successful at Regionals are selected to advance to the Panel Finals Audition ("Finals"):

- (a) **10-Minutes; Three (or Two) Judges.** Finals Auditions consist of a 10-minute Audition for three Judges (Piano) or two Judges (other Instruments), who adjudicate students against stringent standards.
- (b) **Repertoire Only.** Finals Auditions are comprised of only Repertoire performance, and does not include any other components (e.g. Theory, Technique).
- (c) **YAG is 30-Minutes.** Students recommended for YAG consideration perform a 30-minute Audition for three judges (Piano) or two Judges (other Instruments). The Audition is based on the Judges' selection of repertoire from a 45-minute program submitted and prepared by YAG applicants.

#### 6.3 Finals Venues

Teachers will receive notice as to the location and dates of Panel Finals Auditions via email. Please also check www.mtac.org/login > CM Newsletter for potential venue and other updates.

## 6.4 Finals Auditions Period

Finals Auditions typically occur during the **last weekend of March and first weekend of April**. Please see the Appendices for specific Instrument Timelines.

### 6.5 Finals Repertoire

- (a) **Panel Honors and Master Class.** Students must select 3 of the pieces performed at Regional Auditions to be included on *Page B: CM Finals Audition Repertoire List*. See appropriate Appendices for specific instrument requirements.
- (b) **Young Artist Guild**. Students applying for Young Artist Guild must perform the same repertoire as was submitted for Regional Auditions on the Regional Repertoire List.

#### **6.6 Finals Results**

Written comments are not provided by Judges at Finals. Finals results, including YAG, will be posted within 48 hours online at www.mtac.org/login (Teacher Home Page) following the completion of all Panel Auditions throughout the state of California. YAG winners' teachers will also be contacted by the applicable Panel Coordinator regarding the YAG Repertoire List. YAG Repertoire for Convention performance is selected by the Judges from the provided Repertoire List and no changes are permitted.

#### **6.7 Panel Award Divisions**

Successful students selected from Finals are awarded to perform at the annual MTAC Convention in <u>one of three</u> Panel Award Divisions: (1) Panel Honors, (2) Panel Master Class, or (3) Young Artist Guild Recital. Application for Young Artist Guild requires that teachers mark the "Panel" checkbox and "Young Artist Guild" checkbox during the fall Online CM Registration, so if a student has not applied for YAG consideration, the student may only be considered for either Panel Honors or Panel Master Class. See "Part Four: Panel Award Divisions" below for more information.

## 6.8 Non-Panel Convention Recitals for Finals Students

- (a) If a student is not selected from Finals to an Award Division, but previously demonstrated solid performance quality at the Regionals Auditions meeting the standards for non-Panel Convention Recitals, the student may be awarded to non-Panel Convention Recitals (Theme, New Materials, or Festival only). This selection occurs by the Judges at Regionals, and is not affected by the student's performance at Finals. See Section 4.7 (Regionals) for more information.
- (b) In order to be considered for these Convention Recitals, please see *Certificate of Merit*® *Policies & Procedures* Section 9 for further information regarding registration.

## **PART FOUR: PANEL AWARD DIVISIONS**

## **SECTION 7. PANEL AWARD DIVISIONS**

#### 7.1 Panel Award Divisions

Students who have been selected by the Judges at Panel Finals are awarded with a prestigious performance opportunity at MTAC's Annual Convention. Based on (i) eligibility requirements, and (ii) the results and recommendations by the Panel Finals Judges, the selected students will perform in Recitals in <u>one of three</u> Panel Award Divisions: (1) Panel Honors Recital, (2) Panel Master Class, or (3) Young Artist Guild. These performances take place at the MTAC's Annual Convention.

**All Awards are presented at Convention.** Failure to appear at the Convention Recital without legitimate reason and prior consent of MTAC will result in the forfeiture of all related benefits and privileges, including monetary scholarships, awards, and plaques. Students are also barred from performing at any Convention Recital for the next two years. YAG members forfeit their YAG membership, including any related scholarships, awards, privileges, and benefits.

