

Sponsored by the Worship Ministries Department of the
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

2027

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST AREA KEYBOARD FESTIVAL

A MINISTRY OF THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



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MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

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Registration Due
Monday, December 7, 2026
Please register early!

No registration changes of the following after January 7, 2027:

1. Area Festival attending
2. Category
3. Selection(s) to be presented

REGISTRATION

All participants are registered through Worship Ministries. No registration is accepted at festival locations. **A student may register for a festival other than the area in which they live, but must attend the festival where they are registered.** Registration fee is \$10 for each participant and is nonrefundable. It is very helpful if the requested information on the registration forms is provided by the teacher(s). Send all registration forms at the same time with **one** check or money order **made out to MBCB** for the fees to: Wyndy South, Worship Ministries, MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Registration forms are on pages 17 and 19 and may be duplicated. Additional forms may be obtained on our website **www.mbc.org**. All repertoire questions should be directed to Wyndy South by December 7, 2026. If you need answers to questions concerning the keyboard festivals, contact the festival leader in your area or Wyndy South, Keyboard Consultant, Festivals Coordinator, Worship Ministries, same address as above. Inquiries by phone: 601-292-3272 or e-mail: wsouth@mbcb.org.

PARTICIPANTS

Students in Grades K5-12

Piano: Guidelines & requirements on pages 4-10

Category I

Beginning students Grades K5-3

Category I-A

Beginning students Grades 4-12

Category II, II-A

Grades 1-12

Category III

Grades 4-12

Category IV

Designed for students in Grades 10, 11, 12

GUESTS

Parents, teachers, and friends are invited and encouraged to attend. They are the congregation for singing as the students play in Categories II-A-IV, Organ.

Organ: Guidelines & requirements on pages 10-13

Basic

Grades 5-12

Advanced

Designed for students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Participants remain until the conclusion of their category where adjudication sheets and certificates are presented. *Adjudication sheets and certificates will not be given prior to that time.*

Since categories are not progressive, participants may continue in the same category until the teacher feels they are ready for advancement.

HYMNAL RESOURCES

PIANO

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 Edition
*The Baptist Hymnal, Simplified Edition, 1991
For Categories II, IIA ONLY (Item# 001087019)
*Call 1-800-436-3869 to print on demand
Baptist Hymnal, 2008
The Worship Hymnal, 2008

ORGAN

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 – Organ Edition[^]
Baptist Hymnal, 2008
Worship Hymnal, 2008
[^]LifeWay.com, Item #005085960

If using any other hymnal (including any other Baptist hymnal), please indicate your hymnal name and include the number in the box marked OTHER HYMNAL, on the registration form.

THE KEYBOARD FESTIVALS . . .

The Keyboard Festivals are planned by the Keyboard Consultant and the Director of the Worship Ministries Department, MBCB. Throughout the state, they are ably assisted by ministers of music, local pianists, organists, and music teachers. It is our desire that the preparation for these festivals, with the challenge and inspiration of participating in them, will assist Mississippi Baptists in establishing, enlarging, and improving the music ministry of their churches.

Please contact us if we can help you in any way. May God bless you as you seek to serve His people through the ministry of church music.



WYNDY SOUTH

Consultant, Keyboard
Children's Music
Worship Ministries, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

SPIRITUALLY . . .

- † to lead young people to a more meaningful relationship with the Lord through the playing of sacred music.
- † to challenge young people to share their faith through music.

MUSICALLY . . .

- † to encourage the use of keyboard music that is worthy and acceptable for the worship and praise of Christ.
- † to challenge individuals to set goals for greater accomplishments.
- † to offer opportunities for hearing others at the keyboard instruments.
- † to encourage keyboard instructors to teach hymn playing.

GENERALLY . . .

- † to acquaint our Baptist churches with potential for enlisting young people to develop and use their talents in the ministry of the local church.
- † to encourage greater participation in the associational and state music ministry.

Free permission has been granted to duplicate up to two copies of selections from PedalPoint (currently out of print); Piano/Organ Supplements of the Baptist Hymnal, 1991 Ed.; or Collections from Broadman Press, Van Ness Press, Inc., McKinney Music, Inc., Church Street Press, Convention Press, or LifeWay Publications.

This permission does not cover Genevox. A selection owned by a publisher OTHER THAN the above mentioned publishers may be included in the collections, for ex. compilations. They CANNOT be duplicated without permission of the OTHER publisher. Please use the copyright acknowledgment as it appears on the music and add, "USED BY PERMISSION." Participants must play from PUBLISHED music. If music other than these publishers is selected, permission must be granted by the publisher to make copies. Be sure to prepare early for these requests. Some companies will accept e-mailed or faxed requests. *Please email or call Wyndy South if you have questions concerning a selection from the PedalPoint Publications.* It is suggested that you choose selections from publications that permission to copy has been granted. Suggestions are listed for Categories III and IV Piano, and Advanced Organ on Pages 6, 8, and 11.

Note: When you purchase an individual arrangement online and print it, this constitutes a legal copy. Please be sure that the exclusive use phrase is visible on your printed page, and you have included the cover page.

WHEN MUSIC IS COPIED WITHOUT PERMISSION from the copyright owner, THE COPIER IS SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION BY LAW.

