



NAPERVILLE MUSIC ACADEMY

ANNUAL EXAMS

(Updated 1/27/2018)

Program

Annual exam program will consist of a 4-part exam after which the student will receive a Certificate of Merit and a trophy for completing the exam for a specific level. These exams are designed to help parents and students measure annually the progress in music lessons and to help increase the rating of students' college applications. When considering applicants, universities give advantage to serious, extensive and successful extracurricular activities. We are offering exams in piano, voice, guitar, and drums.

This is a program unique to NMA, and currently there are no other certification programs for guitar, drums, and young voice students. This unique opportunity is made available to all NMA students.

Eligibility

All students enrolled in NMA classes for at least 2 consecutive quarters are eligible. Students taking lessons in more than one instrument at NMA are eligible to take exams in all instruments studied with us. Students participating in Illinois State AIM program (piano, violin, and voice) do not need to take the NMA exam. Students not enrolled at NMA are not eligible at this time.

Exam Date

This year the exam will be on Sunday, April 22, 2018. NMA cannot offer makeup exams to students who are unable to take the test on the designated day. Fee is refunded to students who cancel participation by April 15, 2018. If a student feels that they can improve their score, they can re-take the same level test next year, or they can continue to the next level. There is no re-take of the exam in the same year.

Exam Fee and Levels

The fee for this exam is \$27 per instrument and is payable at registration. Payment can be done in cash, check (made out to NMA), or credit card. The exam has 10 levels, and the students are allowed to skip levels at the discretion and advice of their instructor.



Registration

Registration for this exam starts at the beginning of the 3rd quarter in January 2018. Please fill out the form found here on our website, under NMA Annual Exam button, and submit it with the fee. You can put the form and the fee into the mail slot next to the water fountain.

Exam Structure

Each exam will consist of 4 portions: theory, sight reading, aural skills, and performance.

- Theory will include understanding and defining of music theory terms.
- Sight reading includes analyzing and playing/singing an unfamiliar piece of music appropriate for a specific level.
- Aural skills will include listening, recognition and repeating or writing down the music dictation.
- Performance portion will include performance of a designated number of pieces from memory. The pieces would be appropriate for a particular level and are chosen by the teacher. Some levels will have a designated list of performance pieces.

Passing grade will be 80%.

Exam Preparation

This exam can be prepared in the regular lessons and group classes and does not require additional instruction outside the regular schedule.

Judging Committee

The students will be graded by judges other than their regular teachers to avoid conflict of interest. Judges will be NMA teachers and other highly regarded teachers from our area. The decision of each judge is final.

Questions and Concerns

Please send any questions or concerns to the NMA e-mail: napervillemusicacademy@gmail.com. These remarks will be kept confidential.

For additional inquiries please e-mail us.