## 7.2 Instrument Award Divisions

- (a) **Piano Award Progression.** For Piano, the Award Divisions are treated as a forward-step progression from one level of Award Division to the next Award Division, as follows: Panel Honors Recital as the first Award level, Panel Master Class as the second Award level, and YAG as the third and final Award level. Piano Panel applicants may only move *forward* through the Award levels. For example, if a Piano Panel applicant is awarded to Panel Master Class (the second-level Award) in the first year they audition, they are no longer eligible to be considered for Panel Honors Recital (the first-level Award) or Panel Master Class (the second-level Award) in subsequent years, but they may apply and audition for Young Artist Guild (the third-level Award).
- (b) **Strings, Voice, Winds, and Harp Awards.** Students may be awarded more than once in Panel Honors Recital and Panel Master Class, and in any order.
- (c) **Young Artist Guild Commitment for All Instruments.** As Young Artist Guild requires a five-year membership commitment with unique responsibilities, once a student has been awarded and inducted to the Guild, they are no longer eligible to apply and audition for Panel Honors or Panel Master Class.

#### 7.3 Live Performance Required at Convention

- (a) **Live Performance.** All performances for Panel Award Divisions must be performed **live and in-person** by the award-winning student in the same year that they were selected, as such performance is an integral part of the award. Students should not apply for Panel unless they are committed to specifically reserving the MTAC Convention dates in their schedules, to ensure their ability to perform live at Convention if they are chosen.
- (b) Disqualification; Forfeiture. Except in truly exigent circumstances and only with the prior consent of the applicable Instrument Panel Coordinator, if a student fails to appear in person for their Award Division performance at Convention, such student will be disqualified and forfeit the benefits and privileges of the award granted, including monetary scholarships and future performance opportunities if applicable. For YAG applicants, failure to appear at the YAG Convention Recital will additionally result in the student being disqualified and released from the Guild and forfeiture of all related benefits and privileges, including monetary scholarships, awards, plaques, and future performance opportunities. Panel and YAG students will also be disqualified from performing at Convention Recitals for the next two years.

### 7.4 Non-YAG Finalists

Students who have **not** applied for Young Artist Guild consideration, but have been selected by the Judges as Finalists from the Finals round, will be awarded to either the Panel Honors Recital or Panel Master Class.

## 7.5 YAG Finalists

Students who have applied for Young Artist Guild and are selected from the Finals round to be awarded to YAG, will be invited to join YAG. If they accept, they are required to perform at the Young Artist Guild Recital at Convention in the same year they were chosen. YAG Finalists are inducted into the Young Artist Guild which entails a five-year membership program that includes several performance opportunities during the student's tenure. For more information, see "Part Five: Young Artist Guild" below.

## **PART FIVE: YOUNG ARTIST GUILD**

## **SECTION 8. YOUNG ARTIST GUILD**

#### Young Artist Guild ("YAG" or "Guild") is the highest award granted to a Certificate of Merit® student.

Students who are awarded by invitation to join YAG will perform at the YAG Recital at Convention. In addition, YAG provides semi-professional, paid performance opportunities to Guild members, through Branch-sponsored concerts. A student who is selected and invited to join YAG belongs to the Guild for five years. YAG membership may also include opportunities for awards, scholarships, and other financial support for its members. For a full list of YAG membership, awards, and scholarships granted in previous years, please refer to *The Young Artist Guild Member Directory & History* at www.mtac.org/login. For more information, please contact the YAG Coordinator.

Although YAG applicants perform in Regionals and Finals along with all other Panel candidates, YAG applicants should be aware that being a Guild member carries additional, unique responsibilities.

## 8.1 YAG Application

See above Section 3 and Section 5.9 for details.

#### 8.2 YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List

- (a) **YAG Letter of Intent.** YAG applicants, their parents, and their teacher must read and sign a YAG *Letter of Intent* (available at www.mtac.org/login), which is a statement of commitment made by the student, agreeing to:
  - (1) Provide a live, in-person performance at the MTAC State Convention in the same year in which the student participated in Panel Auditions and was selected and awarded to YAG;
  - (2) Perform a minimum number of concerts, schedule based on mutual availability, date, time, location:
    - While enrolled in High-School: at least three (3) concerts, if requested;
      - While enrolled in College: at least two (2) concerts, if requested.
  - (3) Continue instrument or voice study with a professional teacher during all five years of YAG membership; and
  - (4) Failure to fulfill any of the above will result in a forfeiture of YAG membership, and any awards or scholarships provided in connection with YAG membership must be returned or will be withheld by MTAC.
- (b) YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List Submission. Two (2) completed, signed hard-copies of this Letter and List must be submitted by mail or email to the appropriate Regional Panel Coordinator by January 31. YAG Students who do not submit a signed YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List by this date will be restricted to a 10-minute audition for Finals and will not be considered for Young Artist Guild, but will still be considered for the other Panel Award Divisions. YAG fees are non-refundable.

