

AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSIC
35th ANNUAL GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CONTEST
www.americanguild.org

Dear Instructors,

The time has arrived once again to begin planning for the AGM Great Lakes Regional Contest! You will find in your packet all the information for the 34th annual **Great Lakes Regional Contest** which is being held **April 27 -April 29, 2012** –at the *Westin Hotel at Metropolitan Airport* in Romulus, Michigan. Please read the enclosed material in its entirety as many changes and improvements have been made. For complete details, please read the 2012 Rules and Regulations. All areas of change appear in bold, italicized print. You can obtain copies of all AGM Contest forms on line at www.americanguild.org/glr.html

This year's Great Lakes Regional Contest will be held once again at the Westin Hotel at the airport. The room rate this year is \$99.00 Single room, \$105 Double Room per night. Hopefully you will be able to take advantage of this discount and have your students stay at the Westin. We need to increase the rooms that we sell this year, so we can use it as bargaining power to switch to another hotel for next year. As it stands at the time of this publication, and barring any changes in airport security, those guests staying overnight at the hotel will once again have access to the food shops and stores within the Northwest terminal – *but remember, you must be an overnight guest at the hotel to enter!* You'll want to make your hotel reservations early so as not to miss out on this opportunity. Please encourage all your students to stay at the hotel as we need to sell rooms to keep the contest expenses steady.

We ask that you pay particularly close attention to our time deadlines throughout this year's contest entry process. Please make note that we will only field phone calls from teachers or studio personnel. ***Please inform all parents and students that under no circumstances will we field any phone calls from parents or students regarding changes to the schedule! We will ignore these calls because*** We simply do not have the personnel to handle phone calls from parents/students. One more reminder: when calling about corrections or changes, ***please call the provided number only***

Other items of importance:

***We will use the 2009-2011 Syllabus & the 2012-2014 Syllabus for the Test List**
***All Entries that are mailed must be received by February 12, 2012** (late entries will not be accepted without a late payment fee of \$20.00 PER STUDENT and the permission of the Contest Director) on line registration begins February 1, 2012 and ends February 22, 2012

Please read the info sheet in the newsletter and the 2012 rules.
Helpful Reminders:

NEW AWARDS POLICY!

It is the responsibility of each teacher to have a representative present at both awards ceremonies to pick up awards for their students. Those awards that are not picked up at the appropriate ceremony will be charged a \$20.00 handling fee per award plus all shipping costs. Any awards not received at the Saturday Night Awards presentation will not be given out on the following Sunday Awards Ceremony. This includes score sheet packets. Teachers please designate someone to be at the awards if you can not be present.

*Our on-line registration procedure is available again this year (see enclosed information for details).

*Please remember to list the name of the Test List song for each student included on the registration form.

*We are making more improvements to the new piano practice schedule system for all students staying overnight at the hotel. All students must show their room keys and badges to sign up for practice.

Facilities Usage Fee & Program Fee

There is a charge of \$12.00 per each family attending to cover the hotel costs. That fee will be credited to the hotel bill of the students who stay at the Westin. This charge helps defray the hotel rental fee and helps evenly spread the costs evenly across the entire contest enrollment. All students must pay the \$5.00 program fee and will receive a program when they register at the contest.

On-Line Registration Entry

Once again we will have an online registration system. Online Registration is available for AGM Members only. If you are an AGM Member you should have received via email a login code and password for past contests. The same password is valid. . If you have not, please email a request to agm@americanguild.org. Only AGM member teachers or teachers of a member Studio Store will be able to register their students on line. Members can reset their passwords when logging in. Online Registration is fast and efficient since information for all students who have entered the contests in the past will be all ready in the data base and there will be no need to retype this information. Confirmations will be immediately emailed upon submission. All payment will be done through pay pal. Online Registration begins February 1, 2012 and ends February 22, 2012. All teachers registering their students on line will receive a discount on the enrollment fee and pay \$3.00 per student.