AREA	LOCATION	LEADER	PHONE
Thursday, January 28, 2027			
Area 2	Harrisburg BC, 4675 Cliff Gookin Blvd, Tupelo	Amy Davis/ Jasen Brown	662-842-6917 (Church)
Area 2	Sturgis BC, 2514 MS-12, Sturgis	Terrell Jackson Brad Creely	662-465-7420 (Church)
Area 3	FBC, 100 E College St, Clinton	Ryan Etheridge	601-924-6705 (Church)
Area 4	FBC, 701 26 th Ave, Meridian	Barry Germany	601-484-4600 (Church)
Area 5	FBC, 219 Second St N, Wiggins	Terrel Boger	601-928-5226 (Church)
Area 5	FBC, W 5 th St, Laurel	Marilyn Huff	601-763-8731 (Home)
Area 5	FBC, 1109 Robb St, Summit	Bradley White	601-276-2396 (Church)
Area 5	William Carey University, 710 William Carey Pkwy, Hattiesburg	Dr. Brian Murphy	601-318-6462 (Office)

Friday, January 29, 2027

Area 2	FBC, 317 Ward St, Senatobia	Randy Chappell	662-562-8503 (Church)
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**There are no scheduled Hymn Festivals for the Grenada/Greenwood area for 2027.*

PIANO & ORGAN TEACHERS
Note the following . . .

Please plan now to have your students in K-5 through 12th Grades registered for the January 2027 Area Keyboard Festivals by Monday, December 7, 2026. Send all registrations and one check for total to Wyndy South, Worship Ministries, MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

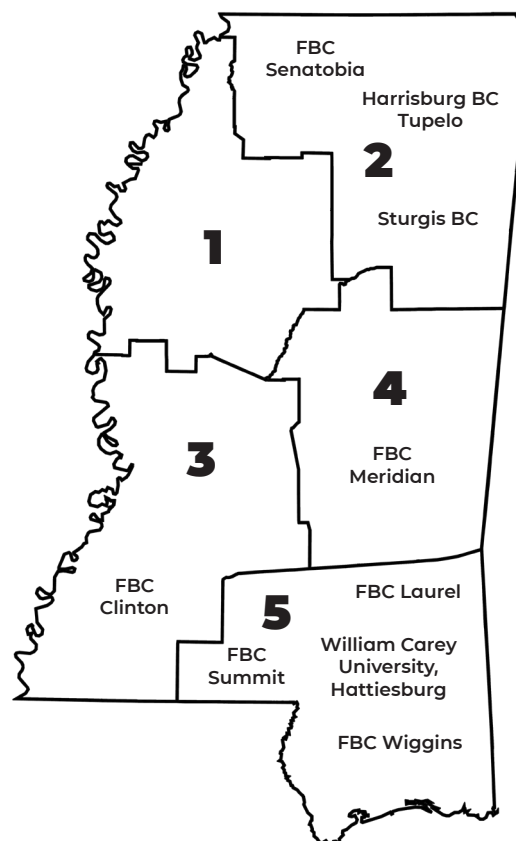
Registration fee is \$10 per participant.

Make checks payable to MBCB or Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Registration is nonrefundable.

Please register early.

LOCATIONS
2027



The keyboard festival is not a competition.

CATEGORY I

Beginning piano students in Grades K5, 1, 2, & 3

These students are not ready to play from a hymnal or Simplified Baptist Hymnal. Participants will play an easy, short, hymn tune or spiritual arrangement **from memory** from one of the suggested resources below, or similar book. Please have participants provide published music for the judge. (See copyright notice at the bottom of page 2.)

CATEGORY I-A

Older beginning piano students Grades 4-12

These students are not ready to play from a hymnal or Simplified Baptist Hymnal. Participants will play an easy, short hymn tune or spiritual arrangement **from memory**, from one of the suggested resources below, or similar book. Please have participants provide published music for the judge. (See copyright notice at the bottom of page 2.)

SUGGESTED RESOURCES FOR CATEGORIES I AND IA

Note: All Alfred music is now available at: www.jwpepper.com.

Alfred Play Hymns Bk 1: Bober/Vandall; Pepper ID: 10273940

Alfred Play Hymns Bk 2: Bober/Vandall; Pepper ID: 10273941

Alfred Play Hymns Bk 3: Bober/Vandall; Pepper ID: 10273961

*Popular Hymns, Primer Level: Bastien; <https://kjos.com>; WP226

*Popular Hymns, Level 1: Bastien; <https://kjos.com>; WP227

*Popular Hymns, Level 2: Bastien; <https://kjos.com>; WP228

*NFMC 2024-2028 selections included (Federated Music Clubs)

Categories I and IA: Advanced preparation:

The student's name should be clearly marked on the book or music (post-its are fine).

Measures should be numbered (if not already done so by the publisher).

Any editing should be clearly marked such as repeats, no "amen", measures skipped, etc.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY

Students should:

1. Give their music to the adjudicators (the music is memorized).
2. Adjust the bench if needed and warm up with scales, chords, or arpeggios.
3. Inform the adjudicators when they are ready to begin.
4. Play their prepared piece.
5. Take repeats if needed and optionally play the "Amen" at the end, if marked.
6. Be evaluated by one judge (though several judges may be in the category).
7. Pick up their music at the end of the session.

Completed adjudication sheets and certificates will be distributed at the end of the session. If a student needs to leave or go to another room, they should notify the runner or recorder and return later. Any materials left behind will be collected by the leader and, if applicable, mailed to the student's address on file.

CATEGORY II

Students in Grades 1-12

These students are ready to play from a hymnal or Simplified Hymnal (see sources p. 1). If a hymnal is used other than one of those listed, the participant must provide a hymnal for the judge. Hymns in this category are chosen in advance but not memorized. NOTE: Pedal is not required for this category. **There is no singing or directing of the hymn in this category.** Students will be adjudicated by one judge, although there are multiple judges in the room. Be sure that the student's or teacher's name is clearly marked (or written on a post-it) on the cover.

