Fall 2020

GPSA Graduation

Dear GPSA Colleagues,

Even though we are all hunkered down and socially distanced from our students, we will still hold our GPSA Graduation Recitals in March! Our committee has been considering all sorts of issues that need to be addressed, and we ask that you have patience with us as we sort everything out and make decisions along the way.

Right now I can tell you that after the students receive their evaluations from a listening committee, they will then be asked to make a performance video of their recital pieces in their own homes. We will ask them to dress in recital clothing and take dignified bows before and after they perform. We have hired a videographer who will put these performance videos into two varied recitals that we will then all watch together on some format. We hope to have the trophies visible to everyone so that the students can see their awards, and then we will organize a way to deliver the trophies to the teachers.

We are not sure yet how we will do a dress rehearsal. Our thought right now is that we will meet on Zoom in small groups, and the students will perform their pieces for the group before they make their recital videos. This will probably be in mid-February, and the videos will be due shortly after that.

A special note to string teachers:

The students are not required to play with accompaniment when they submit their first videos with their applications. However, if you know someone who can provide a high quality accompaniment, we urge you to send in your videos with accompaniment. The listening committee will evaluate the accompanist and hopefully approve him/her for use in the recital.

If you do not use an accompanist in the first videos, there are two options. The first one is to use the accompaniment track on the Suzuki violin recordings. If you don't have them, I understand that they are available on the Alfred Music website. The second option is to contact Sue Bakshi at 215-527-9382 to arrange for her to record an accompaniment track for the student.

Please be assured that as more decisions are made for this event, you will be kept informed. We thank you in advance for your flexibility this year as we work through extraordinary circumstances. We will all work together to give our students the quality event that they deserve.

Joan Krzywicki and Carole Mayers