## **SECTION 9. YAG GUIDELINES**

## 9.1 Panel Rules for Regionals and Finals

The policies and guidelines set forth above for Panel Regionals and Finals also govern to YAG, where applicable, but teachers and students should be aware that YAG has additional requirements. See *Appendices* for eligibilities and requirements for each particular Instrument.

### 9.2 YAG Repertoire Programming

YAG applicants should prepare a well-balanced program that represents various styles and technical demands demonstrating their ability. Students must be prepared to perform the Repertoire required, in addition to other pieces that are needed to meet the program-length requirement of 45 minutes for Regionals and Finals. *Students must be prepared to perform all selections originally provided by the teacher on the YAG Repertoire List/Panel Audition Application Form, Page B, for both Regionals and Finals Auditions. The repertoire on the YAG Regional Repertoire List and the Panel Finals Audition Application Form, Page B must match.* 

### **9.3 YAG Regionals Requirements**

YAG Regionals is a **30-minute** Audition heard before two Judges, and includes the same components as regular Regionals. However, YAG applicants are required to submit and prepare a **minimum program of 45-minutes** of music without repeats, and Judges will choose a selection of pieces and excerpts from that program to fulfill the 30-minute Audition. The 45-minute program requirement exists because if selected to join YAG, students must be able to demonstrate that they can successfully perform an entire 45-minute program for future YAG performances.

### **9.4 YAG Finals Requirements**

YAG Finals is a **30-minute** Audition. Students will select the first piece to perform and the YAG Finals Judges will request selections and excerpts from their longer 45-minute Regionals program. **Please be aware the student may be stopped during a piece:** the student's performance of each piece requested may be cut after 3 minutes or less, by the Judges. If eligible, YAG applicants may be selected for Panel Honors or Master Class if not chosen to join YAG.

#### 9.5 CM Panel Finals Audition Application Form

If a student is chosen to advance to Finals, the teacher must complete and submit the *CM Panel Finals Audition Application Form* located at www.mtac.org/login (Teacher Home Page). In addition, YAG Finals applicants must submit with their application form a list of all their pieces with **accurate timings** for the 45-minute program that they previously prepared for Regionals (see *CM Panel Finals Audition Application Form, Page B*).

## 9.6 YAG Membership; Panel Award Restrictions

If a YAG applicant is chosen and invited to join YAG, the YAG student is not eligible for any other Panel Awards during their term of their five-year membership in YAG.

#### 9.7 Panel Award Divisions if No YAG

If a YAG applicant is not ultimately selected to join YAG, the student may still be awarded to another Award Division: Panel Honors Recital or Panel Master Class if he/she is eligible and qualifies, or for non-Panel Convention Recitals if they applied and qualified at Regionals.

#### 9.8 Senior Award

Students selected for YAG in school grade 11 are not eligible for any other Panel program in school grade 12, due to their necessary commitment to YAG. However, YAG students will receive their Senior Award if they are accepted into YAG in their junior year of high school (without taking CM Evaluations in school grade 12.) YAG students will receive their Senior Award at the State Convention.

#### 9.9 YAG Concert Performance

Once a student has been inducted to YAG, the YAG Coordinator will contact the teacher regarding arrangements for the YAG Concert at Convention.

#### 9.10 YAG Membership & Administration

Once a student has been inducted to YAG, there may be other performance, scholarships, awards and other opportunities available. For more information, please contact the YAG Coordinator.

## **PART SIX: PANEL INSTRUMENT GUIDELINES & TIMELINES**

### **SECTION 10. PANEL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **10.1 Formerly Path A CM Evaluations**

Prior to July 2012, students must have passed "Path A" CM Evaluations for all Panel eligibilities, and any "Path B" CM Evaluations do not qualify for Panel. After July 2012, all CM Evaluations (no Path) that are successfully passed by students are counted toward Panel eligibilities.

For example, if an eligibility requirement states "Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter," this means only Path A CM Evaluations that were passed prior to July 2012 and any CM Evaluations passed after July 2012 will be counted toward this requirement.