Play from one of the following for Category II or IIA:

The Baptist Hymnal, Simplified Piano Edition, 1991

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 Edition

Baptist Hymnal, 2008 Edition

The Worship Hymnal, 2008 Edition

Another hymnal (should be specified on the registration form and provided for judge)

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY

Students should be prepared to:

1. Give the music to the adjudicator (judges are provided Simplified Baptist Hymnals)
2. Inform the adjudicator of any special notes about what they will play (repeats, D.S. al fine, etc.)

(continued on page 5)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

(continued from page 4)

3. Adjust the bench if needed, and warm up with scales, chords, or arpeggios.
4. Play through the entire hymn **once**, as written
5. Pick up their music from the judges' table, if applicable

CATEGORY II-A

Students in Grades 3-12

These students are ready to play from a hymnal or Simplified Hymnal (see sources, p. 1). Advanced younger students may also choose this category. The participant must provide a copy for both the judge and the group leader. Hymns in this category are chosen in advance but **not** memorized. Students will be adjudicated by one judge, even though multiple judges may be in the room. Teachers are encouraged to practice conducting and singing the hymn while the student plays. Be sure that the student's or teacher's name is clearly marked (or written on a post-it) on the cover.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY

Students should be prepared to:

1. Give the music to the adjudicator (judges are provided Simplified Baptist Hymnals).
2. Speak with the group leader about the chosen introduction, or any other important details.
3. Adjust the bench if needed, and warm up with scales, chords, or arpeggios.
4. Play the hymn through once as written, *using the pedal and omitting the introduction*; then pause.
5. Play the agreed-upon introduction, then play through the hymn again, following the director as the congregation sings one time through (1st verse, chorus, etc.).
6. Pick up their music from the judges' table, if applicable.

CATEGORY III

Simplified hymnals are not allowed for this category.

Students in Grades 4-12

Students must provide a hymnal for both the group leader and the judge. Hymns and arrangements are chosen in advance and are not memorized. Students may be adjudicated by more than one judge consecutively, but not simultaneously. Teachers are encouraged to practice conducting and singing the hymn while the student plays. Be sure that the student's or teacher's name is clearly marked (or written on a post-it) on the cover.

Play from one of the following:

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition
Baptist Hymnal, 2008 edition
The Worship Hymnal, 2008 edition
 Another hymnal

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY – Playing the Hymn

Students should be prepared to:

1. Give the hymnal and/or arrangement music to the adjudicator.
2. Speak with the group leader about the chosen introduction and any other important details.
3. Adjust the bench if needed and warm up before playing.
4. Play the agreed-upon introduction with pedal.
5. Play the first stanza and chorus, if applicable, as written and with pedal while following the director as the congregation sings.
6. **Optional:** Include improvisation only if it fits the style and character of the hymn.

Adjudicators may need time between the hymn and the arrangement.

Category III – Hymn Arrangement Preparation and Notes

1. Clearly mark the music with the student's or teacher's name; post-its are acceptable.
2. Number all measures. Count any partial measure as a full measure. Adjust measure numbers as needed if piece has been edited.
3. Any edits, including repeats, skipped measures, or other changes must be clearly marked.
4. **Medleys are not allowed.** Photocopied music is discouraged.*
5. Limit the arrangement to 4½ minutes.
6. The arrangement may be published, unpublished, or written by the student or teacher.
7. Music purchased online is **legal and valid** for this category; see page 2. Include the "published exclusively for" title page with the arrangement unless that information appears on each page. Music should be provided for the judge in all cases.
8. Student will play arrangement at the direction of readiness by the judge.

(continued on page 6)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

(continued from page 5)

9. The student may have a page turner.
10. When appropriate, students should pick up all of their music from the adjudicator's table.

*If a photocopy is used **without permission**, the judge may kindly mention that an original copy should have been presented for adjudication. However, because this does not affect the participant's overall presentation, **points should not be deducted** for this.

SUGGESTED HYMN ARRANGEMENT RESOURCES FOR CATEGORY III:

When choosing your selection for an arrangement to be played after your hymn, be sure that the hymn is in a hymnal.

And Can It Be; arr. William Phemister; LORENZ, Moderately Advanced: 70/2553L
 Echoes of Christmas, arr. Lloyd Larson; LORENZ, Moderately Advanced; 70/2564L
 Forever Faithful; arr. Sean Paul; LORENZ, Intermediate, 70/2567L
 From Tomb to Triumph; arr. Anna Laura Page; Intermediate, 70/2555L
 I Trust in You; arr. Darcy Stanley; LORENZ, Moderately Advanced; 70/2571L
 In Your Name; arr. Patti Drennan; LORENZ, Moderately Advanced: 70/2554L
 Land That I Love; arr. Brad Nix; LORENZ; Intermediate; 70/2566L
 Morning Has Broken, Arr. Daniel Burton; LORENZ; Intermediate, 70/2556L
 Nativity; arr. Mary McDonald; LORENZ; Intermediate; 70/2586L
 Praise Without End; Arr. Lloyd Larson; LORENZ; Moderately Advanced; 70/2559L

You may view/print sample pages for these publications at www.lorenz.com and search by item number or title.

ViewScore Browser videos, featuring audio-synced with score pages at www.youtube.com/TheLorenzCorporation search by issue and year.

Categories have been noted beside applicable areas of adjudication.

