

Sample Introduction

Hello. My name is _____ and I am from Washington Caldwell

School. This is my accompanist, _____ . Today I will perform

_____ composed by _____ .
(title and movements, if needed) *(composer/arranger)*

An interesting aspect of my piece is

(Comment on the melody, harmony, rhythm, dynamics or other related item.)

You may choose to vary the last sentence. For example, you could say, "I really like this piece because of the challenging syncopated rhythms in measures 16-24." Whatever you decide to mention, be sure it is something you can execute well. For example, do not say "an interesting aspect of this piece is the dynamics," if you do not play effective dynamic contrasts.

Before the performance:

To begin – wait for the judge’s cue. It may be a verbal welcome or just a head shake. Make eye contact with the judge before introducing yourself. It is ok to tune and warm up briefly prior to the introduction – if the judge is still writing comments from the last performer. Ask your pianist for help tuning if needed. After your performance, acknowledge any applause. Again, make eye contact with the judge. If he or she asks you to come to the desk for verbal comments, do so quickly and respectfully. Remember to thank the judge after your performance. Also realize your behavior while waiting to perform – inside and outside of the room, can affect your score. Obey hallway monitors and above all, be respectful and supportive to each other.

Please say thank you to your pianist if you have one as well. A thank you card with a note of appreciation is always nice.