



WMTA SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL

First Baptist Church, Waco, Texas

INFORMATION AND CATEGORIES

Students will play two selections within the following guidelines:

CATEGORY I

- Two Simplified Hymns of the student's choice
- OR**
- One Simplified Hymn **and** a hymn-based arrangement suitable for a prelude.

CATEGORY II

- One hymn of choice from the **Celebrating Grace Hymnal** played as written in 4-part harmony. The student will play an introduction to set tempo and one verse (no singing). Judges will listen for tempo consistency as well as breaths between phrases.
- One arrangement of a hymn tune suitable for a prelude.

CATEGORY III

- Same as Category II, but add a 2nd verse to be played with congregational singing. The first verse must be as written but students are encouraged to play the introduction and verse two freely as desired.
- One hymn-based arrangement suitable for prelude.

CATEGORY IV

- Two hymns of choice from the Celebrating Grace Hymnal. Same criteria as Category III, except the introduction and 2nd verse are **required** to be embellished/altered freely as desired in at least one of the hymns.

***Please note: Christmas music for the hymn arrangement is discouraged in order for students to be motivated to prepare a new piece in a timely manner, as is a required skill for church musicians.

* **Celebrating Grace Hymnal only for all hymns** *