ACCURACY – ALL CATEGORIES

- Time Values (*as written*)
- Correct Notes (*as written*)

INTERPRETATION – CATEGORY II & ABOVE

- Tempo (*appropriate for hymn text*)
- Tempo (*as printed on the music for standard piano/organ literature*)
- Dynamics
- Phrasing

PEDAL (PIANO) – CATEGORY II-A & ABOVE

- Legato
- Clear
- Well Timed

RHYTHM – ALL CATEGORIES

- Accuracy (*played exactly as written*)
- Steady beat

ACCOMPANYING CONGREGATIONAL SINGING – CATEGORY II-A & Above

- Appropriate, clear introduction
- Tempo (*appropriate to character of the hymn*)
- Skill at following the music director
- Dynamic level

POISE AND POSTURE – ALL CATEGORIES

- Bench position
- Posture of participant at the piano/organ (*including hands/feet*)

TECHNIQUE – ALL CATEGORIES

- Fluency
- Touch
- Tone
- Hand position
- Fingering

REGISTRATION (ORGAN ONLY)

- Suitable to period or style of selection (*traditional organ literature selection*)
- Appropriate to character of hymn

MANUAL AND PEDAL TECHNIQUE (ORGAN ONLY)

- Manuals – fingering (substitution and sliding)
- Manuals and Pedals – Articulation (*clear enunciation in playing attack and release*)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

CATEGORY IV

Simplified hymnals are not allowed for this category.

Students in Grades 10-12 (See note below about those in 9th Grade)

Students must provide a hymnal for both the group leader and the judge. Hymns and arrangements are chosen in advance and are not memorized. Students may be adjudicated by more than one judge consecutively, but not simultaneously. Teachers are encouraged to practice conducting and singing the hymn while the student plays.

Play from one of the following:

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition
The Baptist Hymnal, 2008 edition
The Worship Hymnal, 2008 edition
 Another hymnal

ATTENTION 9TH GRADE STUDENTS: These students may participate but are not encouraged to do so. The guidelines below must be followed to complete this portion of the category.

There are three parts to this portion of Category IV: Hymn Accompaniment, Hymn Arrangement, and the Traditional Piano Literature selection. Students in this category **MUST** complete these three sections every year they are registered for Category IV. Only Superior ratings are acknowledged on the certificate for any portion of Category IV. A Superior rating is a score of 8 and above on a scale of 1-10.

SECTION ONE – HYMN ACCOMPANIMENT

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY – Playing the Hymn

Students may be adjudicated by one judge on each portion of the category. When approaching the adjudicator's table, determine which judge will receive your music.

Students should be prepared to:

1. Give the hymnal (if applicable) and any other music to the adjudicator.
2. Speak with the group leader about the chosen introduction and any other important details.
3. Adjust the bench if needed and warm up before playing.
4. Play the agreed-upon introduction with pedal.
5. Play the first stanza and chorus, if applicable, as written and with pedal while following the director as the congregation sings.
6. **Optional:** Include improvisation only if it fits the style and character of the hymn.

SECTION TWO – HYMN ARRANGEMENT

Adjudicators may need time between the hymn and the arrangement.

Category IV – Hymn Arrangement Preparation and Notes

1. Clearly mark the music with the student's or teacher's name; Post-its are acceptable.
2. Number all measures. Count any partial measure as a full measure.
3. Any edits, including repeats, skipped measures, or other changes must be clearly marked. Adjust measure numbers as needed if a piece has been edited.
4. **Medleys are not allowed.** Photocopied music is discouraged.*
5. Limit the arrangement to 4½ minutes.
6. The arrangement may be published, unpublished, or written by the student or teacher.
7. Music purchased online is **legal and valid** for this category; see page 2. Include the "published exclusively for" title page with the arrangement unless that information appears on each page. Music should be provided for the judge in all cases.
8. Student will play arrangement at the direction of readiness by the judge.
9. The student may have a page turner.

*If a photocopy is used **without permission**, the judge may kindly mention that an original copy should have been presented for adjudication. However, because this does not affect the participant's overall presentation, **points should not be deducted** for this.

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SUGGESTED HYMN ARRANGEMENT RESOURCES FOR CATEGORY IV:

When choosing your selection for an arrangement to be played after your hymn, be sure that the hymn is in a hymnal.

- Forever Faithful; arr. Sean Paul; LORENZ, Intermediate, 70/2567L
- He Hideth My Soul; arr. Claude I Bass; Moderately Advanced, 70/2551L
- Heavenly Peace; arr. Mary McDonald; HOPE Publishing; Advanced, Item #9206*
- Heavenly Peace; arr. Shelton Ridge Love, LILLENAS; Intermediate; #9780787790479
- I Will Sing of My Redeemer; arr. Wally Mayo; LILLENAS; Mod. Advanced; 9780787790462
- In Your Name; arr. Patty Drennan; LORENZ; Moderately Advanced; 70/2554L
- Land That I Love; arr. Brad Nix; LORENZ; Intermediate; 70/2566L
- Praise Without End; arr. Lloyd Larson; LORENZ; Moderately Advanced; 70/2559L
- The Lights of Christmas; arr. Tracey Craig McKibben; Moderately Advanced; 70/2565L

You may view/print sample pages for these publications at www.lorenz.com and search by item number or title.

*https://www.hopepublishing.com/W249206_HEAVENLY_PEACE to listen/view

For the Lorenz publications above:

ViewScore Browser videos, featuring audio-synced with score pages at www.youtube.com/TheLorenzCorporation search by issue and year.

