

All State Audition Information

by Mary Ellen Cohn, MMEA Executive Director

In Maryland, students have many opportunities to audition for state-wide groups, to perform solo and ensemble events at the District and State levels, and for school band, choruses and orchestras to perform for adjudication. Making those opportunities available for you students can help "drive" the music curriculum for you.

Take time now to note the deadline dates for All State groups for students in grades 7 through 12 and for Solo and Ensemble events for students in grades 6 through 12. **Note that they are on Fridays.** Maryland is one of the few states that does not charge for student participation in these events. The nominal fee that is charged for individual students who attend private or parochial school in Maryland is to "level" the field for the chaperone expenses, rather than impose the chaperone costs on the selected students.

Take advantage of these opportunities for your students. Fill out the All State applications and get them in on time. **Note that they are on Fridays.** Look over the audition requirements and assist your students in the process. It pays off for every student in your class if even a few of your students are striving for a higher level of excellence. Their dedication, and yours, will give new energy to the entire ensemble.

All State Audition Information

Students must attend an independent (private), parochial or public school in Maryland and meet the class membership and grade designations in order to be eligible to participate. Check the Student Eligibility policy on the next page if there are questions. Remember that your signature and your principal's signature attest to the eligibility of the listed students as well as to the appropriate grade levels.

Because the events are on different weekends, a student in grades 7, 8, or 9 may audition for and participate in All State Junior Band and either the All State Junior Chorus or All State Junior Orchestra, if eligibility requirements have been met for both groups. Please indicate such nominations on the forms so that such students will be scheduled appropriately. MMEA requires a statement from both music teachers, indicating that the student is aware of the added pressure of preparing two auditions and is prepared for the possibility of being rejected twice.

Eligible students in grades 10 through 12 may audition for the All State Jazz Band in addition to the All State Senior Band or Orchestra. Teachers must complete the nomination process for Senior Band or Orchestra AND the Video Tape authentication Form that accompanies the Video Taped Jazz Audition. (See Page 10.) The deadline for the taped/DVD auditions is **Friday**, October 26. **Copy the forms as often as needed. There is no need to tear the nomination forms out of this publication.**

To make the **Friday**, October 5, 2007 receipt deadline for Junior Groups (Graders 7, 8 and 9), nominations should be mailed by October 3 or shipped UPS on October 4. (Normal UPS delivery within the State of Maryland is the next-day without any additional fee.)

To make the October 12 date for receipt of Senior groups (Grades

10, 11 and 12), nominations must be mailed by October 10 or shipped UPS on October 11.

Copy the forms as often as needed. There is no need to tear the nomination forms out of this publication.

List no more than 10 students per form. Send as many forms as needed. There is no limit on the number of student who may audition. Once you have completed the forms, photocopy them for your records. **SEND THE FORMS WITH ORIGINAL SIGNATURES** to the MMEA Office to be received by the deadline. **The late fee is \$35.00 per student.**

- No jazz audition tapes or DVD's will be accepted after **Friday**, October 26. Late fees do not apply.
- **No nomination is accepted by FAX.**
- If you wish acknowledgment of receipt of the forms, include a self-addressed postcard or envelope, with sufficient postage for return to you.
- All instrumental auditions (band and orchestra) are at Reservoir High School in Howard County.
- Choral auditions are at three sites across the state. (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Frederick Counties) Make sure you check an audition site on each choral form. Your students may audition at different sites, but please mark one site for each application.
- All Junior auditions are Saturday, November 10. All Senior auditions for are Saturday, November 17. Jazz auditions are on video tape or DVD and are due on Saturday, October 26. There are no exceptions.
- Late applications must be pre-approved by the Executive Director and a fee of \$35 per student must be included with the late applications
- Schedules for auditions and specific directions to the sites will be mailed to each nominating teacher.
- The rehearsal/performance schedule of groups will be:
 - All State Jazz Band (and Jazz Conference), January 24-26, 2008, at Towson University.
 - All State Junior Band, February 28-March 1, 2008, Sheraton City Center Hotel and Morgan State University, Murphy Performing Arts Center.
 - All State Senior Band, All State Senior Mixed Chorus, All State Senior Women's Chorus and All State Senior Orchestra, February 29-March 2, 2008, Baltimore Convention Center and Morgan State University, Murphy Performing Arts Center.
 - All State Junior Chorus and All State Junior Orchestra, March 13-15, 2008, Frederick, at F.S.Key Holiday Inn and Convention Center and Gov. Thomas Johnson High School.
- Fees for selected All State members will not exceed \$345 per person. All students will be housed two persons to a room.

