

Technique Tournament



**Saturday, November 8, 2025
Angelle Hall, UL Lafayette**

Sponsored by
Lafayette Area Music Teachers Association
and
The ULL School of Music and Performing Arts

Membership in LAMTA is not required for participation

PIANO TECHNIQUE TOURNAMENT RULES

Technique Tournament is a non-competitive event in which students are critiqued and rated on their technical skills. A student may enter any level. From that level the student is required to play three scales, three matching arpeggios, and one etude. Students may enter at any level and repeat levels at the teacher's discretion.

The Technique Tournament seeks to foster sequenced technical development in piano students. Each Technique Tournament level lists a set of keys with specific requirements for performance of scales and arpeggios.

SCALES: The student will play three scales. Two scales should be selected from those marked "Choice". One scale will be drawn at random from the list of scales for the level. All scales will be played with the metronome at the speed specified or faster. (Metronome is not required for the Preparatory A & B.) Unless noted otherwise, all scales will be played ascending and descending, hands together, parallel motion. Judges will allow two tries if the student requests them and will also permit several preliminary ticks of the metronome.

ARPEGGIOS: Matching arpeggios are played for each of the three scales with the requirements as indicated.

ETUDES: One is to be chosen. Memorization is not required. Metronome is required for Levels I and above. Teachers should use the metronome marking indicated in the music or choose a similar speed which is challenging, but comfortable, for the student. Fingering should be observed, but alterations marked in the music will be accepted. The selection should be played musically and ritardandos may be observed. Selection must be at least 16 measures in length. Prep level students may choose shorter pieces if needed.

SCORES: Students must play from a published score or a license download of the music. Measures numbers must be printed or handwritten.

AWARDS: Students will receive written comments, a certificate of proficiency if all requirements are met, and a special award if the performance receives a Superior rating.

FEES AND DEADLINES:

- Deadline for fees, Teacher Entry Form and Student Application Forms is **Saturday, October 25, 2025**.
- Fee is \$15.00 per student, non-refundable.
- Make checks payable to Lafayette Area Music Teachers Association.
- Mail or deliver to Courtney Oubre Legnon, 121 Alonda Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503.

PREPARATORY A

No metronome is required at this level, but it may be used.

SCALES: Option 1: Five-note scales for F C G D A E Major, hands separately or together.
Choice: one from F C G and one from D A E, hands together.

Option 2: Five-note scales for F C G D A E Minor, hands separately or together.
Choice: one from F C G Minor and one from D A E minor, hands together.

ARPEGGIOS: 2 octaves, hand-over-hand, ascending or ascending and descending.

ETUDES:

Option 1: Your choice of any solo or etude which utilizes one or more of the following skills:

- Patterns of five-note scales
- Block or broken triad chords
- Cross-over arpeggios
- Displacement of patterns for extended use of the keyboard
- Staccato and legato touches

Option 2: Choice of an Etude Resource:

- Bastien: *First Pops* (Kjos): 14, 15, 17
- Cabeza, Juan: *Diversions, 21 Progressive Etudes, Vol. 1:* any appropriate to level
- Dreyer, Paula and Marilyn Lowe: *Little Gems for Piano, Vol. 1:* any
- Faber: *Gold Star Performance, Primer* (FJH): 6, 10, 12, 16, 24, 30
- Faber: *Technique & Artistry Book 1* (FJH); 10, 18, 20, 22
- C. Goldston: *Fantastic Fingers, Bk. 1* (FJH) 4, 6, 8, 14, 16
- Guy: *Expressive Etudes, Primer*, (FJH); any
- Stecher: *Rock, Rhythm, & Rag, Bk. 1* (Schirmer): 2, 3, 5

PREPARATORY B

No metronome is required at this level, but it may be used.

SCALES: Option 1: Major scales for F C G D A E, 1 or 2 octaves, hands separately or together.
Choice: one from F C G and one from D A E, hands together.

Option 2: Minor scales for F C G D A E, 1 or 2 octaves, hands separately or together.
Choice: one from F C G Minor and one from D A E, minor, hands together.

ARPEGGIOS: 2 octaves, hand-over-hand, ascending and descending. Or
1 octave, ascending & descending, hands separately or together. Or
2 octaves, ascending & descending, hands separately or together.

ETUDES:

Option 1: Your choice of any solo or etude which utilizes one or more of the following skills:

- Two or more 5-note scale positions.
- Extension to a 6th in either or both hands.
- Use of thumb-turns or unusual patterns to extend range of keys
- Arpeggiated passages
- Shifts between I, IV, and V chord positions.
- Extended use of keyboard, 2 or more octave shifts.
- Staccato and legato touches, 2-note slurs.
- Balance between hands.


