

Trophies & Awards

History Maker Award

These are special Awards reserved for two types of “history makers” ...

- ♪ First, **there is the occasional student who does something no other student at Hegarty Piano Studio has ever done before** ... such as when a student performs perfect at the Annual Recital two years in a row ... or when someone learns all of the 12 major scales and the 12 minor scales in six months or less ... or when someone learns twelve Stage-Two Challenge Songs in 12 months. (No one has done any of these things ... yet.)
- ♪ Then, **there are the students who have reached a “landmark” in their own music studies** ... such as when they perform in all of the Community Service Performances held in one year ... when they perform a song by memory at the Annual Recital for the first time ... or when the student completes every Challenge Assignment given out over one year.

Audience Choice Award

These special Awards are the results of the Recital audience’s votes in these categories ...

- ♪ Adagio Award - to the student who received the most votes by the audience *for the best slow song*
- ♪ Andante Award - to the student who received the most votes by the audience *for the best mid-speed song*
- ♪ Allegro Award - to the student who received the most votes by the audience *for the best fast song*
- ♪ Espressivo Award - to the student who received the most votes by the audience *for the most expressive performance*
- ♪ Bravissimo Awards - to one student at each level (Primer, Beginner, Pre-Intermediate, & Intermediate) who received the most votes by the audience *for the best performance at each level*

Recital Performance Award

These special trophies are given to every student, based on the quality of their Annual Recital performance. To make the decisions, Miss Nancy goes back over the video of all the performances individually at least three times with a “Performance Checklist” ... and sometimes as many as ten times just to be sure. It’s not just “stumbles & pauses” that she listens for -- the “Performance Checklist” includes an evaluation of rhythm, speed, steady runs, clean chords, harmonic balance & dynamics, and expressive interpretation.

On the next page, the “performance requirements” are outlined by level of study. After that, there is a description of each of the six levels of the Recital Performance Award.

Performance Requirements by Level of Study

Primer Students

Performance piece must be played:

- ♪ with the correct notes and rhythm,
- ♪ at a steady speed, and
- ♪ with the correct dynamics.

Beginner Students

Performance piece must be played:

- ♪ with the correct notes and rhythm,
- ♪ at a steady speed,
- ♪ with all runs steady, even and complete,
- ♪ with all intervals & chords played clean, solid and accurate,
- ♪ with a harmonic/melodic balance (left hand softer than right hand),
- ♪ with the correct dynamics, and
- ♪ with legato or staccato played as written.

Pre-Intermediate & Intermediate Students

Performance piece must be played:

- ♪ with the correct notes and rhythm,
- ♪ at the correct speed,
- ♪ with all runs played steady, even and complete,
- ♪ with all ornaments (trills, grace notes, etc.) correctly executed,
- ♪ with all intervals & chords played clean, solid and accurate,
- ♪ with a harmonic/melodic balance (non-melody softer than melody),
- ♪ with the correct dynamics, and
- ♪ with all articulation marks played as written.

There are six levels of the Recital Performance Award that are explained, from “lowest” to “highest”, on the next page.

♪ ***“Bravery Under Pressure” Trophy ...*** This is probably the hardest one to get, even though it is the smallest. In order to receive this trophy, the student must maintain his or her composure - and stay “cool” and dignified, even though they are having major trouble with their piece and are stumbling through the song with a lot of mistakes and pauses.

Well, let me tell you ... this scenario has happened to me a few times over the years and I know from my own experience that “staying cool” when this is happening is very hard to do - especially when you are nervous, under pressure, and “in the spotlight” in front of a lot of strangers watching you with your family & friends. Continuing on and trying - and then having to bow & walk off stage with your head up - takes a lot of courage and dignity.

And so, to honor the bravery of these students, we have the ***“Bravery Under Pressure” Trophy***, which is accompanied by 250 Incentive Program points.

♪ ***“Performance Achievement” Trophy ...*** This trophy is for the students who played pretty good. These students might have had one or two large stumbles or perhaps a lot of little ones ... or maybe a couple of long pauses ... but they kept on and were able to play with most of the expression & flow of the music, despite the stumbles or pauses.

And so, to honor the persevering musicianship of these students, we have the ***“Performance Achievement” Trophy***, which is accompanied by 500 Incentive Program points.

♪ ***“Outstanding Performance” Trophy ...*** This trophy is for the students who played very well. These students played with one or two very slight stumbles or pauses that were noticeable to the audience - and they maintained excellent technique and expression throughout the rest of the piece. This is probably the second hardest trophy to get because, once a noticeable stumble occurs, it is very hard to stop it from distracting you and causing more stumbles.

And so, to honor the outstanding musicianship of these students, we have the ***“Outstanding Performance” Trophy***, which is accompanied by 1,000 Incentive Program points.

♪ ***“Best Performance” Trophy ...*** This trophy is for the students who played almost perfect. These students made only one or two very, very small mistakes that were sooo small only Miss Nancy could hear them ... and the rest of the song was “perfect” in expression, technique, and musicianship.

To honor the “almost perfect” performances of these students, we have the ***“Best Performance” Trophy***, which is accompanied by 2,500 Incentive Program Points.

♪ ***“BB Perfect Performance” Trophy ...*** This trophy is for the students who played totally perfect with one big exception ... they lost their places in the music & had a long pause while they looked at the printed music, found where they were and picked it back up where they left off. Usually this happens when the

student is playing by memory and not watching the music. A long pause normally calls for a “Bravery Under Pressure” Trophy, but these students were also able to restart the song “full force” and play beautifully perfect for the rest of the piece as well ... and I just couldn’t reduce their award to the bottom one just for one little memory slip.

So to honor the outstanding musicianship of these students, we have a **“BB Perfect Performance” Trophy** (or **“Brain Blank Perfect”**), which is accompanied by 2,500 Incentive Program points.

 **“Perfect Performance” Trophy ...** This trophy is the highest award possible. It is for the students who played perfect. Unlike the other trophies, the requirements for this one are the same for every study level. Perfect is perfect and that’s all there is. These students, regardless of level, played without any mistakes that were noticeable - even to Miss Nancy.

To honor the absolute best performances of the Recital, we have the **“Perfect Performance” Trophy**, which is accompanied by 5,000 Incentive Program points.