Contest Enrollment Form – Manual

Please take the time to fill out this form correctly! Please print legibly and use **BLACK INK. DO NOT USE PENCIL**. Forms received in blue ink or pencil do not fax well and risk the chance of having students names spelled wrong because pencil or blue ink is illegible. Remember that the following are considered separate instruments and should be entered as separate instruments: *Keyboard and Sequenced Keyboard; Drum Set and Snare Drum; Guitar, Classic Guitar, Finger Style Guitar, Hard Rock Guitar and Bass Guitar*. Be sure to fill out the accounting form completely for each student including their date of birth, regardless of what divisions in which they are entered. All teachers registering their students manually must charge their students the \$7.00 enrollment fee.

Group and Duet Enrollment Forms

The Group Enrollment Form is used for all groups, bands, ensembles, pop combos and battle of the bands. This form ties in with the group section on your accounting forms. The entry form includes a box to mark as well as a space to write the group number. You provide the group number. The same is true for duets – mark the box and provide us with a duet number. These numbers that you provide us for groups and duets help us assign the correct players to each group and duet. You may download these forms at the GLR page at www.americanguild.org

Contest Grants

We would like to see all students participate in the Great Lakes Regional Contest. We have increased the number of grants are that are available for students of member teachers. The Student must submit an essay titled “Why I want to attend the Great Lakes Regional Contest” and the teacher must send a letter describing why the student deserves a grant. Take advantage of the grants by sending in your essay before January 30, 2012 to PO Box 599, Warren, MI 48090 or email to agm@americanguild.org.

Contest Poster Included

Please place the contest poster in a prominent location in your studio, to let all of your students know that it's time to enter the largest musical contest in North America!

Scheduling Change Policy.

Please note that it is the teachers responsibility to check all entries for accuracy. Once a schedule has been released a teacher has the opportunity to submit changes up to 72 hours before the start of the contest. No changes will take place 72 hours before the contest or at the contest. All changes must be accompanied by a \$5 change fee.

Rick Chizmadia will be fielding all general contest questions. You can reach Rick at 248-686-1975 or at agm@americanguild.org.

See you at the **35th Great Lakes Regional Contest** - April 27- April 29,2012
The 2012 GLR Contest Committee

35th Annual Great Lakes Regional Contest Information

General Information

All students must submit a \$5.00 program fee and a \$12.00 Facilities fee is assessed per family. An enrollment fee will be assessed per student. \$3.00 per student for online registration, \$7.00 per student for mailed or faxed entries. AGM member teachers may register online only. All entry forms must be printed legibly in black ink. Do not fold or staple. Completed entry forms and payments should be mailed to AGM Great Lakes Regional Contest, PO Box 599, Warren, Michigan 48090. Make checks/money orders payable to the American Guild of Music. Checks must be payable in U.S. Funds. Incomplete entry forms or entry forms without payment will be held until information or payment arrives. On line entries can be paid by paypal or a check can be sent int to the PO box. All checks must be recieved within 48 of entering students on line. Sorry, no refunds will be given, unless entries are rejected by the Contest Director. On line Registration begins February 1 and ends February 22. **All entries mailed must be received by February 12, 2012**

Late entries will not be accepted without a late payment fee of \$20.00 PER STUDENT and the permission of the contest director. A limited amount of scholarship funds are available as grants. See Scholarship Information elsewhere in NEWS. Accommodations for those with disabilities will be made for those who submit a request in writing. Official Year 2012 Entry forms, Rules and Regulations, and a 2012-2014 AGM Syllabus may be obtained on line at www.americanguild.org. or e-mail membership@americanguild.org We will accept Test list entries from the 2009-2011 syllabus also. For further information, contest updates call the AGM hotline at 248.686.1975, or go to www.americanguild.org

ELIGIBILITY & Membership

All students must be entered by their own teacher. The teacher or the studio must be a member of the American Guild of Music. An individual teacher may become a Professional member for a \$55.00 new member fee or \$40.00 renewal. This allows the professional teacher to enter only their students. A music studio with more than one teacher may become a Studio Store member for a \$80.00 new member fee, or a \$60.00 renewal. This fee allows all teachers at the studio to enter students. **All dues must be sent to 35176 Lana Lane Sterling Hts, MI 48312**

Awards Ceremony

Students and Teachers who participate in the Great Lakes Regional Contest should plan to attend the Grand Awards Ceremony held on Sunday evening. Entertainment is provided while waiting for the contests to end. All trophy presentations will be done at this time, except for Evaluation Trophies, which are given out at the time of performance. All score sheets are given at the end of the awards ceremony. A representative from each studio must be present to obtain any awards for that studio. No awards will be shipped. All NAIC winners must be present.