The Panel Coordinators and CM Assistant State Chair shall verify the eligibility of each Panel Finals student regarding appropriate placement in Panel Award Divisions. If there is a problem or question regarding eligibility, the teacher shall be notified via e-mail. If the student is determined to be ineligible, he or she will revert to non-Panel status, and will be evaluated as a CM student during the regular CM Auditions period at the Panel Teacher's Branch. There shall be no charge or refund for this adjustment. Please see the **Appendices** for the eligibility requirements for each particular Instrument.

#### **10.2 Instrument Eligibilities & Timelines**

Each instrument has its own set of eligibilities, requirements, and deadlines with respect to Panel Auditions and each Award Division. These requirements have been grouped by Instrument in the *Appendices*, and all the policies contained in the *Appendices* are incorporated herein by reference, and should be read in addition to the all foregoing provisions:

- Appendix B: Piano
- Appendix C: Strings
- Appendix D: Winds
- Appendix E: Voice
- Appendix F: Harp

## **CLOSING**

The Certificate of Merit<sup>®</sup> Panel Auditions program is a unique offering of the Music Teachers' Association of California, and we hope this information will be helpful to you. We congratulate you for your dedicated work with advanced students. We hope you will encourage your students to participate in the Panel Auditions program, or work towards Panel participation in the future!

Judi Sands-Pertel, Certificate of Merit® State Chair Michelle Rumley, Certificate of Merit® Assistant State Chair Marie Kaneta, Panel Finals South Coordinator Lauren Goodall, Piano Panel Finals North Coordinator Pamela Lam, Piano Panel Regional South Coordinator Grace Yu, Piano Panel Regional North Coordinator Tammy Tsai, Strings Panel Regional South Coordinator Gloria Ho, Strings Panel Regional North Coordinator Sharlae Jenkins, Voice Panel Regional North & South Coordinator Emily Senchuk, Winds Panel Regional North Coordinator Chris Steffanic, Winds Panel Regional North Coordinator Peggy Taylor, Harp Panel Regional North & South Coordinator

## **APPENDIX A: PANEL VIDEO-RECORDING SUBMISSION POLICIES**

If CM Council and/or MTAC has determined that Panel enrollment cannot support renting a venue and/or hiring Judges, registered Panel students may submit an **unedited video-recording** in strict accordance with the below requirements.

Video-recordings will be conducted at a location designated by the instrument Panel Coordinator (not student's own teacher's studio). The Instrument or Branch Chair may designate themselves and/or another designated person to monitor the recording in compliance with the Certificate of Merit® anti-cheating and fairness policy. Ideally, at least two adult supervisors are recommended to help administrate the recording. Proctors will guide students through the video-recorded CM Evaluation using the CM Council-approved Evaluator Script provided to the Evaluator in the *CM Evaluator Guidelines*.

- 1. Once the recording has started, the recording may not be paused or stopped until the completion of the entire performance. Edited recordings will not be accepted.
- 2. At the beginning of the recording, ask the student to announce the following information:
  - Student's First Name
  - Student's CM Level
  - Repertoire they will be performing.
- 3. The recording must include as an entire performance:
  - Repertoire
  - Technique, if applicable Branch CM Chair or designated monitor must ensure that Technique booklet is not removed from the recording room.
- 4. Once all Panel students have been recorded, please make an unedited, uncut DVD copy and send to the applicable instrument Panel Coordinator. Please test the DVD copy to ensure the performances have been recorded and/or transferred properly. DVDs must be playable on a U.S.-standard computer or DVD player.
- 5. Send to the applicable Instrument Panel Coordinator the following:
  - Complete, unedited, and operationally-tested DVD
  - Evaluation Report Form listing all repertoire
  - **Original music scores** (one set for each piece)
  - A self-addressed, postage-paid envelope or box so that the forms, and original music scores can be returned to you after Panel Auditions. Please allow 2-4 weeks for Auditions adjudications to be completed and materials returned to you.
- 6. Auditions Results will be posted within 48 hours online at www.mtac.org/login (Teacher Home Page).

Although this is a recorded Panel Audition, the same performance standards apply, as well as all Panel policies contained in the *CM Panel Audition and YAG Guidelines*.

