



ST. CECILIA EXAMINATIONS

IMPORTANT EXAMINATION INFORMATION 2010

(Please retain this document for reference throughout the year)

January, 2010

SCSM 2010 EXAMINATIONS

SCSM Music examinations are scheduled to take place throughout Australia, New Zealand Asia during 2010. Four examination sessions have been scheduled for Hong Kong throughout 2010. Teachers and schools may choose any convenient time for examinations if candidate numbers are 25 or more.

NEW SYLLABUSES PIANOFORTE/PIANO DUET - WOODWIND - DIPLOMAS - PERFORMER & SPEAKERS

Four new syllabuses (*Classical Piano/Piano Duet; Woodwind; Diplomas; Performers & Speakers*) are now available and will be the main source of reference for examinations from January 2010. A new String Syllabus will be available in February 2010 and the new Modern Keyboard syllabus will be available in September.

ORDER FORM

Complete the *General Order Form* to keep up to date with the latest printed material. All syllabuses and entry forms may be downloaded free of charge from www.st-cecilia.com.au or www.stcecilia.asia

ENTRY FORMS

All teachers will receive grade entry forms valid for the 2010 examinations. Photocopy additional copies as required or download from the SCSM website. Closing dates and grade fees are listed on the entry form. Separate diploma entry forms and fees lists may also be downloaded or are available upon request. *Discard all previous forms.* To avoid delays and errors, it is important to complete all details fully and legibly. There are special entry forms for Drum Kit, Bass Guitar and Performers and Speakers examinations.

EXAMINATION CLOSING DATES

Please adhere to the examination closing dates which are printed on each grade entry form. Whilst we make every effort to accept late entries, a fee of HK\$300 per candidate must be charged in order to cover the additional administrative time taken for processing.

PROGRAMME NOTES

The written component for grade five and onwards must be a project-style presentation with detailed information on the chosen piece, the composer and the music period. The notes should be well structured and informative and reflect intelligent preparation and research. Direct copying from the internet is obvious to examiners and students will be penalized, The oral presentation must indicate that the student is thoroughly conversant with the information. ***Mere reading from the notes is insufficient and will lose marks.*** PowerPoint presentations are welcomed but evidence of thorough preparation must still be demonstrated.

EXEMPTION FROM PROGRAMME NOTES

A reminder that students who complete SCSM theory examinations will be given credit towards their Beginner to Grade Four practical examination upon presentation of their report or certificate to the examiner. The corresponding Grade is required e.g. Preliminary Certificate One for Grade One; Certificate Two for Grade Two etc.

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REPEATS

Repeats are not required in any SCSM examination but Da Capo and Dal Segno indications must be observed however.

A REMINDER FOR STUDENTS TO BE WELL ORGANISED!

Delays occur when students do not bring their music and/or appointment form to the examination. All details should be clearly listed on the Appointment Form. Students who are exempted from various sections must bring appropriate evidence. Credit will not be awarded retrospectively.

DYNAMICS

At all grade levels (including Beginner, Junior and Preliminary) students are assessed on their ability to express the music through successful use of appropriate dynamics. Teachers and students must include their own dynamic markings in pieces where insufficient or no markings are printed. Touch-sensitive electronic keyboards are always recommended.

DRESS

As in all performances, appropriate dress is expected during SCSM examinations.

ACCOMPANIED SOLO INSTRUMENTS

Students from grade one onwards are assessed on their ensemble ability with the piano (or other) accompaniment. It is therefore in the student's interest to arrange appropriate professional accompanists for their examination. At least three of the four works must be accompanied.

CONCERT CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

Students should treat these examinations as a concert presentation. Marks are awarded for appropriate concert dress, stage presentation and etiquette as well as programme choice and written programme design and content. Marks are also awarded for performance flair, including playing from memory. An audience may be present for these examinations should space permit and after confirming arrangements with coordinators well in advance.

APPOINTMENT FORMS

Teachers are required to include the composer as well as **syllabus page number** when completing the programme details. Tick the *Musicianship or Exercises* box as appropriate for the elementary examinations. Programme details should correspond with the *listing in the syllabus* and not the order of performance. A note attached to the appointment form requesting a specific order of performance is quite acceptable.

REGULATIONS FOR 2010 EXAMINATIONS

We are prepared to operate as flexibly as possible but in order to allow the system to work fairly and efficiently and at a minimum cost to teachers and students, we do rely on the adherence to a few basic regulations. These are clearly outlined in GENERAL REGULATIONS printed in every syllabus.

REENTRY PERMITS

Students who are unable to present themselves for an examination due to sickness or accident may request a half-fee reentry permit which allows for reentry into the **same** examination level within the next 6 months. The Appointment Form as well as a medical certificate must be forwarded within 7 days of the examination. Fees will not be refunded or credited. Reentry should be made on the current SCSM entry form with the reentry permit attached.

INSURANCE & PUBLIC LIABILITY

St. Cecilia Examinations advises teachers that it is not responsible for damage or accident in private studios and homes where examinations may be taking place. Appropriate property as well as public liability insurance must be valid. All effort must be made to ensure the safety and security of students and teachers who are present.

