

## **Guidelines for Virtual Achievement Day: A Note to Parents**

Charleston Music Teachers Association will host *Achievement Day 2023* both in-person at Charleston Southern University as well as virtually (performance only). Virtual participants will be required to record themselves playing two pieces of contrasting styles from memory – theory, technique, and sight reading components being excluded. Adjudicators will offer critiques and students will receive ribbons based on the Performance component's 3-point scale. Virtual Participants will not be eligible for the *Honors Recital*. The purpose of Virtual Achievement Day is to offer students with scheduling conflicts and COVID concerns an alternative option to still participate and accrue Crescendo points.

**Registration Deadline: Friday, February 10th, 2023**

**Registration Fee: \$20 per student**

**Video Submission Deadline: Saturday, March 4th, 2023**

### **Guidelines for Filming**

Students/Parents will record a separate video for each audition piece. Videos must have been recorded during the 2022-2023 school year.

*Tip: Students should dress nicely for their videos since this is still a performance! The piano and/or surroundings should be free of distractions!*

- **VIDEO DEVICE:** Videos may be recorded on any device (camera, smartphone, computer, etc.). It's recommended that you use the highest quality recording device on hand, ideally 4K or HD (1080p or 720p) quality. Most current smartphones will achieve these standards.  
*Tip 1: Be sure the device is fully charged or plugged in!*  
*Tip 2: Use "Airplane Mode" if filming with a smartphone so there are no interruptions!*
- **VIDEO EDITING:** *Video and audio editing/splicing is not allowed! Each video should be made from a single full take from a single, stationary camera.*
- **CAMERA POSITION:** Be sure the camera is stationary; do not have someone hold the camera! The camera should allow for a full view of the student at the instrument. Please consider the visual aspects of posture, technique, and pedaling that would be helpful for judges to be able to see.

**For Pianists:** *The camera must be set up so that the judge can see seating position, hand position, pedals and an empty music rack to show the performance is from memory. The entire keyboard should be visible as well as the student's hands.*

**For Vocalists:** *The camera must show the vocalist in full view, and it must be clear that they are singing from memory. Facial expressions should be seen clearly. The vocalist should not have busy clothing or have a distracting background. A light source should be in front of the singer; not behind or above. Vocalists may use a pre-recorded accompaniment.*

### Guidelines for Uploading Videos to YouTube

Entrants must have a YouTube account to participate. Students/Parents will upload videos to YouTube (videos should be “unlisted” so comments are disabled). Videos may not be uploaded to the Teacher's account. Video links must be emailed to the Teacher for submission.

- Click the camera icon that says “Create” and then choose “Upload Video” from the drop down menu.
- You will be prompted to choose a file to upload. Choose the video you want to upload and hit the button that’s highlighted (says “Choose” or “Save”).
- You are then taken to the “Details” screen. In both the “Title” and “Description” fields write the Student’s FIRST NAME, LEVEL, COMPOSER and PIECE TITLE.  
*[Example of Video Title: **Sofia, Level C; Liszt, A Love Dream (Nocturne No 3)**]*  
*[Example of Video Description: **Sofia, Level C; Liszt, A Love Dream (Nocturne No 3)**]*  
Then click next.
- “Video Elements” – skip this and click next.
- The next step is “Visibility.” Choose the “Unlisted” option from the drop down menu. Next click “Save.”
- The next screen will say “Video Published” which means your video has been uploaded.
- Copy the complete “URL link” at the bottom of the “Video Published” screen. Then repeat these steps for your second video.

### Guidelines for Emailing The Teacher

E-mail your videos to your piano teacher ahead of the Saturday, March 4th, 2023 deadline. Your email will contain TWO YOUTUBE LINKS for each entrant! Your teacher will be responsible for submitting their students to the CMTA Co-Chairs by the submission deadline.