SECTION THREE – Selection from Traditional Piano Literature

Following the playing of the hymn arrangement, students will play a memorized selection of their choice from traditional piano literature. The suggestions for this portion of the category are listed below as a guide. Please use one of these pieces listed below, or a piece of similar level and length. Selections should be limited to 4½ minutes. These are original works by composers, not a transcription or arrangement. **Please do not use graded piano repertoire.**

Special note about photocopied music (not music purchased online): Photocopying permission should be granted by the publisher and clearly marked on the music or attached to the book or piece. Photocopied music is discouraged. The judge is well within their right to mention that an original should have been submitted for adjudication. Since this would not affect the overall score or presentation, points should not be deducted.

Category IV – Selection from Traditional Piano Literature Preparation and Notes

1. Clearly mark the music with the student's or teacher's name; Post-its are acceptable.
2. Number all measures. Count any partial measure as a full measure.
3. Any edits, including repeats, skipped measures, or other changes should be noted in the music. Adjust measure numbers as needed if a piece has been edited. It is preferred that repeats other than D.C. al fine are not observed due to time limits.
4. The students will play their chosen piece from memory after judges have signaled their readiness.
5. When appropriate, students should pick up all their music from the adjudicator's table.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PIANO LITERATURE:

- Any two- or three-part invention by Bach
- Any one (or two short) movements of French/English Suites by JS Bach
- Arabesque No. 1 or 2, Debussy
- La fille aux cheveux de lin, Debussy
- Any selection from The Classics for the Advancing Pianist, Vol. 1, Edward MacDowell
- Elegie, Opus 3, 1892, Rachmaninoff
- Hungarian Op. 39, No. 12 MacDowell
- Nocturne, No. 1 in B, Opus 32, Chopin
- Nocturne No. 1 in f minor, Opus 55, Chopin
- Pineapple Rag, Joplin
- Prelude in c minor (BWV 934) J S Bach
- Prelude in C (BWV 943) J S Bach
- Soaring, Schumann
- Solfeggietto, C P E Bach
- Sonata in e minor, D. 566 (1817), Schubert
- Sonata opus 27, No. 2, any movement, Beethoven
- Tcherepnin: Bagatelles, Opus 5 (choose one from any)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

SECTION FOUR – Piano Proficiencies

Proficiency is the last portion of Category IV piano. There are three available options in this portion of the category that at least one should be completed each year a student registers for Category IV. When a superior rating (8 or above) is achieved, the proficiency has been completed and is not repeated. All three proficiencies must be completed with superior scores to qualify for the college scholarship (see page 13 for other scholarship eligibility). Should all three proficiencies be completed before 12th grade, it is not necessary to register for one. Please call the keyboard festival coordinator (contact information, p.1) if you are unsure about your proficiency status. Note: It is not necessary for a student in 9th grade to register for a proficiency. However, if a 9th grade student attempts and passes a proficiency, full credit will be given.

Sight-reading Proficiency: Not prepared in advance.

Sight reading literally means “at first sight.” Students will be asked to sightread music they have never heard or played before.

There are two parts to this proficiency: a hymn and an anthem. One judge will be in the room with the student and will direct this session. No one else may accompany student to the room.

Part One – the student will sight read a hymn as written from a prepared list by the festival coordinator. They will have 2-3 minutes to look over the hymn before beginning. The student may play through difficult passages or work out fingering or a hand position for larger chords. No one else may accompany the student to the proficiency room. The judge will lead this session. There will be no conducting or singing in this session.

Part Two – the student will sight read a portion of an anthem that has been provided by the Festivals Coordinator. The judge will instruct the student which section of the anthem they will sight read and what part will be played, vocals or accompaniment. Students should be prepared to do either part.

Accompanying Proficiency: Prepared in advance

The student will play an anthem that has been ordered and practiced ahead of the festival. Please bring your own music with you to festival. To simplify the page turns, it is helpful if the anthem is cut apart and hole punched and placed in a 3-ring binder. You may have a page turner in the room.

Please email your request for this anthem to wsouth@mbcb.org or call Olivia Wilkins in the Worship Ministries Office at 601-292-3267 to order. This anthem is mailed at no cost to you. Please provide your name, mailing address, and the quantity that you will need.

Anthem: **Rest**, Music: Harlan; Words J Paul Williams#32220 (SATB) ©2009.

Students should be prepared to play the accompaniment and/or vocal parts of this anthem while a music director leads (conducts). There will be NO SINGING.

The judge will not only determine the amount of this anthem that will be played, but also if student will play the vocal parts or accompaniment. Students should be prepared to start and/or end anywhere in this piece.

Modulation-Transposition Proficiency: Prepared in advance

Students will be adjudicated by one judge. No one else may accompany the student to this room.

The participants select one of the hymns from the chart on page 10 and prepares it in advance. It is played as written.

- Be prepared to modulate each hymn up and down as directed by the judge
- Play the first stanza (verse) of the selected hymn
- Play a short appropriate modulation to the new key
- Play the first stanza (verse) again maintaining the four-part harmony in the new key

Do not write out the new hymn and bring it to play at the festival. This proficiency is not to test your notation ability. It is to evaluate your ability to modulate and transpose. YOU MUST PLAY A MODULATION TO THE NEW KEY.

Teachers can make suggestions, write out the modulation, or find a modulation in a book that is appropriate to the chosen hymn. The students must prepare this modulation well enough to play it without any music.

(continued on page 10)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

HYMNS FOR MODULATION-TRANSPOSITION

Hymnal	Hymn No.	Hymn Name	Original Key	New Key Choices
(1991) Hymn I	90	Carols Sing	F	Eb, G
(1991) Hymn II	492	Purer in Heart, O God	G	F, Ab
(2008) Hymn III	509	My Faith Looks Up to Thee	D	C, Eb
(2008) Hymn IV	652	Jesus Loves Me	C	Bb, D

BASIC ORGAN

Simplified hymnals are not allowed for this category.