Option 2: Choice of an Etude Resource:

- Cabeza, Juan: *Diversions, 21 Progressive Etudes, Vol. 1*: any appropriate to level
- Celebration Series, *Piano Etudes, Vol. 1*: any appropriate to level
- Dreyer, Paula and Marilyn Lowe: *Little Gems for Piano, Vol. 1 or 2*: any appropriate to level
- Faber: *Technique & Artistry Book 1* (FJH); 29, 33, 38
- Frances Clark Library: *Piano Etudes for the Development of Musical Fingers, Vol. I*
- Gillock: *Autumn is Here* (Willis 9670)
- Gillock: *Clowns* (Willis 9992)
- C. Goldston: *Fantastic Fingers, Bk. 1 or 2* (FJH): any
- Guy: *Expressive Etudes, Primer*, (FJH); any appropriate to level
- Hirschberg/Lew: *Technic Is Fun, El. A* (Warner Bros.): any
- Myklas Contest Winners, *Bk. 1* (Alfred): 8, 10, 14, 16, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30
- Stecher: *Rock, Rhythm, & Rag, Bk. 1* (Schirmer): 6, 9, 12, 16

LEVEL I

Metronome is required.

SCALES: Keys of F C G D A E B Major and A D E minor, 2 octaves,  = 72, hands separately or together, ascending and descending.

Choice: One major and one minor from above, hands together,  = 72.

ARPEGGIOS: 2 octaves, hands separately or together, ascending and descending. **NO** metronome required.

ETUDES:

Option 1: Your choice of any solo or etude which utilizes one or more of the following skills:



- Major and/or minor scales.
- Chromatic patterns.
- Alberti bass patterns.
- Arpeggiated patterns.
- Parallel, contrary and oblique motion.
- Combinations of various articulations and touches.
- Balance between the hands.


Option 2: Choice from the Etude Resource List (See p. 5)

- Choose any etude from the Etude Resource List which utilizes the appropriate technique and musicality skills required at the early intermediate level or higher.

LEVEL II

Metronome is required.

SCALES: Keys of F C G D A E B F[#] C[#] Major and A D E B minor, 2 or 4 octaves,  = 80 or ( = 40), hands together, ascending & descending.



Choice: One major and one minor from above, hands together,  = 80 (40).

ARPEGGIOS: 2 octaves, hands together, ascending & descending,  = 60.



ETUDES: Your choice of any solo or an etude from the Etude Resource List (See p. 5) which utilizes the appropriate technique and musicality skills required at the intermediate level or higher.

LEVEL III

Metronome is required.

SCALES: Keys of F C G F[#] C[#] B^b E^b A^b D^b Major and F C G minor, 3 octaves,  = 80 or 4 octaves,  = 60, hands together ascending and descending.

Choice: One major and one minor from above, hands together,  = 80 (40).


ARPEGGIOS: 3 octaves, hands together, ascending and descending.  = 60 or 4 octaves,  = 46.

ETUDES: Your choice of any solo or an etude from the Etude Resource List (See p.5) which utilizes the appropriate technique and musicality skills required at the late intermediate level or higher.

LEVEL IV

Metronome is required.

SCALES: Keys of D A E B Major and D A E B F[#] C[#] G[#] B^b E^b minor, 4 octaves,  = 80.




Choice: One major and one minor beginning on a black key,  = 80.

ARPEGGIOS: 4 octaves, hands together, ascending and descending,  = 60.

ETUDES: Your choice of any solo or an etude from the Etude Resource List (See p. 5) which utilizes the appropriate technique and musicality skills required at the late intermediate level or advanced level.

CHALLENGE LEVEL

SCALES: Keys of C G D A E B F Major and minor (any form).

- Only two scales will be played at this level, one choice and one drawn at random.
- Choice: One minor,  = 60. Drawn: One major,  = 60.
- 4 octaves in parallel motion in octaves, tenths and sixths,  = 60.

OR

- 4 octaves in octaves, tenths, and sixths, in grand form,  = 60.

(**GRAND FORM:** 2 octaves ascending in parallel motion; 2 octaves out in contrary motion; 2 octaves in, contrary motion: 2 octaves up, parallel motion; 2 octaves down, parallel motion: again, 2 octaves out and in, contrary motion; 2 octaves down, parallel motion.)












ARPEGGIOS: 4 octaves in octaves, tenths and sixths,  = 44.

ETUDE: One technically demanding composition from the standard concert repertoire.