## **APPENDIX B: PANEL PIANO GUIDELINES**

#### **PIANO REGIONALS**

- Students perform the required Repertoire (as listed in the applicable Syllabus). Panel Honors and Master Class Applicants perform for one judge and YAG Applicants perform for two Judges.
- <u>All</u> Repertoire pieces must be memorized.
- At least one Repertoire piece must be from the Advanced-Level Repertoire List in the Syllabus.
- The Technique requirement is fulfilled by performing one Etude from memory, which must be selected from the Advanced-Level Etude List.
- Panel students must achieve 80% or above on their Theory Test to be eligible for Panel Finals.
- Panel students are exempt from Sight-Reading.

#### **PIANO FINALS**

Panel Finalists applying for Panel Honors or Panel Master Class must prepare <u>at least</u> 10 minutes of repertoire from <u>three</u> of the pieces they performed at the Regional Auditions, in accordance with the following requirements:

- One piece must be a **Baroque or Classical** piece.
- One piece must be a **20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century** piece.
- One piece may be their Etude or any piece from a category not already used.

The student will select the first piece to be performed and the Judges will determine the order of the other selections. Judges will likely only hear part of each piece, although students should be prepared to perform the entirety.

#### **PIANO YAG**

- YAG applicants must achieve 80% or above on their Theory Test to be eligible for Panel Finals.
- For YAG Regionals, Piano students must be prepared to perform the <u>five</u> pieces required for CM Evaluation *and* any additional pieces needed to meet the requirement of a 45-minute program, in accordance with the above Guidelines.
- For YAG Regionals and Finals, Piano applicants must include repertoire from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic/Impressionism, and 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century categories. One complete piano sonata from the Classical, Romantic/Impressionism, or 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century category must also be included. Complete sonatas can include one movement sonatas, such as the Prokofiev Sonata #3. A student may perform two sonatas from different periods.

#### PANEL AWARD DIVISIONS - ELIGIBILTY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Piano Panel Honors**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 10 through Grade 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Advanced (Level 10)\*; and
- (iii) Selected to perform by the Finals Judges; and
- (iv) Have not previously participated in any Panel Awards Division performance. \*No previous CM experience required

#### **Piano Panel Master Class**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Advanced Level(10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter; and
- (iv) Selected to perform in Panel Master Class by the Finals Judges; and
- (v) Have not previously participated in Panel Master Class or YAG performance.

#### **Piano YAG**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter; and
- (iv) Selected to join YAG by Finals Judges.

#### **PIANO TIMELINE**

October 1	Online CM registration opens
October 31	CM registration closes
January 2-15	Enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Deadline for Repertoire changes in Database
January 15	Last day to revert to non-Panel status, and secure regular CM Evaluation at home Branch
	location. Students not allowed to revert after January 15.
January 31	Submission deadline to turn in YAG Repertoire List and YAG Letter of Intent
February 20-21, 27	Regional Panel Auditions, North(Sites TBA)
February 20-21, 27, 28	Regional Panel Auditions, South (Sites TBA)
March 10	Last day to submit the Finals application and fee to the North or South
	Panel Coordinators
March 10	Last day to take Theory Examination
April 1,2,3	State Panel Finals, South (Sites TBA)
April 8, 9, 10	State Panel Finals, North (Sites TBA)
July 1-July 5	MTAC Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport

## **APPENDIX C: PANEL STRINGS GUIDELINES**

#### **STRINGS REGIONALS**

- For Repertoire requirements, please see the Advanced (Level 10) repertoire requirements from Syllabus.
- <u>All</u> Repertoire pieces must be memorized (except sonatas in the Classical era or later, accompanied by piano).
- At least one piece must be from the Advanced (Level 10) list. All music must be at level or above.
- There is no time limit on Repertoire at Regionals; Judges may end the piece. However, if a student goes on to the State Finals, and is chosen for the non-Panel State Convention program, the time limit requirements will apply in accordance with the rules of the applicable Recital.

#### STRINGS FINALS - See above "Part Three: Panel Finals."

**STRINGS YAG** - Applicants may choose only <u>one</u> piece from Level 9. One piece must be from the Advanced (Level 10) list in the applicable Syllabus.

#### PANEL AWARD DIVISIONS - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Strings Panel Honors**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 9 through Grades 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Selected to perform by the Finals Judges.

#### **Strings Panel Master Class**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations in school grades 9, 10, 11 and 12; and
- (iv) Selected to perform in Panel Master Class by the Finals Judges.

#### **Strings YAG**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter; and
- (iv) Selected to join YAG by the Finals judges.