Students in Grades 5-12

Students must provide a hymnal for both the group leader and the judge. Hymns are chosen in advance and are not memorized. Teachers are encouraged to practice conducting and singing the hymn while the student plays. There is one judge for this category. Congregation will only sing one verse (and chorus if applicable) of the hymn.

Play from one of the following:

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition
The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 ORGAN edition
The Baptist Hymnal, 2008 edition
The Worship Hymnal, 2008 edition
 Another hymnal

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY

Students should be prepared to:

1. Discuss the planned introduction with the group leader before beginning.
2. Play the first stanza (verse) with Soprano, Alto, Tenor vocal parts on a manual, and Bass vocal on pedals. (No singing or directing) **THEN**
3. Play the same hymn with an appropriate introduction, with voicing in #1, following a music director as the congregation sings the first stanza (verse).

ADVANCED ORGAN

Students in Grades 10-12 (See note below about those in 9th Grade)

Students must provide a hymnal for both the group leader and the judge. Hymns and arrangements and selections from traditional ORGAN literature are chosen in advance and are not memorized. Students may be adjudicated by more than one judge consecutively, but not simultaneously. Teachers are encouraged to practice conducting and singing the hymn while the student plays.

Play from one of the following:

The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition
The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 ORGAN edition
Baptist Hymnal, 2008 edition
The Worship Hymnal, 2008 edition
 Another hymnal

ATTENTION 9TH GRADE STUDENTS: These students may participate but are not encouraged to do so. The guidelines below must be followed to complete this portion of the category.

There are three parts to this portion of Advanced Organ: Hymn Accompaniment, Hymn Arrangement, and the Traditional Organ Literature selection. Students in this category **MUST** complete these three sections every year they are registered for Advanced Organ. Only Superior ratings are acknowledged on the certificate for any portion of Advanced Organ. A Superior rating is a score of 8 and above on a scale of 1-10.

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

SECTION ONE – HYMN ACCOMPANIMENT

WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CATEGORY – Playing the Hymn

Students may be adjudicated by one judge on each portion of the category. When approaching the adjudicator's table, determine which judge will receive your music.

Students should be prepared to:

1. Give the hymnal (if applicable), and any other music to the adjudicator.
2. Speak with the group leader about the chosen introduction and any other important details.
3. Adjust the bench if needed and warm up before playing.
4. Play the agreed-upon introduction with the pedals.
5. Play the first stanza and chorus, if applicable, as written and with the pedals while following the director as the congregation sings.
6. **Optional:** Include improvisation only if it fits the style and character of the hymn.

SECTION TWO – HYMN ARRANGEMENT

Category IV – Hymn Arrangement Preparation and Notes

1. Clearly mark the music with the student's or teacher's name; Post-its are acceptable.
2. Number all measures. Count any partial measure as a full measure.
3. Any edits, including repeats, skipped measures, or other changes must be clearly marked. Adjust measure numbers as needed if a piece has been edited.
4. **Medleys are not allowed.** Photocopied music is discouraged.*
5. Limit the arrangement to 4½ minutes.
6. The arrangement may be published, unpublished, or written by the student or teacher.
7. Music purchased online is legal and valid for this category; see page 2. Include the "published exclusively for" title page with the arrangement unless that information appears on each page. Music should be provided for the judge in all cases.
8. Student will play arrangement at the direction of readiness by the judge.
9. The student may have a page turner.

*If a photocopy is used **without permission**, the judge may kindly mention that an original copy should have been presented for adjudication. However, because this does not affect the participant's overall presentation, **points should not be deducted** for this.

SUGGESTED HYMN ARRANGEMENT RESOURCES FOR CATEGORY IV:

When choosing your selection for an arrangement to be played after your hymn, be sure that the hymn is in a hymnal.

- Easiest – Hymn Settings, Arr. Nigel Williams, 2-staff, Easy, LORENZ, 70/2537L
- Faith, Freedom, and Song, arr. Jeff Bennett, 3-staff, Intermediate, LORENZ, 70/2587L
- Guide My Feet, Arr. Douglas E Wanger, 2-staff, Moderately Easy, LORENZ, 70/2578L
- I Love to Tell the Story, arr. Carolyn Hamlin, 3-staff, Intermediate, LORENZ, 70/2543L
- Mansions in the Skies, arr. Christopher J Hoh, 3-staff, Intermediate, LORENZ, 70/2583S^
- On Christmas Night, arr. James J Stanley, 2-staff, Moderately Easy, LORENZ, 70/2575L
- Shepherd of Souls, arr. James J Stanley, 3-staff, Intermediate; LORENZ, 70/2541L

^The Sacred Music Press (division of Lorenz)

You may view/print sample pages for these publications at www.lorenz.com and search by item number or title.

For the Lorenz publications above:

ViewScore Browser videos, featuring audio-synced with score pages at www.youtube.com/TheLorenzCorporation search by issue and year.

SECTION THREE – Selection from Traditional Organ Literature

Following the playing of the hymn arrangement, students will play a selection of their choice from traditional organ literature. The suggestions for this portion of the category are listed below as a guide. Please use one of these pieces listed on page 12 or a piece of similar level and length. Selections are not memorized and should be limited to 4½ minutes. These are original works by composers, not a transcription or arrangement. **Please do not use graded repertoire.**

Special note about photocopied music (not music purchased online): Photocopying permission should be granted by the publisher and clearly marked on the music or attached to the book or piece. Photocopied music is discouraged. The judge is well within their right to mention that an original should have been submitted for adjudication. Since this would not affect the overall score or presentation, points should not be deducted.