Contest Hours

Friday, April 27 2012	Saturday, April 28, 2012	Sunday, April 29, 2012
Test List 4PM - 9PM	Solos 8AM- 6PM	Solos 8AM - 5PM
Other Solos 4PM - 9PM		
Groups 5PM - 11PM	Groups 8AM - 11PM	Groups 8AM - 5PM
	Test List and Duet Awards 7PM	Grande Awards 5:30PM
	<i>(all times are approximate and subject to change)</i>	

2012 Contest Fees

SOLOS: \$16.00 for the first solo \$14 each (for 2nd and 3rd solos) \$9.00 each (for four or more additional solos) \$22.00 for Evaluation Solo ONLY

N.A.I.C. Qualifications \$25.00 Concerto \$25.00

Duets \$10.00 per person

Ensembles, Bands & Pop Combos \$7.00 per person

Showband/Showchoir \$30.00 per group plus \$4.00 per member

Battle of the Bands \$30.00 per band plus \$10.00 per member

Theory Test (levels 1-9) \$2.00 per level Theory Test (level 10) \$10.00 (pre pay all levels)

Program Fee - \$5.00 per student Facilities Usage Fee-\$12.00 per Family

Enrollment Fee - \$7.00 per student mail-in registration.

\$3.00 per student for online registration

Join the American Guild of Music

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Email _____
Business Phone _____ Business Name _____
Instruments taught _____

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP - Open to Artist, Teachers, Orchestra Members, Arrangers, Composers, etc. First Time Dues \$55.00 Yearly renewal \$40.00 Voting status

STUDIO- STORE MEMBERSHIP - Open to Music Stores and Studios engaged in musical instruction with multiple teachers. (all teachers can enter contests) and/or retailing of musical instruments and merchandise. First Time dues \$80.00 Yearly Renewal \$60.00

MUSIC PUBLISHER/TRADE \$150.00 annual fee **ASSOCIATE MEMBER** \$30.00 (non voting status) **COLLEGE STUDENT** \$20.00 (non voting status)

open to parents, members of family or hobbyists

Mail to American Guild of Music 35176 Lana Lane, Sterling Hts, MI 48312

What's New In Contest Rules

Every year, the American Guild of Music's Board of Directors make amendments to the rules that govern AGM Contests. This year, we have no new rules or divisions to report, just a few change in policies. Here is a recap of the most important policy changes for this year:

The top five contestants in Vocal Broadway and Vocal Classical will advance to the NEWS Vocal Age Finals Division at Nationals. The words Length of Study will no longer appear and instead be called Vocal Solos.

•Scheduling Change Policy. Please note it the teachers responsibility to check all entries for accuracy. Once a schedule has been released A teacher has the opportunity to submit changes up to 72 hours before the start of the contest. All changes must be accompanied by a \$15 change fee. NO EXCEPTIONS.

NEW AWARDS POLICY!

It is the responsibility of each teacher to have a representative present at both awards ceremonies to pick up awards for their students. Those

awards that are not picked up at the appropriate ceremony will be charged a \$20.00 handling fee per award plus all shipping costs. Any awards not received at the Saturday Night Awards presentation will not be given out on the following Sunday Awards Ceremony. This includes score sheet packets. Teachers please designate someone to be at the awards if you can not be present.

