

PA WEST- PFMC FESTIVALS COMPETITION 2026

To: Junior Studios Who Participate in PFMC Festivals

From: Martha Heise, State Festivals Chair, (PFMC) Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs

The PFMC is a music organization that is just over 100 years old. Our purpose is to promote American composers and encourage American musicians to reach their highest potential. PFMC is Federated through the National Federation of Music Clubs, the largest philanthropic, non-profit music organization in the United States.

The PFMC Festivals Competition is open to Juniors (through age 18) who participate in the 2026 Festivals and meet all requirements listed below. The purpose of this competition is to offer Festivals entrants the opportunity to take their music to the next level to earn plaques and ribbons and then continue on to the Statewide Competition on April 18, in Williamsport, to compete for monetary awards.

Requirements to participate:

1. Entrants must participate in the 2026 Festivals- Piano Solo, Ensemble, or Concerto.

2. 2026 Festivals Competition limited to Medium Level and Higher.

3. Entrants play their Required Piece (listed in Festivals Bulletin) used for the 2026 Festivals.

4. Rating for 2026 Festivals Piano Event must be SUPERIOR Rating.

5. Applications must be received by April 1, 2026.

**6. Application Fee for 1 event is \$35. Application Fee for 2-3 events is \$50
This fee is non- refundable.**

7. A *COPY* of both judging sheets and a *COPY* of the PFMC state certificate must be included with application. (Be certain to keep the original documents.)

8. Ensembles and Concertos do not compete at the Regional Level.

- **LOCATION of Competition for the West side of PA is:**

Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra (PYCO), 150 Lake Drive, Wexford, PA 15090

- **DATE of Competition for the West side of PA is: April 11, 2026, beginning at 10 am**

SAVE THE DATE

PFMC WEST PIANO COMPETITION

April 11, 2026 10 am

Judging Guidelines for Federation Festivals use 90-100% as a guide for Superior Rating. Festivals Competition judges will receive a printed copy of Festivals Guidelines prior to the adjudication date and are expected to adhere to the guidelines. Judges should have no connection to any entrant competing in the Festivals Competition. Decision of the judges is FINAL. Entrants may or may not receive comment sheets from judges depending on number of entrants. Each entrant will receive a certificate of participation.

Winners from each level will go on to compete at State Competition in Williamsport on April 18th.

The top PFMC Award, the Aikens-Cadman Award or the Suzanne & Paul Anderson Memorial Award will be awarded at the State Competition for the Overall Best Performance.

Due by April 1, 2026:

- *Competition Application and Registration Fee (check payable to PFMC)
- *State Certificate (Copy) and copies of judges' rating sheets. (keep all originals)

Scan/email pdf to Charlene Hubbard, charlenehubbard@hotmail.com

Make checks payable to PFMC (with Festivals Competition on Memo Line) to:

Charlene Hubbard, 203 Lakeview Dr., Moon Twp. 15108-9775

Please write on memo line: Festivals Competition

Questions or more information: PA WEST Competition Chair- Charlene Hubbard, charlenehubbard@hotmail.com

Hope to see many musicians participate in the PFMC Festivals Competition!
Martha Heise- State Festivals Chair- (814) 677-9989 mheise@mail.ocasd.org