(continued on page 12)

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

Selection from Traditional Organ Literature Preparation and Notes

1. Clearly mark the music with the student's or teacher's name; post-its are acceptable.
2. Number all measures. Count any partial measure as a full measure.
3. Any edits, including repeats, skipped measures, or other changes should be noted in the music. Adjust measure numbers as needed if a piece has been edited. It is preferred that repeats other than D.C. al fine are not observed due to time limits.
4. The students will play their chosen piece from memory after judges have signaled their readiness.
5. When appropriate, students should pick up all their music from the adjudicator's table.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES FOR TRADITIONAL ORGAN LITERATURE:

- Any Bach organ chorale from the *Orgelbuchlein*
- Preludes and fugues, Bach
- Seventy-nine Chorales, Dupre
- Organ Book, Jean Langlais
- 24 pieces in Free Style, Louis Vierne
- A movement from a Mendelssohn Organ Sonata
- Check with www.sheetmusic.com and Amazon

SECTION FOUR – Organ Proficiencies

Proficiency is the last portion of Advanced Organ. There are three available options in this portion of the category that at least one should be completed each year a student registers for Advanced Organ. When a superior rating (8 or above) is achieved, the proficiency has been completed and is not repeated. All three proficiencies must be completed with superior scores to qualify for the college scholarship (see page 13 for other scholarship eligibility). Should all three proficiencies be completed before 12th grade, it is not necessary to register for one. Please call the keyboard festival coordinator (contact information, p.1) if you are unsure about your proficiency status. Note: It is not necessary for a student in 9th grade to register for a proficiency. However, if a 9th grade student attempts and passes a proficiency, full credit will be given.

Sight-reading Proficiency: Not prepared in advance

Sight reading literally means "at first sight." Students will be asked to sightread music they have never heard or played before.

There are two parts to this proficiency: a hymn and an anthem. One judge will be in the room with the student and will direct this session. No one else may accompany student to the room.

Part One – the student will sight read a hymn (on the manuals only) as written from a prepared list by the festival coordinator. They will have 2-3 minutes to look over the hymn before beginning. The student may play through difficult passages or work out fingering or a hand position for larger chords. No one else may accompany the student to the proficiency room. The judge will lead this session. There will be no conducting or singing in this session.

Part Two – the student will sight read a portion of an anthem (on the manuals only) that has been provided by the Festivals Coordinator. The judge will instruct the student which section of the anthem they will sight read and what part will be played, vocals or accompaniment. Students should be prepared to do either part.

Accompanying Proficiency: Prepared in advance

The student will play an anthem that has been ordered and practiced ahead of the festival. Please bring your own music with you to festival. To simplify the page turns, it is helpful if the anthem is cut apart and hole punched and placed in a 3-ring binder. You may have a page turner in the room.

Please email your request for this anthem to wsouth@mbcb.org or call Olivia Wilkins in the Worship Ministries Office at 601-292-3267 to order. *This anthem is mailed at no cost to you.* Please provide your name, mailing address, and the quantity that you will need.

Anthem: **Rest**, Music: Harlan; Words J Paul Williams#32220 (SATB) ©2009.

Students should be prepared to play the accompaniment and/or vocal parts of this anthem while a music director leads (conducts). There will be NO SINGING. Since this is prepared in advance, the students will be expected to use the pedals in a proper manner with the accompaniment.

The judge will not only determine the amount of this anthem that will be played, but also if student will play the vocal parts or accompaniment. Students should be prepared to start and/or end anywhere in this piece.

The keyboard festival is not a competition.

Modulation-Transposition Proficiency: Prepared in advance (you will use the pedals)

Students will be adjudicated by one judge. No one else may accompany the student to this room.

The participants select one of the hymns below and prepare it in advance. It is played as written.

- Be prepared to modulate each hymn up and down as directed by the judge
- Play the first stanza (verse) of the selected hymn with Soprano, Alto, and Tenor voices on a manual and the Bass vocal part on the pedals.
- Play a short appropriate modulation to the new key
- Play the first stanza (verse) again maintaining the four-part harmony in the new key

Do not write out the new hymn and bring it to play at the festival. This proficiency is not to test your notation ability. It is to evaluate your ability to modulate and transpose. YOU MUST PLAY A MODULATION TO THE NEW KEY.

Teachers can make suggestions, write out the modulation, or find a modulation in a book that is appropriate to the chosen hymn. The students must prepare this modulation well enough to play it without any music.

HYMNS FOR MODULATION-TRANSPOSITION

Hymnal	Hymn No.	Hymn Name	Original Key	New Key Choices
(1991) Hymn I	90	Carols Sing	F	Eb, G
(1991) Hymn II	492	Purer in Heart, O God	G	F, Ab
(2008) Hymn III	509	My Faith Looks Up to Thee	D	C, Eb
(2008) Hymn IV	652	Jesus Loves Me	C	Bb, D

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you are a senior and have completed all of the necessary requirements (outlined on Pages 7-10 for Piano and Pages 10-13 for Advanced Organ) for a college scholarship, contact the Keyboard Festival Coordinator (info on Page 1) to declare your intent to apply for the scholarship.

A) One-time award of \$200 from Worship Ministries to the school of your choice in Mississippi. You do not have to major in music or keyboard, but you must take piano or organ in the first semester to receive this scholarship. Only William Carey University, Mississippi Christian University (MC), and Blue Mountain Christian University are set up to match this scholarship, providing the scholarship award limit has not been reached. The student's home church is also encouraged to match the scholarship as well. The student should request this in writing and provide the church's contact information to Wyndy South.

B) Ralph M. Taylor Keyboard Scholarship – Requirements: Piano or Organ Major, or Music Major with a piano or organ emphasis. Qualified persons should complete the application on Page 15 of this booklet. Along with your application, please include (separately) a paragraph declaring your major and chosen instrument (piano/organ), and a few sentences about why you have chosen this major and how you believe that this will help you accomplish your goals or fulfill your ministry objectives. These may be mailed to Wyndy South, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530, or e-mailed to wsouth@mbcb.org. After the evaluation process is complete of all applicants, notification of the decision will be sent by mail to the address provided on the application with further instructions. This is not a matching scholarship.

APPLICATION FOR The Ralph M. Taylor Keyboard Scholarship*

Please print unless otherwise directed.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

Current E-mail Address: _____

Note: If underscore is part of your e-mail address, write above the line. THANKS.

I plan to attend _____ for the _____
NAME OF INSTITUTION (Fall, etc.)

Semester in _____ (Year).

*My Major will be: _____

_____ I have been notified by the Keyboard Festival Coordinator that I have completed all the necessary requirements in order to apply for this scholarship.

_____ I have attached my summary of goals and ministry objectives to this application.

Please provide the name and mailing address of your home church (and contact person) if you wish them notified about matching this scholarship. Use the back of this form or include this in your e-mail/letter.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

DATE: _____

**Must be declaring a piano or organ major or a Music major with an emphasis in piano or organ.*

(Please use a separate form for each participant. Please send complete form. This form may be duplicated.)
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ABOVE EACH LINE.

1 / / 2027

FESTIVAL LOCATION: CHURCH		CITY	FESTIVAL DATE	
PARTICIPANT'S NAME: FIRST NAME		LAST NAME	GENDER (M/F)	PARTICIPANT'S PHONE
ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP	CONTACT E-MAIL (OPTIONAL)	
GRADE IN SCHOOL			PIANO TRAINING: YEARS	MONTHS
PARTICIPANT'S CHURCH		CITY	ASSOCIATION (IF APPLICABLE)	
PIANO TEACHER			PIANO TEACHER'S PHONE	
PIANO TEACHER'S ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP	TEACHER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Place hymn number in appropriate box for hymnal in categories II-IV.

CATEGORY	HYMN TITLE	
☐ I		☐ '91 THE BAPTIST HYMNAL
☐ I-A		☐ Simplified Baptist Hymnal (1991)
☐ II		☐ '08 BAPTIST HYMNAL/THE WORSHIP HYMNAL
☐ II-A		☐ OTHER HYMNAL (Please list name & no.)
☐ III		

CATEGORY IV:

Hymn Title: _____

Arranger of Hymn Arrangement: _____

Selection from traditional piano literature: _____

Composer: _____

CATEGORY IV: PROFICIENCY AREAS (Please indicate area(s) of participation.)

- ☐ Sight-Reading ☐ Accompanying: *Rest, W/M: Harland/Williams; #3220 (SATB) © 2009*
- ☐ Modulation-Transposition – The hymns are listed from both 1991 edition of THE BAPTIST HYMNAL and Baptist Hymnal 2008.

Please indicate your choice by placing a check in the box below.

- ☐ 1991 Hymn I, *Carols Sing*, No. 90, in F Major
- ☐ 1991 Hymn II, *Purer in Heart, O God*, No. 992, in G Major
- ☐ 2008 Hymn III, *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*, No. 509, in D Major
- ☐ 2008 Hymn IV, *Jesus Loves Me*, No. 652, in C Major

Please make checks payable to: MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD. Registration fee is \$10 for each participant. Mail ONE CHECK for total to WYNDY SOUTH, WORSHIP MINISTRIES, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530 by Monday, December 7, 2026. Registration fee is nonrefundable. Please register early.

(Please use a separate form for each participant. Please send complete form. This form may be duplicated.)
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ABOVE EACH LINE.

1 / / 2027

FESTIVAL LOCATION: CHURCH		CITY	FESTIVAL DATE	
PARTICIPANT'S NAME: FIRST NAME		LAST NAME	GENDER (M/F)	PARTICIPANT'S PHONE
ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP	CONTACT E-MAIL (OPTIONAL)	
GRADE IN SCHOOL			ORGAN TRAINING: YEARS MONTHS	
PARTICIPANT'S CHURCH		CITY	ASSOCIATION (IF APPLICABLE)	
ORGAN TEACHER			ORGAN TEACHER'S PHONE	
ORGAN TEACHER'S ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP	TEACHER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Place hymn number in appropriate box for hymnal you will use in Basic Organ or Advanced Organ. →

☐	'91 THE BAPTIST HYMNAL
☐	'08 BAPTIST HYMNAL/THE WORSHIP HYMNAL
☐	OTHER HYMNAL (Please list name & no.)

Indicate appropriate area(s) and provide requested information.

- ☐ BASIC ORGAN
Hymn Title: _____
- ☐ ADVANCED ORGAN
Hymn Title: _____
- ☐ Arranger of Hymn Arrangement: _____
- ☐ Selection from traditional organ literature: _____
- Composer: _____

☐ **ADVANCED ORGAN**

CATEGORY IV: PROFICIENCY AREAS (Please indicate area(s) of participation.)

- ☐ Sight-Reading ☐ Accompanying: *Rest, W/M: Harland/Williams; #3220 (SATB) © 2009*
- ☐ Modulation-Transposition – The hymns are listed from both 1991 edition of THE BAPTIST HYMNAL and Baptist Hymnal 2008.

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