ETUDE RESOURCE LIST

Burgmüller; Friedrich, *Easy and Progressive Studies, Op. 100*
Burgmüller Friedrich, *18 Characteristic Studies, Op. 109*
Cabeza, Juan: *Diversions, 21 Progressive Etudes*, 2 vols.
Celebration Series, *Piano Etudes*, 10 vols.
Clarfield, Ingrid, ed., *Burgmuller, Czerny and Hanon*, 2 vols.
Czerny, Carl, *Etudes*, Multiple Collections
Dello Joio, Norman, *Suite for the Young*
Dreyer, Paula and Marilyn Lowe: *Little Gems for Piano*, 2 vols.
Frances Clark Library, *Piano Etudes for the Development of Musical Fingers*, 3 vols.
Gillock, William, *New Orleans Jazz Styles and More New Orleans Jazz Styles*
Goldston, Christopher, *Fantastic Fingers*, 5 vols.
Gurlitt, Cornelius, *Selected Works for Piano* (Kjos)
Guy, Suzanne, ed., *Expressive Etudes*, 6 Vols
Heller, Steven, *Etudes*. Multiple collections
Hirschberg/Lew, ed., *Technic is Fun*, 6 vols.
Joplin, Scott, *Piano Rags*
Magrath, Jane, *Masterpieces with Flair*, 3 vols.
Norton, Christopher, *Connections for Piano*, 8 vols.
Snell, Keith, ed., *Piano Etudes*, 10 vols.
Stecher/Horowitz, *Rock, Rhythm & Rag*, 4 vols.
Stecher/Horowitz, *Rock with Jazz*, 4 vols.
Waxman, Donald, *Etudes*, 4 vols.
Yeager, Jeanine, *Technique Teasers*

METRONOME REFERENCE CHART with Suggested Tempos

LEVEL	SCALES	ARPEGGIOS
Prep A & B	Metronome Optional	
Level I	 = 72	Optional
Level II	 = 80	 = 60
Level III	 = 80 or  = 60	 = 60  = 46
Level IV	 = 80	 = 60
Challenge	 = 60	 = 44

ETUDES: Metronome is required for Levels I and above. Teachers should use the metronome marking indicated in the music or choose a similar speed which is challenging, but comfortable, for the student.






















OPTIONAL FEATURE: SCALES IN RHYTHMIC VARIATION

In addition to the other awards, a special ribbon will be given to students who satisfactorily complete the Rhythmic Variation phase of the Tournament. To participate, the student should prepare two additional choice scales, using all the same rules specified for the level. This includes selection of scales, number of octaves, metronome speed, and standard fingering. At the Tournament cards picturing the rhythmic figures for the level chosen (one beat per card) will be drawn to determine the sequence in which the figures will be played. The student will be allowed and encouraged to watch the cards while executing these scales.

To prepare for this event, the student should make such cards at home, and practice the scales chosen in every possible combination of the units in the chosen level. (No figure will be used twice, no figure will be omitted, and no change will be made in the sequence once it has been established by the draw.)

PLEASE INDICATE THE INCLUSION OF THIS PHASE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE APPLICATION FORM. The applicant will play for the same judge immediately after completing the other Tournament requirements

RHYTHMIC VARIATION FIGURES with Suggested Tempos

LEVEL	Octaves	Tempos	Patterns				
Prep A & B							
Level I	2	 = 66					
Level II	2	 = 80					
Level III	3	 = 80					
Level IV	4	 = 80					
Challenge	4	 = 60	Same as Level IV				

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC
LAFAYETTE AREA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

PIANO TECHNIQUE TOURNAMENT

Student Application and Adjudication Form

Name of Student _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Years of Study _____ Years with Present Teacher _____ Teacher Code _____

Check box below if participating in Rhythmic Variations phase.

1. **SCALES:** Level Entered _____ Choice Scales _____
Metronome: (=) Drawn Scale _____ (=)

2. **ARPEGGIOS:** Metronome: (=)

3. **ETUDE:** Level entered _____ Title _____
Metronome: (=)

RATING

Superior _____ Excellent _____ Very Good _____ More Work Needed _____

☐ **SCALES IN RHYTHMIC VARIATION**

Level: _____ Metronome: (=)

Choices: _____

S _____ U _____

_____ Signature of Adjudicator

TECHNIQUE TOURNAMENT TEACHER ENTRY FORM

Name of Teacher _____

Address _____
include zip code

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Number of students entered _____ @ \$15.00 **Total Fee** _____

- Please enclose ONE check for all entries made to: **Lafayette Area Music Teachers Assn.**
- Send all application forms and check to: **Courtney Legnon**
121 Alonda Drive
Lafayette, LA 70503
- Submission Deadline is **Saturday, October 25, 2025 (11:59 pm)**. All entries must be postmarked or hand-delivered by that time.
- Please address any questions or concerns to courtney.legnon@louisiana.edu