#### STRINGS TIMELINE

October 1	Online CM registration opens
October 31	CM registration closes
January 2-15	Enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Last day to enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Deadline for Repertoire Changes in Database
January 15	Last day to revert to non-Panel status and secure regular CM Evaluation at home Branch
	location. Students not allowed to revert after January 15.
January 31	Submission deadline for YAG Repertoire List and Letter of Intent to Regional Coordinator
February 21	String Regional Evaluations (North) (Sites TBA)
February 21	String Regional Panel (South) (Sites TBA)
March 10	Last day to take the Theory Examination
March 10	Last day to submit CM Panel Finals Audition Application ( <u>www.mtac.org/login</u> ) and fee to
	String Panel Coordinator
April 3	State Panel Finals in the South, for both North and South students combined (Sites TBA)
July 1-July 5	MTAC Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport

## **APPENDIX D: PANEL WINDS GUIDELINES**

#### WINDS REGIONALS

For Repertoire requirements, please see the applicable Syllabus. Panel applicants are required to play four pieces for the Regionals Audition:

- Two pieces may be from the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Centuries: one published before 1960 and one published in 1960 or later.
- Memorization for wind instruments is optional.

#### WINDS FINALS

Panel Honors and Master Class applicants have **10-minute** auditions and must play <u>three</u> of the four pieces they performed at Regionals. The student and teacher may select which piece to omit. The student will select the first piece to be performed and the Judges will determine the order of the other selections. Judges will likely only hear parts of each piece, although students should be prepared to perform each piece in the entirety.

#### WINDS YAG

See "Part Five: Young Artist Guild."

#### PANEL AWARD DIVISIONS - ELIGIBLITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Winds Panel Honors**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 10 through Grades 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Levels 9 or Advanced (Level 10)\*; and
- (iii) Selected to perform by the Finals Judges.

\*No previous CM experience required

#### Winds Panel Master Class

- (i) Currently in school Grades 10, 11, or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Level 9 or Advanced (Level 10)\*; and
- (iii) Selected to perform in Panel Master Class by the Finals Judges.

\*No previous CM experience is required.

#### Winds YAG

- (i) Currently in school Grades 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter; and
- (iv) Selected to perform in YAG by the Finals Judges.

#### WINDS TIMELINE

October 1	Online CM registration opens
October 31	CM registration closes
January 2-15	Enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Last day to revert to non-Panel status and secure regular CM Evaluation at home Branch
	location. Students not allowed to revert after January 15.
January 31	Submission deadline for YAG Repertoire List and Letter of Intent to Regional Coordinator
TBA	Winds Regional Panel Auditions (North) (Sites TBA)
February 28	Winds Regional Panel Auditions (South) (Sites TBA)
March 10	Last day to take the Theory Examination
March 10	Last day to submit CM Panel Finals Audition Application ( <u>www.mtac.org/login</u> ) and fee to
	Wind Panel Coordinator
April 2	State Panel Finals in the South, for both North and South students combined (Sites TBA)
July 1-July 5	MTAC Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport

## **APPENDIX E: PANEL VOICE GUIDELINES**

#### **VOICE REGIONALS**

Applicants in the South Region will be auditioned at a Regional Evaluation Center. Applicants in the North may be evaluated at their teacher's Branch evaluation or sent to a Regional site, as needed. Students shall sing the required pieces and complete their technique/vocalises at this time. Theory tests and ear-training must be taken at the teacher's Branch prior to -March 10.

The Regionals Panel Audition is the same as a regular Advanced-Level CM Evaluation except for as follows:

- All Panel applicants, Levels 8-Advanced, have a 30-minute Regional Audition
- Students must achieve 80% or above on their Theory Examination to be eligible for Panel Finals, including YAG
- All Syllabus requirements must be followed, including memorization and number of Syllabus pieces
- Panel Honors, Master Class, and YAG applicants must receive GOOD or better for technique.

#### **VOICE FINALS**

Panel students who have been selected by Judges in the Regionals proceed to the State Panel Finals ("Panel Finalists"), where they perform for two judges who evaluate both the North and South Regions against stringent standards. Students selected in this round perform at the annual MTAC Convention.

Panel Honors and Master Class applicants prepare **at least** 10 minutes of music from the pieces they performed at the Preliminary Auditions. The student will select the first piece to be performed and the Judges will determine the order of the other selections. It is very likely that they will only hear part of each piece.

