

To: Horseheads High School Guidance Department
From: Rich Preston
Date: January 2025
Re: **The Thursday Morning Musicales 61st Award Competition**

Thursday Morning Musicales was founded in 1908 with the mission "to stimulate the serious study of music among its members and to advance the interest of music in Elmira." The Marge MacPherson Awards are granted to Chemung County high school seniors who will be continuing their study of music in college or at an accredited school of music. A major in music is not mandatory. This is the 61st year that Thursday Morning Musicales has presented an annual award. It is the second year that the award has been made in honor of Marge MacPherson, a long-time Elmira area music educator and supporter of the Arts.

We are pleased to announce the Thursday Morning Musicales' 61st Annual Award Competition to be held on **Thursday, April 10, 2025** at 9:30 am. The competition will take place at **North Presbyterian Church**, located at 921 College Ave. in Elmira.

High school seniors who attend school in Chemung County and are planning to continue their study of music in college are eligible to enter the competition. A major in Music is not mandatory.

Three prizes are awarded;

First place- **\$2000** Second place- **\$1000** Third place- **\$500**

Please inform your students about the Competition by **Friday, February 7** so that those who elect to participate will have adequate time to choose and prepare their musical presentations.

Enclosed is a poster, **Competition Instructions** and the **Application Form**.

The **deadline** for returning the **Application Form** is **Friday, March 14, 2025.**

WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT LATE APPLICATIONS.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you! I look forward to working with you.

Rich Preston

rpreston2014@gmail.com

607-873-3114

Application

The 2025 Thursday Morning Musicales'
Annual Marge MacPherson Award Competition
Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 9:30am in North Presbyterian Church

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Name: _____ School: _____
Address/City/State/Zip _____
Parent & Student Phone # _____
Email: _____

What are your future plans for studying music? _____

What experiences have you had in group playing, singing, or accompanying?

What public appearances have you made? _____

To what colleges/schools of music have you applied?
First Choice: _____
Second Choice: _____
Third Choice: _____

You will be competing: *(Please check)*
Instrumentally _____ Your instrument: _____
Vocally _____

List in order the pieces you will perform for the competition:
1. _____ Composer _____
2. _____ Composer _____

Accompanist Name: _____

Music Teacher's Signature: _____

Mail your application to: Rich Preston 255 Ridge Road, Horseheads New York 14845
or email your application to: rpreston2014@gmail.com

Deadline: Applications must be received no later than **Friday, March 14, 2025**

The Thursday Morning Musicales'
61st Annual
Marge MacPherson Award Competition
Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:30am
North Presbyterian Church, 921 College Ave., Elmira, NY

Competition Instructions

1. You will be given a minimum of 5 minutes prior to the competition to test the sound system and piano the day of the competition. *You will be assigned a specific time.*
2. You will have a total of 12 minutes for your presentation.
3. **Please prepare two selections showing different styles of music. It is important that the selections are a contrast in genre - not two movements of the same piece.** You may choose to perform in two categories (instrumental and/or vocal presentation) within the 12-minute allotted period of time.
4. **Piano accompaniment is required of all soloists unless a selection specifically does not require accompaniment.**
Note: If your selection includes long "accompanist only" passages, please attempt to shorten those passages if at all possible.
Pre-Recorded piano accompaniments may be used under certain circumstances if approved beforehand with the committee.
5. Memorization is encouraged but not required. However, memorization will be considered as an advantage by the judges.
6. Poise, presentation, and musical ability will be considered by the judges.
7. **Please provide the three judges with a copy of each musical selection.**
8. Please use the microphone to introduce yourself and your accompanist, and to announce the titles and composers of the musical selections to be performed. The microphone may also be used, if desired, for the performance.
9. Your music teacher(s), family, and friends are most welcome to attend the Competition.

The top three winners will receive their prize at our annual luncheon on Thursday, May 15, where each will perform one selection. Meals are provided for each winner and one guest. Additional guests extra charge.

Questions? Contact Rich Preston ~ rpreston2014@gmail.com, 607-873-3114