



August 2017

Dear Teachers, Students, and Performing Pianists,

**YOU MUST READ ALL OF THIS INFORMATION IN ORDER TO APPLY. PLEASE PRINT THIS LETTER FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

You are invited to join nearly 500 of your pianist colleagues in three performances of **American Grands XXIII** on Saturday, January 27, 2018, at 1 p.m., 4 p.m., or 7 p.m. at the Elgin Community College (ECC) Arts Center. Once again, we will present this music extravaganza on 12 new grand pianos from **Cordogan's Pianoland**, showcasing both classical and popular music in arrangements for multiple pianos. Colin Holman returns as conductor and Jon Mortensen as percussionist.

**American Grands Participation Fee**

In order to ease the music distribution process and offset production costs, American Grands charges a **\$20 per performer participation fee instead of charging individually for music**. This fee can be paid online or in person with cash, credit, or check. Information on paying this fee will be included in the Acceptance Letter sent in October. Please pay the participation fee **before** the music pick up dates (October 20 and 21).

**Rehearsals & Performances**

Although performances will be held in the ECC Arts Center's Blizzard Theatre, the first rehearsal takes place at Cordogan's Pianoland on Route 38 in Geneva, with the four remaining rehearsals taking place at the ECC Arts Center. It is mandatory that all performers attend all three assigned rehearsals, but not for the full duration of each, as well as assigned performances. Performers may be required to play in two concerts. **NOTE: Performers in level 1A are assigned to play at the 1 p.m. or 4 p.m. concerts.**

The rehearsal and performance schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, January 6 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Cordogan's Pianoland. Early levels will be on this date.
- Sunday, January 7 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. at Cordogan's Pianoland. Later levels will be on this date.
- Tuesday, January 23 from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at ECC Arts Center
- Wednesday, January 24 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at ECC Arts Center
- Thursday, January 25 from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at ECC Arts Center
- Friday, January 26 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at ECC Arts Center
- *Performances:* Saturday, January 27 at 1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. at ECC Arts Center

You will be given a specific time for the rehearsal of your assigned piece(s) when you pick up your music. You will only attend two of the four rehearsals at ECC Arts Center.

**Performance Level Guidelines**

In order to clearly identify a performance level, please consult with your teacher about your level. Please note that performers do not necessarily advance to a new level every year. **DO NOT** place yourself or your student at a level in which they cannot perform competently. We will again provide a performance opportunity for very young students at the Early Elementary Level. Students must be at least six years old and reading on the musical staff.

***Teachers: You must use this method below for your evaluation. No other method will be accepted.***

Level	Faber & Faber Piano Adventures
Early Elementary (EE)	Primer
Elementary (E)	Level 1
Late Elementary (LE)	Level 2A/2B
Early Intermediate (EI)	Level 3A/3B
Intermediate (I-4)	Level 4
Intermediate (I-5)	Level 5
Late Intermediate (LI)	Level 6
Early Advanced (EA)	Level 6 +
Advanced/Teacher/Professional	Beyond Level 6 +

### How to Apply

- The application can be found online at [elgin.edu/americangrands](http://elgin.edu/americangrands).
- Please be sure that all applications are filled out completely, correctly, and clearly.
- **All fields must be completed, including correct teacher information. Email is our primary form of contact with teachers so we need this information to be accurate. Please check with your teacher to make sure their information is correct.**
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Your name will appear on the poster as you enter it on the electronic application. **Be sure to use correct capitalization. (i.e. "John Doe" not "john doe")**
- You can check [elgin.edu/americangrands](http://elgin.edu/americangrands) for schedules and information after being accepted.

### Application Deadline

All applications must be received by Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

### Acceptance & Music Pick-Up

Applicants who have been accepted **will be notified by email** by the second week of October.

**Performers must pick up their music in the main lobby of the ECC Arts Center (located in Building H of Elgin Community College) on Friday, October 20, between 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., or Saturday, October 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** This will be your final opportunity to verify the correct spelling of your name for the poster.

### Performer Expectations

Your commitment includes the following:

- Pay the \$20 participation fee.
- Pick up and prepare your music.
- Attend all assigned rehearsals and performances.
- Arrive at rehearsals **20 minutes prior** to your designated time.
- Agree to allow Elgin Community College to photograph/document this performance for archival and not-for-profit promotional use and to release your name and photo for promotional purposes.

### Performance Attire

- Girls: knee-length dresses or longer. **NO short dresses!** Lots of color! NO nail polish, please!
- Ladies: long or tea-length dresses. Lots of color! NO nail polish, please!
- Boys: black dress pants, black dress shoes, black socks, white shirt, and bow tie.
- Men: tuxedo or black suit with bow tie.

### Ticket Information

Please wait to purchase tickets until you pick up your music packet on October 20 or 21.

Tickets prices are \$26 for adults and \$17 for children under 12 (applicable fees are included in this price).

Sincerely,

*Larry Dieffenbach*

Music Director, American Grands XXIII

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[\(Click here to fill out an application\)](#)