- Teachers note the policy concerning eligibility for the All Eastern groups for 2009 in Providence, RI. The audition scores from the 2007-2008 auditions determine the All Eastern nominations from Maryland.

The Maryland policy states: "Any student who is selected for an All Eastern Band, Chorus, Jazz Band or Orchestra or a national group sponsored by Music Educators National Conference MUST be a participant in the Maryland All State Band, Chorus, Jazz Band or Orchestra during the school year PRECEDING and INCLUDING the year in which the student is selected for such an organization."

The students who will be nominated in the Summer of 2008 may be notified of acceptance into an All Eastern Ensemble for 2009 before the audition results of the Maryland 2009 All State Ensembles are published. A student will be disqualified from the All Eastern Ensemble unless they participated in the Maryland ensemble in 2008 and auditioned and made the accepted list for 2009. **There are no exceptions to this policy.**

- All Festival Application deadlines are deadlines for **RECEIPT** of the forms, not a postmark date.

The NYSSMA Manual (New York State School Music Association, the New York equivalent of MMEA) supplements the Maryland music lists for certain events. For MCEA Vocal Solo and Ensemble events and the MCEA Choral District and State Festivals

the NYSSMA Manuals of the past 10 years (1997, 2000, 2003 and 2006) may be used in conjunction with the Maryland lists. The MODA Solo and Ensemble events use the NYSSMA harp and guitar lists. In the near future the Maryland lists will supersede the NYSSMA list, but until that time, we include certain portions of the NYSSAMA manual as acceptable in Maryland.

To order a 2006 NYSSMA Manual, send a check (or Purchase Order) for \$45 plus \$6 shipping payable to NYSSMA, to NYSSMA Manual, c/o Kathryn Struzik, 535 Rondo Lane, Webster, NY 14580-1214. Phone is 716-670-9252. Or order directly at www.NYSSMA.org. Select Manual, and enter credit card and shipping information.

Maryland Lists (Band, Choral and Orchestra) are posted on the MMEA web page at no cost. (mmea-maryland.org)

Teachers who have questions may call the MMEA Office at 410-768-2626 or toll free at 800-94 MUSIC. The MMEA Office operates as a service to teachers. The phone numbers are for teachers and should NOT be given to students or parents. Teachers should be the source of information. Students are not to be given the numbers.

Best wishes for a great musical school year!

Student Eligibility for MMEA State-Wide Activities

Maryland Music Educators Association (MMEA) is a professional association of music educators who teach in Maryland public and private schools and colleges. Its purpose is the advancement of music education in Maryland. It does this by supporting and enhancing school music curricula. Its first two corporate purposes deal with teacher in-service.

MMEA also sponsors state-wide student activities which are grade and class (band, chorus, orchestra) specific. The activities adhere to guidelines established by Music Educators National Conference, the National Association for Music Education, of which MMEA is a state affiliate. Prior to 1980, only students of MMEA members were allowed to participate in any state-wide activities. Currently, by agreement with the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM), students of MMEA members and non-members are eligible to participate in state-wide activities according to the following policies:

1. Only students enrolled in band, chorus or orchestra classes in Maryland public and private schools in the appropriate grade designation may audition for and participate in state-wide activities.
2. Only the music teacher who teaches the specific band, chorus, or orchestra class may initiate the application process for his or her students to audition for or participate in state-wide activities.
3. All applications must be signed by the school principal, attesting to the eligibility of the listed students as members of the specific classes.
4. Students in high schools in which alternate scheduling models are in operation are eligible to participate in state-wide activities only in the years in which they receive a full credit for those classes.
5. Regardless of their musical ability, students who choose not to participate in their school band, chorus, or orchestra class for any reason are not eligible to participate in MMEA state-wide activities in the years in which they are not part of their school ensembles.