



SAM AND ROSE LICATA MEMORIAL CONTEST

(Updated 3-21-2025)

This is one of the Illinois Music Association programs and is in memory of two most dedicated contest organizers, Sam and Rose Licata. This contest is held on the 2nd day of IMA State Olympic Contest, **Sunday 6/1**, and at the same location, but has different rules, procedures and prizes. In this event the top-level students playing any instrument or singing, will compete against each other. See below for more details.

1. **DATE:** Sunday, June 1, 2025.
2. **FEE:** \$50 per student; no additional charges for credit card payments.
3. **AWARDS:** 1st place - \$150 and the name engraved on the IMA permanent plaque; 2nd place - \$100; 3rd place - \$75. Each of the top 3 ranked competitors will be awarded a plaque and receive the 'Finalist of the Memorial Contest' ribbon. All other competitors receive the participation ribbon.
4. **FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE: March 1, 2025. Registration starts on January 6, 2025.**
5. **ELIGIBILITY:** NMA students enrolled in the 3rd and 4th quarter
6. **ENTRY:** Each student can enter this event with only one instrument or vocal selection. Students can enter both IMA State Olympic Contest and the Memorial Contest, the same year.
7. **CATEGORIES:** piano and strings **only** **Senior and Virtuoso** levels. **Singers:** it is strongly recommended that younger singers wait to register for this event until they reach at least junior year in high school, when the difficulty of their repertoire matches the one of the instrumentalists. Other instruments are also welcome, but their repertoire must be approved by the Memorial Contest committee.
8. **PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT:** 1 piece only, up to 15 min in length. If the piece exceeds the time limit, the performer will be stopped by the judges, or the room monitor, after the 15 min mark. No penalties will be imposed if the student is stopped after the time limit.
9. **AGE LIMIT:** maximum age 20
10. **MUSIC REQUIREMENTS:** students can enter with music from the IMA Competition required lists or choose a different song. Students choosing songs not on the IMA Competition required lists must submit the PDF of their sheet music with their registration (1 PDF document per song). No. jpegs allowed.
 - Students are not allowed to enter the Memorial Contest with the song they performed at this event in previous years.
11. **ORIGINAL MUSIC AND MEASURE NUMBERS:** Students must own original sheet music. It must be a clean copy only with measure numbers written in. The music will be submitted to the judge at the start of the competition event. Not having original music will disqualify a student from competing and they will be able to perform for comments only. 5 points will be deducted if the measure numbers are not marked, and the student would not be eligible to place among the top 3.
12. The sheet music must have only **a contestant number** on it. Penalties will be imposed on students who have the name of the student, teacher or music studio written on the sheet music presented to the judge.
13. Repeats are optional, except when they are integral to the form on the piece (da capo, 1st and 2nd ending, etc).
14. Students may warm up with a scale or a piece other than the one they will be performing at the contest.
15. **JUDGING CRITERIA:** Students are judged on accuracy in following the score and general musicianship such as expression, phrasing, interpretation, pedaling, etc. Accuracy and attention to details are of the essence.



16. **Music must be fully memorized.** 5 points will be deducted if the measure numbers are not marked, and the student would not be eligible to place among the top 3.
17. Contestants, parents, or people affiliated with the competitors are **not permitted** to talk with the panel of judges. Violation of this rule will create sufficient reason for the contestant's disqualification.
18. **Winners Recital:** All Memorial Contest competitors are eligible to participate in Winners Recital, on June 14, at the Beacon Hill Retirement Community in Lombard. Tentative times: 10 am and 2 pm. The event is free for performers and their families and friends. After the competition, all first-place winners will receive information on how to register for this event.

WHAT TO DO IF INTERESTED:

1. Consult your teacher to determine if your child should enter this competition and what would be the appropriate song. We strongly encourage you to take your teacher's repertoire suggestion, since their experience will help choose the song that is most appropriate for the student's age and proficiency level.
2. Fill out the google form or bring the completed hard copy of the registration form and the participation fee (see above) by March 1, 2025.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions.