

MMTA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTING (SAT)

WHAT IS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTING (SAT)?

The Achievement Testing Program is sponsored by the Michigan Music Teachers Association and is administered annually by the various local associations throughout the state. The program is a systematic, graded study incorporating the following:

PERFORMANCE: Three memorized pieces of differing styles

THEORY: Written tests

TECHNIC: Scales, chords, arpeggios, cadences

AURAL AWARENESS: Hearing & labeling of musical components as well as
Melody Playback

SIGHT READING: Playing new music & rhythms at sight

TRANSPOSITION: Transposing short melodies or pieces

CHORD HARMONIZATION: Adding chords, according to chord symbols as well as Roman numerals, to a given melody as well as a bass line in higher levels.

The testing provides a non-competitive opportunity for musical development and to encourage students at each level to work for a clear understanding of important elements of structure and style in music. The program is divided into thirteen levels to enable a student to participate from elementary through high school.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE SAT PROGRAM?

A teacher who is a member of MMTA may enter any student, grades K through 12, or adult student, who has been under their instruction for at least 6 months.

WHEN AND WHERE DOES SAT TAKE PLACE?

Student Achievement Testing is scheduled annually in the spring, usually during March. S.A.T. Centers are located throughout the state, each Center being affiliated with a local MMTA affiliate.

IS THERE A FEE?

A fee is required to participate in the annual program. This covers the cost of test and curriculum printing, rental of facilities and equipment, performance judges, and certificates and trophies.

WHY SHOULD A STUDENT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

Growth realized in preparing for the Student Achievement Tests is invaluable. The program offers the same kind of motivation for learning and recognition for achievement that students obtain for other parts of their education, encouraging a sense of accomplishment while developing commitment and self-discipline. Results of the program can be sent to the student's school to become incorporated into his/her permanent academic record.

HOW DO I PREPARE MY STUDENTS?

Complete information is located in the Student Achievement Handbook which you receive as a member of MMTA.

HOW DO I ENTER MY STUDENTS?

Teachers, please refer to the google forms, and pdf information forms on this website, for dates, pages to print, and more specifics.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTING SEMI-FINALS AND STATE DAY:

Local Student Achievement Testing is a complete event for students in Levels 1 - 5, and may be considered as such for those in Levels 6 - 12. However, a competition in PERFORMANCE ONLY is held for students in Levels 6 - 12 who wish to compete and who meet the eligibility requirements described in the Handbook. Semi-Finals Day, which occurs a few weeks after local Achievement Testing, is held at three different sites in Michigan. Finalists from this event are chosen to compete at State Student Day at the central location of the Music School at Michigan State University.

AWARDS AND TROPHIES:

Local: Certificates are awarded to all participants. Trophies are awarded every two years to students receiving a score of at least 70% each year. All five areas of testing must be at the same level each year. If a student skips a year or fails to qualify the second year, the next year will be considered the second year. If a student misses more than one year, it is the teacher's responsibility to provide documentation. Any high school senior is eligible for a Senior trophy providing their score is at least 70% and the student has participated for two years.

Semi-Finals: All Semi-Finalists receive a certificate with calligraphy writing, including the MMTA logo.

Finals (State Student Day): All participants receive a plaque with the MMTA logo, "MMTA Student Day Finalist", and the year engraved on the metal plate.