

# **District and State Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment**

## **1 General Application procedures and information**

- A. The application for District and State Solo & Ensemble MPA is located on the FOA website. You can download the form directly to your computer using the “MPA” button. All applications need to be typed. (Note: You can type directly on the application and then print it out.)
- B. No refunds of registration fees for cancellations (DNA’s) are allowed at either the District or State level. There are no exceptions to this FSMA rule. (*See FSMA Rules and Regulations 3.18*)
- C. Fines for late applications at both the District and State level are to be paid by separate checks and are as follows:
  - 1 to 7 days after postmark deadline = \$200.00
  - No applications will be accepted after the 7<sup>th</sup> day (05/13/05)

## **2 District Level Entries**

- A. District assessment fees for each entry are set by your District Chairman and are due when you turn in your application. Fees paid to your District must be in the form of a school check, booster check or money order. No personal checks or cash can be accepted.
- B. District deadlines for entry forms and assessments are set by your District. If there is a need for a correction on your application, it will be returned to you, and must be corrected and returned to your District Chairman by the application deadline. Failure to do so may result in fines being levied against your school. (*See section 1 – C.*)

## **3 State Level Entries**

- A. State assessment fees for each entry are set by the Executive Committee and are posted on the website. Fees for your state entries are due to the Executive Director when your application is submitted. Fees paid for State MPA must be in the form of a school check, booster check or money order. No purchase orders, personal checks, or cash can be accepted.
- B. State deadlines for entry forms and assessments are set by the Executive Board and are available on the FOA website or from your District Chairman. If there are corrections that need to be made on your application or fees, the entire application will be returned to you. Corrections must be made and the application and fees returned by the postmarked deadline to the Executive Director. Failure to do so will result in a fine being levied against your school. (*See section 1 – C.*)

## **4 School Eligibility Requirements for District and State**

Any school entering Solo and Ensemble MPA must be a member of the Florida School Music Association in order for your students to participate in this event.

**5 Student Eligibility Requirements for District**

- A. All individual entrants must be bona fide students of the school represented and currently enrolled in that school's orchestra program.
- B. Students at the Middle School level grades 6, 7, and 8 may participate in Solo and Ensemble MPA without any GPA restrictions. (GPA requirements at the Middle School level are up to each individual School and their Director.)
- C. Students listed on High School entry forms must meet Florida Department of Education statutes and school district eligibility standards at the time of the MPA in which the students are entered or they will not participate.
- D. The completed application certifying the eligibility of students must be signed by the Director and School Principal.
- E. Any student in grade 5 or lower may not participate in a Solo and Ensemble event at the District level without the express written permission from the District Chairman and the Executive Committee of the Florida Orchestra Association Incorporated and the Florida School Music Association.
- F. Individual students are limited to a total of three (3) events. (Student Conducting may not be considered as a Solo and Ensemble event in your District.)

**6 Student Eligibility Requirements for State**

- A. All individual entrants must be bona fide students of the school represented and currently enrolled in that high school's orchestra program.
- B. Students in Junior High School may not participate in State Solo and Ensemble MPA unless they are part of a regularly scheduled class in a combined Junior/Senior High School with one director and are members of a High School ensemble.
- C. Students at the High School level may participate in Solo and Ensemble MPA provided they meet the above criteria (A) and the State requirement of a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the previous grading period.
- D. The completed application certifying the eligibility of students must be signed by the Director and School Principal.
- E. Individual students are limited to a total of three (3) events. Student Conducting will be considered a Solo and Ensemble event at a combined State event.
- F. Directors not in attendance during their student's participation in State Solo & Ensemble MPA must provide a letter from their principal to the FOA Board member in charge of the event indicating another FOA member who will be responsible for their school's students (Parents can not assume this responsibility)(05/13/05)
- G. In order to participate at State Solo & Ensemble, students must first participate at the District level and receive a superior or excellent rating. (05/11/07)

7 **Music Requirements for District and State**

- A. The choice of music is at the discretion of each Director and does not need to be taken from any set list at this time. *(See FOA suggested list on the website.)*
- B. Solo and Ensemble literature should be of a caliber appropriate to the level of the student performing, and to the formality of the event. Broadway show tunes, Disney songs, or movie themes are not acceptable for an event of this type, and will result in an entry being disqualified.
- C. Solo or Ensemble music should be less than 8 minutes in length. If the music selected is longer, directors are expected to make appropriate cuts in the music. If cuts are not made the adjudicator will stop the performance.
- D. **Photocopied scores/parts are not permissible unless the director has received in writing a letter from the Publisher (not a vendor) giving permission to photocopy the score for that dated event.** Directors must provide a copy of the letter for the judge. Failure to provide written notification from the publisher will result in disqualification of the event.
- E. For Solo performance there are to be three (3) original copies of the music in the performance room, one original each for the judge, accompanist, and performer.
- F. All measures are to be numbered on the judges' music, **as well as the performer's music**. Failure to provide numbered music for the judge will result in disqualification of the event.
- G. All Solos must be performed with accompaniment if one is written. Pre-recorded accompaniments are allowed. However, it is up to that director to provide the necessary equipment.
- H. The maximum number of participants in an ensemble is 11 members.
- I. Full ensemble scores, if published, must be provided to the judge with all measures numbered. If there is no published score then each original part must be provided for the judge.
- J. Ensembles with six (6) or more members may be conducted by their director.
- K. All ensembles must be complete as scored.
- L. Orchestra music used for ensemble performance may not be performed by that school's orchestra in the same year for a Concert MPA.
- M. Piano accompanists at State Solo & Ensemble may only accompany ten (10) entries.  
(05/11/07)

## 8 **Scheduling**

### A. District Level

- i. Dates for Solo & Ensemble MPA are set by each District at their Spring meeting.
- ii. Scheduling procedures for each event are determined by each District Chairman. It is recommended that each event be given an eight (8) minute time slot for performance. (However due to budgetary constraints of each District, that may not be possible.)
- iii. Schedules should be sent out, or be available to each school participating at least two (2) weeks prior to the event.

### B. State Level

- i. Schools will be scheduled on a first come first served basis taking into consideration the distance traveled.
- ii. Each event will be allotted ten (10) minutes, eight (8) minutes for performance and two (2) minutes for a critique by the judge.
- iii. Schedules will be available on the FOA website two (2) weeks prior to the event.

## 9 **Results**

The results of each school's Solo and Ensemble MPA participation at both the District and State level are published annually by FSMA with copies of this publication sent to all member schools. No individual solo or ensemble results are published or archived.

### A. District Level

- i. Results for Solo and Ensemble entries at the District level will be as follows: Superior with Distinction for memorized solos (S+), Superior (S), Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), Comments Only (CO) and Disqualification (DQ).
- ii. District level rules infractions will be dealt with by the District Chairman on an individual basis.
- iii. The posting of results during District Solo & Ensemble MPA is at the discretion of each District.

### B. State Level

- i. Results for Solo and Ensemble entries at State will be as follows: Superior with Distinction for memorized solos (S+), Superior (S), Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), and Disqualification (DQ).
- ii. Rules infractions at the state level (both concert and Solo & Ensemble) will be dealt with by either the FOA President, Past-President, or President-Elect. In the event that none of these offices can be present at the event, the FOA President will appoint a voting member of the Executive Board to serve in this capacity. (05/14/04)
- iii. Any infractions of the rules at the State level will result in disqualification of an event.
- iv. Comments Only are not allowed at the State level as per 5/16/03 Board motion.

10 **Standards for Performance**

***Superior with Distinction:*** Outstanding performance with no serious flaws and performed memorized.

***Superior:*** Outstanding performance with no serious flaws.

***Excellent:*** Performance generally good, but lacking in small details of refinement.

***Good:*** Fairly good performance, but some overall weaknesses.

***Fair:*** Performance lacks many basic essentials of tone, intonation, balance phrasing and accuracy of note values.

***Poor:*** Performance poor in most respects.