

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

WHAT?

Solo & Ensemble Festival is an opportunity for students to perform a solo and/or an ensemble for a judge that will provide them feedback and a "mini lesson" on their performance. In addition to the opportunity to play for a judge and receive feedback from a professional musician, students who earn a "I" or "II" rating will also receive a medal. All students are encouraged to participate!

WHEN?

Saturday, February 4, 2017

WHEN DO I REGISTER?

You must register no later than **OCTOBER 28, 2016** in order to participate. Return the registration form to your director along with your payment.

WHERE?

Ann Arbor Pioneer High School, 601 W Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

WHEN DO I PLAY?

Students will receive a time assignment in January. Try to keep the day of the festival clear until times are assigned.

HOW SHOULD I GET MUSIC?

Solos

Many soloists find their own music, or get it from their private lesson teacher. If your child doesn't have a private lesson teacher, your child's director can help to find music. Remember, if the solo has a piano accompaniment, which most do, it must be played at the festival to receive a rating.

Ensembles

Most ensembles will get their music from a private lesson teacher or the school's music library. If your director provides music from the school library, originals to give to the judges will be handed out the week before the festival. All school provided music must be returned the week after Solo and Ensemble.

HOW DO I GET AN ACCOMPANIST?

Most students are successful in finding their own pianist to accompany them. Think of asking people you know. Email me for names of people who are available to accompany students. Some accompanists will even come in and rehearse during class times. Remember to ask what they charge since accompanists should be paid for their services.

WHEN DO WE REHEARSE?

Students will be given a little time in class to prepare their S&E music, but will need to schedule other rehearsals to be successful. They are welcome to make an appointment to use the music room before or after school to rehearse. Many groups choose to rehearse at one of the member's homes in the evening, or on a weekend. In order to have the best experience, students SHOULD NOT wait until the last minute to prepare their performance and should start practicing as soon as they have the music.

HOW DO I GET HELP?

You may ask to get help from your child's director before or after school over the next few months. I would like to hear every ensemble that is going to solo and ensemble and every soloist who does not have a private lesson teacher at least once before the festival.

WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SOLO AND ENSEMBLE RULES

1. If the music has a published piano accompaniment, it must be played to get a rating.
2. Every group or soloist must have an original score with all the parts on it to receive a rating. No photocopies!
3. The original score that you give the judge must have each measure numbered in pencil.
4. All Solos and Ensembles must meet a minimum time requirement to receive a rating.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: MINIMUM OF 90 SECONDS
HIGH SCHOOL: MINIMUM OF 2 MINUTES

(Time your piece soon; you may not add D.S.-D.C.'s that are not originally a part of the music; you are allowed to have two different pieces.)

5. The festival does not provide any instruments (except a piano). You must bring your own percussion equipment or tuba.

If you follow all the above rules, you will receive one of the following ratings from the adjudicator:

- 1st division Excellent performance
- 2nd division Good performance
- 3rd division Fair performance
- 4th division Poor performance
- 5th division Unsatisfactory performance