Joyce Lucido - Walter Truszkowski Memorial Award

NEW! All Students attending the Great Lakes Regional Contest will have an opportunity to win the Joyce Lucido - Walter Truszkowski Memorial Awards. All they have to do is compose a minimum 50 word essay entitled "What the AGM Great Lakes Regional Contest means to me" All essays must be submitted in person to the AGM registration desk no later than 4PM on Saturday of the Great Lakes Regional. The winning essay will be read at the Sunday Award Ceremony and the student will have \$250.00 paid towards thier National Contest expenses. Eligible contest expenses are all entry fees, banquet fees and hotel fees up to the amount of \$250.00 No cash will be awarded.

Tips To A Successful Contest Experience!

The following are a few tips to the competitors that if followed should make your contest experience an enjoyable one.

Well before the deadline entry date establish your song list and begin working on them as soon as possible.

Practice! Practice! Practice!

Be sure you have original music for all your selections. Photocopies are prohibited and you may not be permitted to play if you give the judge photocopies. Memorize all your pieces. If music is used, 10 points will be deducted from your score.

Dress for success! A strict dress code is in effect for all performances—absolutely no jeans and t-shirts are permitted

Before you begin playing, take a deep breath and check your settings, like the piano bench, pedal, reeds, tuning of string instruments etc. Make sure you are comfortable and in control before you strike your first note.

Practice playing in front of an audience in the weeks leading up to the contest. People will be watching you perform so you must get used to the attention.

While at the contest, take the time to listen to other students perform—this in itself is a valuable learning experience

Be sure your instrument is in perfect working condition before the competition, anticipating potential problems is important as well. Guitar and violin players should have a spare set of strings and rosin in their cases at all times; wind instrumentalists must carry a few extra reeds and cleaning tools; pianist should wear comfortable shoes for pedaling; vocalist must ensure that their cd's do not skip and warm up before performing. Drummers should have a spare set of sticks.

Be open minded, have fun and enjoy the musical experience! Oh, and did we say PRACTICE?

It's Time to Apply For The Great Lakes Regional Grant

The Great Lakes Regional offers a Grant for AGM members that will cover the entry fees for the contestant. The student submits an essay titled 'Why I Want to Attend the Great Lakes Regional Contest' and the teacher sends a letter describing why the student deserves a grant.

Deadline is January 30, 2012.

Send to:
2877 Alpine Terrace
Cincinnati, OH 45208
e-mail to:

AGM@americanguild.org

Room Rates for 2012 Contest Are Held Steady For 3rd Year In A Row

The host hotel for the **35th annual Great Lakes Regional Contest** is the Westin Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The hotel is located at the end of the McNamara Terminal. Easy access to the hotel via I-275 or I- 94. Special AGM rates are \$99.00 for singles rooms and \$105 a night for doubles. Rates do not include state or local taxes. Check in date for the convention is April 27, 2012 and the official check out day is April 29, 2012. These rates are available a day prior and a day after the contest. Reservations must be place by 5:00 PM March 28, 2011. Any reservations after the cut-off date will be accepted at the hotel's prevailing rate. All reservations received by that date will have the facilities usage fee refunded to their hotel bill. Hotel guests are scheduled to have terminal access to shops and restaurants pending a background check.

To ensure room availability, please make your reservations before March 27, 2012

For each teacher who has students reserving at least 20 rooms for 2 nights or 30 rooms for one night, they will get one free room for one night to be used at the contest. This room can be used for themselves, or they can designate the room to a student. All rooms must be individually booked. A list of all the families that are booking rooms must be submitted to us in writing by March 17, 2012. Upon confirmation of all the rooms booked, a free room will be reserved by us for that teacher or the designated student. Send all booking information to PO Box 599, Warren, MI 48090. Call for reservations at 734-942-6500. Or book on line at <http://www.americanguild.org/glr.html> or (copy and paste the following link into a web browser) <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1112206713&key=D826B>

Parking INFO

Valet Parking is \$5.00 per day. Self Parking is \$1.00 per day. The entrance to long term parking is located on the lowest level international arrival level on the left hand side. **Be sure to park in Long-Term Parking.** Section B of each level will be closest to the terminal entrance. Parking Coupons will be distributed at the AGM registration desk.