#### **VOICE YAG**

Voice YAG applicants must be prepared to sing the six pieces that would be required for their CM Evaluation, in addition to other selections of their repertoire to fulfill the 45-minute Regionals requirement.

### PANEL AWARDS DIVISIONS - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Voice Panel Honors**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 9 through age 25; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Level 8, 9, or Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed at least two CM Evaluations (at any time, at any age or level); and

(iv) Selected to perform by the Finals Judges.

#### **Voice Panel Master Class**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 9 through age 25; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Level 8, 9, Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed at least 2 CM Evaluations, at any time, at any age or level; and
- (iv) Selected to perform in Panel Master Class by the Finals Judges.

#### **Voice YAG**

- (i) Currently in school Grade 11 through to age 25; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Level 9 or above; and
- (iii) Passed at least 2 CM Evaluations, at any time, at any age or level;
- (iv) Selected to perform in YAG by the Finals Judges.

## **VOICE TIMELINE**

October 1	Online CM registration opens
October 31	CM registration closes
January 2-15	Enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Last day to revert to non-Panel status and secure regular CM Evaluation at home Branch
	location. Students not allowed to revert after January 15.
January 15	Deadline for Repertoire Changes in Database
January 31	Submission deadline for YAG Repertoire List and Letter of Intent to Regional Coordinator
TBA	Voice Regional Panel (North) (Sites TBA)
March 1	Voice Regional Panel (South) (Sites TBA)
March 10	Last day to take the Theory Examination
March 10	Last day to submit CM Panel Finals Audition Application ( <u>www.mtac.org/login</u> ) and fee to
	Voice Panel Coordinator
April 2	State Panel Finals in the South, for both North and South students combined (Sites TBA)
July 1-July 5	MTAC Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport

## **APPENDIX F: PANEL HARP GUIDELINES**

#### HARP REGIONALS

- Students perform the required Repertoire (as listed in the applicable Syllabus) for two Judges.
- All Repertoire pieces must be memorized.
- At least one Repertoire piece must be from the Advanced-Level Repertoire List in the Syllabus.
- The Technique requirement is fulfilled by performing one Etude from memory, which must be selected from the Advanced-Level Etude List.
- Panel and YAG Applicants must achieve 80% or above on their Theory Test to be eligible for Panel Finals
- Panel and YAG Applicants are exempt from Sight-Reading

#### HARP FINALS

Panel Finalists applying for Panel Honors or Panel Master Class must prepare <u>at least</u> 10 minutes of music from <u>three</u> of the pieces they performed at the Regional Auditions. The student will select the first piece to be performed and the Judges will determine the order of the other selections. Judges will likely only hear part of each piece, although students should be prepared to perform the entirety.

#### PANEL AWARDS DIVISIONS - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Harp Panel Honors**

- (i) Currently in school Grades 9 through Grades 12; and
- (ii) Currently registered in CM Levels 9 or Advanced (Level 10)\*; and
- (iii) Selected to perform by the Finals Judges

\*No previous CM experience required

#### Harp Panel Master Class

- (i) Currently in school Grades 10, 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Level 9 or Advanced (Level 10)\*; and
- (iii) Selected to perform in Panel Master Class by the Finals Judges.

#### Harp YAG

- (i) Currently in school Grades 11 or 12; and
- (ii) Enrolled in CM Advanced (Level 10); and
- (iii) Passed CM Evaluations starting in school Grade 9 and every consecutive year thereafter; and
- (iv) Selected to join YAG by Finals Judges.

#### HARP TIMELINE

October 1	Online CM registration opens
October 31	CM registration closes
January 2-15	Enter students' repertoire online
January 15	Last day to revert to non-Panel status and secure regular CM Evaluation at home Branch
	location. Students not allowed to revert after January 15.
January 15	Deadline for Repertoire Changes in Database
January 31	Submission deadline for YAG Repertoire List and Letter of Intent to Regional Coordinator
February 20-21	Harp Regional Panel Auditions (North and South) (Sites TBA)
March 10	Last day to take the Theory Examination
March 10	Last day to submit CM Panel Finals Audition Application ( <u>www.mtac.org/login</u> ) and fee to
	North and South Panel Coordinators
April 2	Harp State Panel Finals, South (Sites TBA)
April 9, 10	Harp State Panel Finals, North (Sites TBA)
July 1-July 5	MTAC Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport