



Florida Orchestra Association

HANDBOOK

2015-16 Edition

Florida Orchestra Association
HANDBOOK

Table of Contents

All-State Auditions	4-8
All-State Orchestras	4
General Requirements for Audition/Nomination Participation	4
Application Process for 7-8 and 9-12 Honors Orchestra	4-5
Application Process for All Auditioned Orchestras	5-6
Auditions/Requirements/Materials	6
Selection Notification/Placement and Reseating Auditions.....	6-7
Unable to Attend.....	7
Music.....	7
All-State Participation Information for the Director and Students.....	8
District and State Concert Music Performance Assessment (MPA).....	9-17
General Application Procedures and Application.....	9
District Level Entries.....	9
State Level Entries	10
School Eligibility Requirements for District and State	10
Student Eligibility Requirements for District.....	11
Student Eligibility Requirements for State	11
Music Requirements for District and State	12
Warm Up and Stage Performance Procedures District and State Level	13-14
Scheduling of Concert Performances	14
Sight Reading Requirements for District	14-15
Sight Reading Procedures for District.....	15
Clinic at the State Level.....	15
Student Conductor at District and State Level	15-16
Results	16
Standards of Performance.....	16
Scoring Rubrics Judging Panel (Stage Rating)	17
Scoring Rubrics Overall Rating (Including Sight Reading).....	17
District and State Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment (S&E MPA) ..	18-21
General Application Procedures and Information	18
District Level Entries.....	18
State Level Entries	18
School Eligibility Requirements for District and State	19
Student Eligibility Requirements for District.....	19
Student Eligibility Requirements for State	19
Music Requirements for District and State	20
Scheduling	21
Results	21
Standards for Performance	22

Appendix A FMEA All-State Clinic/Conference Information Section	23-26
Hotel/Motel Reservations	23
Chaperones.....	23
Concert Dress for All Orchestras	23
Pre-Registration	23
Equipment List for Students	23
Clinic/Conference Regulations and FMEA Rules of Conduct	23
General Regulations	24
FMEA Rules of Conduct.....	24
Check-List for Directors	24-25
Only for Directors Who Did Not Pre-Register	25-26

All-State Auditions Florida Orchestra Association, Inc. Florida Music Educators Association Clinic/Conference

The All-State Clinic/Conference is sponsored by the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA). It is held during the first or second weekend following the first Monday in January. The location of the Clinic/Conference is determined by the FMEA Board of Directors. The five (5) component organizations: (Orchestra, Band, Chorus, Collegiate and Elementary) participate in the Clinic/Conference. Each conduct their own activities, and meet together with other professional colleagues from around the State and Country. The All-State student groups provide opportunities for musical and personal growth of our string players around the State.

I. All-State Orchestras

- A. The Florida Orchestra Association, Incorporated (FOA) sponsors five (5) FMEA Clinic Orchestras. The orchestras are as follows:
 - 1. 7-8 Honors Orchestra (*non-auditioned, director recommendation*)
 - 2. 7-8 All-State String Orchestra (*by audition only*)
 - 3. 9-10 All-State Concert Orchestra (*by audition only*)
 - 4. 11-12 All-State Symphonic Orchestra (*by audition only*)
 - 5. 9-12 Honors Orchestra (*non-auditioned, director recommendation*)
- B. FOA also provides bass players for our sister organization The Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) during the Clinic/Conference.
 - 1. 9-10 All-State Concert Band (*by audition only*)
 - 2. 11-12 All-State Symphonic Band (*by audition only*)

II. General Requirements for Audition/Nomination Participation

- A. Music Directors must be members of NAfME/FMEA and FOA for students to audition or be nominated. (*see 4.A below for membership types*)
- B. Any secondary student participating in the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) All State performing ensemble must be enrolled/registered at a public school, a private school, a public charter school, a home education music cooperative, or a virtual school. In addition, the student must be a regularly participating member in the appropriate middle school or high school performing ensemble (band, chorus, orchestra, guitar) from that school, and sponsored by the Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that school. A home-education student must either be a regularly participating member in an ensemble listed above or enrolled/registered at a home education music cooperative. In addition, the student must be a regular participating member of an ensemble equivalent to the above in the music cooperative. Home education students, must be sponsored by their Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that home education music cooperative.
- C. Students that are nominated or audition must meet Florida Department of Education statutes and school district eligibility standards at the time the application or nomination is submitted.

III. Application Process for 7-8 and 9-12 HonorsOrchestras

- A. The applications for 7-8 Honors Orchestra and 9-12 Honors Orchestras are posted on the FOA web site along with the deadline date for submission.

- B. Directors may wish to nominate students that are auditioning in the event they do not make the audition cut. *(Note: Schools that have students make the auditioned All-State Orchestras will not have students selected for the 7-8 Honors or the 9-12 Honors Orchestras Students are to be listed in order of talent. Please include any information that will help in the selection process.*
- C. Each orchestra director may nominate up to four students from their school for participation. *(Note: Schools that have students make the All State Orchestra will not have students selected for the 7-8 Honors Orchestra.)*
- D. If a large number of schools apply, not all schools may have a student selected, but a list will be kept and those schools will be considered first for the following year.
- E. The application must be typed and submitted with the appropriate student Application/Parental Agreement Form and the FMEA All-State Concert Participant's Contract (located on the website), along with the appropriate fee. **Note: Only school/booster checks or money orders for the exact amount are acceptable. Applications accompanied by cash, personal check or exhibiting other inaccuracies will be returned. Deadline schedules will be adhered to without exception. Checks are made payable to FOA.**
- F. The application must be signed by the Director and the school Principal.
- G. **Failure to comply with Sections 2A, 2B, 2C above, as well as Sections 3F, and 3G will result in the application being returned and considered invalid.**

IV. **Application Process for All Auditioned Orchestras**

- A. Only Directors that are members of FOA may submit applicants for audition. Collegiate members are not permitted to nominate students for audition or to the all-state honors orchestras.
- B. Any secondary student participating in the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) All State performing ensemble must be enrolled/registered at a public school, a private school, a public charter school, a home education music cooperative, or a virtual school. In addition, the student must be a regularly participating member in the appropriate middle school or high school performing ensemble (band, chorus, orchestra, guitar) from that school, and sponsored by the Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that school. A home-education student must either be a regularly participating member in an ensemble listed above or enrolled/registered at a home education music cooperative. In addition, the student must be a regular participating member of an ensemble equivalent to the above in the music cooperative. Home education students, must be sponsored by their Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that home education music cooperative..
- C. Each student must submit a signed Application/Parental Agreement form along with the FMEA Concert Participant's Contract and the appropriate fees to his/her Director. These forms are located on the FOA website. *(Note: The fee is non-refundable and is used to defray the cost of running auditions and All State expenditures.)*
- D. Each Director submits the application(s)/permission forms and audition fees to their District Chairperson. **Note: Only school/booster checks or money orders for the exact amount are acceptable. Applications accompanied by cash, personal checks or exhibiting other inaccuracies will be returned. Deadline schedules will be adhered to without exception. Checks are to be made payable**

to FOA.)

- E. Directors will be notified by their District Chairs of any application problems.

V. Auditions/Requirements/Materials

- A. Audition requirements are posted on the FOA website by the beginning of May for the next year's All State Orchestra auditions.
- B. Audition dates set by each District must fall within the approved audition window set by the Executive Committee of FOA.
- C. Auditions are held in each District within the State. Each District will audition all students on the same day. **(Note: Due to the confidentiality of sight reading material and scale requirements there are no exceptions to the audition date set by each District.)**
- D. Directors submitting applications for students will be notified of the audition schedule by their District Chairperson.
- E. Audition materials are not provided by FOA for auditions. Students need to check with their school orchestra Director or private instructor to get the audition materials.
- F. Students are allowed to take their own copy of the etude and excerpt in the audition room. However, no scale books or sheets are allowed into the audition room. All scales must be performed by memory.
- G. Any secondary student participating in the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) All State performing ensemble must be enrolled/registered at a public school, a private school, a public charter school, a home education music cooperative, or a virtual school. In addition, the student must be a regularly participating member in the appropriate middle school or high school performing ensemble (band, chorus, orchestra, guitar) from that school, and sponsored by the Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that school. A home-education student must either be a regularly participating member in an ensemble listed above or enrolled/registered at a home education music cooperative. In addition, the student must be a regular participating member of an ensemble equivalent to the above in the music cooperative. Home education students, must be sponsored by their Active FMEA/Component member teacher from that home education music cooperative.

VI. Selection Notification/Placement and Reseating Auditions

- A. Notification of acceptance into one of the auditioned All-State Orchestras will be made on the FOA website. Check the FOA calendar for the posting date. If a student auditions on two instruments and is selected on both instruments the student will be placed in the section he/she scored highest. *(Note: no rankings or numerical results will be posted on the web site, or available to parents, students or Directors.)*
- B. The total number of students accepted in each section is prescribed below:
 - 36 violins
 - 14 violas
 - 12 cellos
 - 8 basses

- C. Violin division in all orchestras will be as follows:

<u>1st Violin</u>		<u>2nd Violin</u>	
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36

- D. Bass seating in the Concert and Symphonic Orchestra will be as follows:

1	Orchestra
2	All State Band
3-9	Orchestra

(Note: Bass players will only be placed in All-State Band one year in their high school career.)

- E. Symphonic and Concert Orchestra wind and percussion players will be selected by the Florida Bandmasters Association.
- F. Reseating auditions will be held at the Clinic site. Audition times will be posted by each All-State Chairperson and will be available on the FOA web site.

VII. Unable to Attend

- A. The Director is required to notify the Executive Director of FOA by the designated date posted on the FOA web site and Parental Agreement Form if an All-State student is unable to attend, and give the reason for not attending. The Executive Board will rule the absenteeism to be excused or unexcused.
- B. Notification of absences after the withdrawal deadline may be deemed unexcused by the Executive Board and that student will not be able to participate in the following year's All-State orchestras. In addition, the school will be placed on probation the following school year. **(Note: the Director and school Principal will receive a letter from the Executive Board notifying them that their school is being placed on probation for the following year.)**
- C. **If the same school has a student with an unexcused absence during the probationary year, the Director and Principal will be notified that for the following year, no student from that school will be eligible to participate in All-State.**

VIII. Music

- A. Prior to the clinic in January, concert music will be mailed to the students' schools. At the conclusion of the Clinic/Conference, all music will be collected. Individual schools will be billed for the music that is not returned.

IX. All-State Participation Information for the Director and Students

- A. See appendix A of the Handbook for the following:
 - 1. Hotel/Motel reservations
 - 2. Chaperoning
 - 3. Concert Dress
 - 4. Pre-Registration
 - 5. Equipment
 - 6. Clinic/Conference Regulations
 - 7. FMEA Rules of Conduct
 - 8. Directors Check List.

District and State Concert Music Performance Assessment

The Music Performance Assessment (MPA) is one of the best ways to raise the standards of musicianship in Middle School and High School orchestras around the State of Florida. The Florida Orchestra Association, Incorporated along with the Florida School Music Association provides Music Performance Assessment opportunities in which the students can hear other orchestras, receive constructive comments and be rewarded for their accomplishments and efforts. It is the belief of the Florida Orchestra Association, Incorporated that our growth as individuals is defined in terms of our ability to develop thinking capacities, motor skills, and affective responses. Music is unique in that it has the potential to develop people in all three areas, fostering performance skills, musical creativity and musical response.

I. General Application Procedures and Information

- A. The application for District and State Concert MPA is located on MPA online. All applications need to be typed.
- B. No refunds of registration fees for enrollment changes 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 7th day.
- D. Request to Perform out of District must be made to both the Executive Director and District Chairperson for your District giving detailed justification for the request. Requests must be received before application deadlines for BOTH your District and the District in which you would like to attend the MPA. Once permission is granted to perform out of district, the director must contact the District Chairperson of the desired district to receive confirmation to perform in that district's MPA.
- E. Request to perform for Comments Only at the district level must be made to the District Chair at least two weeks before the MPA event. On the day of the event, the district chair can use Comments Only if rationale warrants. Comments Only are not allowed at the State level.

II. District Level Entries

- A. District assessment fees for each orchestra member 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 Chairperson. 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.*)

III. State Level Entries

- A. State assessment fees for each orchestra/member are set by the Executive Committee and are posted on the website. Fees for your state Concert MPA 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 to 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.*)

IV. School Eligibility Requirements for District and State

- A. District
 - 1. Any school entering District Concert MPA must be a member of the Florida School Music Association in order for your students to participate in this event.
 - 2. Directors from multiple school orchestra programs may not combine their orchestras for performance. (*The Executive Committee may grant exceptions.*)
 - 3. Any Middle School or High School orchestra may participate in their District Concert MPA as long as they have a minimum of twelve (12) members.
 - 4. Schools that enter two or more orchestras in District Concert MPA must enter each orchestra as a different classification, unless they are entering a full and a string orchestra.
- B. State
 - 1. Any school entering State Concert MPA must be a member of the Florida School Music Association in order for your students to participate in this event.
 - 2. Only High School orchestras are allowed to perform at State Concert MPA providing the following criteria has been met:
 - A. Directors are current members of the Florida Orchestra Association, Inc.
 - B. The orchestra performing at State Concert MPA must consist of the same membership as the orchestra that performed at District Concert MPA.
 - C. The orchestra must have received an overall rating of Superior when all four (4) scores were combined from District MPA.
 - D. Orchestras must be classification D, C, B or A. No ES orchestras will be permitted to participate.

V. Student Eligibility Requirements for District

- A. Individuals listed on the orchestra application must be bona fide students of the school represented and must be a regular member in that school's music program. Only students on the orchestra's application may perform on stage and in sight-reading. Adult accompanists may be used for stage performance ONLY for level E orchestras. No adult accompanists may be used in the sight reading room.
- B. Students at the Middle School level grades 6, 7, and 8 may participate in Concert MPA without any GPA restrictions. (GPA requirements at the Middle School level are up to each individual School District 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 be able to participate.
- D. The completed application certifying the eligibility of students must be signed by the Director and School Principal.
- E. At the high school level, individual students may not participate in more than two (2) orchestras on the same instrument unless granted permission by the executive committee.
- F. If a director teaches at more than one school and would like to combine students from those schools' orchestras into one ensemble to perform at MPA, the director must first request permission from the executive committee giving detailed justification for the request.

VI. Student Eligibility Requirements for State

- A. Individuals listed on the orchestra application must be bona fide students of the school represented and must be a regular member in that school's music program. Only students on the orchestra's application may perform on stage and in sight-reading.
- B. Students in Middle/Junior High School may not participate in State Concert 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 orchestra class.
- 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. See FSMA guidelines.
- D. The completed application certifying the eligibility of students must be signed by the Director and School Principal.
- E. At the high school level, individual students may not participate in more than two (2) orchestras on the same instrument unless granted permission by the executive committee.

VII. Music Requirements for District and State

A. **Classification**

1. In order to participate at State Concert MPA, ensembles must perform music at level DS/DF or higher.

Each Director will choose one of the following classifications to enter:

Class A – Grade V or above literature

Class B – Grade IV literature

Class C – Grade III literature

Class D – Grade II literature

Class E – Grade I literature

2. The adjudicators will judge each orchestra on all music performed.
3. If compositions selected from the FOA music list are from two classification categories, the easier selection will determine the class entered. (*Note: the difficulty level of each schools selection must be from the same class or one level higher.*)
4. No school shall enter two groups in the same classification.

B. **Music Selection: Please make sure you read and understand all of the following criteria.**

1. Each orchestra must prepare three (3) compositions to be performed (varying in key, style, period, and tempo).
2. Schools entered in classes AS, BS, CS, DS, and ES must perform two (2) string orchestra compositions from the FOA Required Music List (available on the website). The third selection may come from any source.
3. Schools entered in classes AF, BF, CF, and DF must perform two (2) full orchestra compositions from the FOA Required Music List. The third composition may be either full orchestra or string orchestra and may come from any source.
4. Solo concerto, Broadway show tunes, pop tunes, and movie themes are not acceptable for an event of this type and will result in an orchestra being disqualified.
5. Non-published (original music) may be used as the third selection (from any source) for both string and full orchestras.
6. Single movements from the same multi-movement composition may not be counted as separated pieces.

C. While judges shall be instructed to criticize instrumentation only insofar as it affects the balance and general effect of the performance, schools are encouraged to conform as closely as possible with accepted standards of instrumentation.

D. Director/students may perform from an electronic tablet, provided the original music is on site. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.

E. Print music scores may be used provided proof of purchase is attached to each score supplied to the adjudicators. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.

- F. IMSLP or similar resources may be used for performance. A print out of the general information page must be included with each score showing that the copyright is public domain. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.
- G. **Photocopied scores/parts of copyrighted music 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, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given. Published scores must be used.** E Print music scores may be used provided proof of purchase is attached to each musical score supplied to the adjudicators.
- H. **High School orchestras are not allowed to repeat music played at either District or State MPA the previous four (4) years. Middle School orchestras are not allowed to repeat music played at District MPA the previous three (3) years.**
- I. **All Concert MPA applications must have music titles listed. Any application turned in with TBA titles will be considered incomplete and returned to the Director for corrections. (See section I, C above)**
- J. Directors may change music titles on MPA Online up to 10 days prior to the MPA event. Failure to comply with the 10 day rule will result in a rules infraction which will lower the orchestra's overall rating one level.
- K. General Information
1. Each Director will prepare three (3) separate envelopes (one for each judge) containing one score for each selection to be performed on stage with all measures numbered. Failure to provide scores will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments with no rating given. Failure to provide numbered measures will result in a rules infraction which will lower the orchestras' overall rating one level.
 2. Each envelope will be identified on the outside with the name of the school, classification entered, and the director's name. **There should be no other markings, personal notes or other school information contained in or on any part of the envelope or music.**
 3. The stage will be equipped with stands, podium, bass drum, and a set of four (4) timpani. All other percussion equipment needed for full orchestra must be provided by the school performing full orchestra selections.
- VIII. **Warm Up and Stage Performance Procedures District and State Level**
- A. Prior to entering the Warm Up room the Director must turn in the three (3) envelopes (*as mentioned in section 7C, I above*) and their **stage seating chart**. At State MPA, the seating chart must be submitted with the State MPA application.
- B. It is recommended that each orchestra in Class E, DF, DS, CF, and CS be given minimum of thirty (30) minutes to tune and warm up. Orchestras in Class BF, BS, AF, and AS may be given forty (40) minutes to tune and warm up. The Warm Up room may not have any stands at the district level and should be away from the stage area as not to interfere with other performing ensembles. At the state level a sufficient number of music stands will be provided in the warm up room to

accommodate all orchestras participating as follows: one stand per two violin, viola, cello players; one stand per bass player; one stand per wind, percussion players.

- C. Ten (10) minutes prior to performance, each Director is asked to send one (1) student to help with stage set up. Approximately five (5) minutes before the scheduled performance the orchestra should be ready to move to the stage.
- D. Orchestras performing at District or State Concert MPA will be given a thirty (30) minute performance allotment. Orchestras may request a forty-five (45) minute allotment. This time is to include stage entrance, performance, and stage exit. Any orchestra going over their allotted time will have their overall final score lowered by one rating.
- E. Directors should allow for a short pause (less than forty-five (45) seconds) between each piece to let the judges finish writing. The lead judge will indicate when to begin the next selection.
- F. All string students performing on stage must perform the selected literature as a complete ensemble. Ensembles with students that do not participate or leave the stage (unless ill or emergency) will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments with no rating given.
- G. Once an orchestra's stage performance is finished the orchestra should move quickly and quietly to the Sight Reading room at District MPA or clinic room at State MPA.

IX. Scheduling of Concert Performances

A. District Level

- 1. Dates for Concert MPA are selected by each District at their Spring meeting, and get Board approval at the May FOA State Board meeting.
- 2. Schedules are published on the MPA Online website at least two (2) weeks prior to the event.

B. State Level

- 1. Dates for State Concert MPA are set by the Executive Committee and are published on the FOA web site at the beginning of each school year.
- 2. Schedules are published on the MPA Online website two (2) weeks prior to the event.

X. Sight Reading Requirements for District

A. District Level

- 1. Sight Reading at District Concert MPA is mandatory for Middle Schools.
- 2. Sight Reading at District Concert MPA is mandatory for All High Schools.
The Sight Reading score will be added into the performance score to arrive at an overall rating. (See chart below)
- 3. Each orchestra will Sight Read a composition one (1) classification lower than the classification entered for their performance. (Class BF on stage would sight read Class CF)

4. FOA would request seven levels of sight-reading music from a publisher for District MPA Sight-reading; three full orchestra and four string orchestra pieces. All music would be destroyed at the end of the year. Proposed cost is not to exceed \$100.00 per selection. ***The District will be provided sight reading music from the State organization.***
5. The Sight Reading room will have stands, bass drum and timpani.

XI. Sight Reading Procedures for District

- A. Upon entering the Sight Reading room the judge will give the score to be sight read to the Director.
- B. The judge will then ask the students to place their folders under their seats as he/she explains the Sight Reading procedures to the orchestra. The Sight Reading envelopes will also be passed out to the orchestra.
- C. When all envelopes are handed out, the judge will indicate to the Director that he/she has five (5) minutes to study and discuss the music with the orchestra. The Director may do anything except demonstrate any part of the music on an instrument, or have the students play their parts. The judge will notify the Director when one (1) minute is left and will call time after the five (5) minutes have elapsed. If the length of the Sight Reading piece exceeds the normal five (5) minutes, the length of the Sight Reading preparation will be determined in advance by the Sight Reading Committee.
- D. Once the orchestra begins playing, the Director can only use his/her hands or baton to give meaningful conducting gestures. An orchestra whose director makes an obvious contribution to the performance by either singing with or speaking to the students while they are performing shall result in a rules infraction, which will lower the orchestra's overall rating by one level. **(Note: The Director cannot sing, whistle, tap on the stand, yell out rehearsal marks, or call out any other instructions during the performance.)**
- E. The judge will then instruct the orchestra members to pass in the Sight Reading envelopes. Once it is verified that all music has been retrieved the orchestra will be dismissed from the Sight Reading room. *(Unless the orchestra has a Student Conductor)*

XII. Clinic at the State Level

- A. After the stage performance, orchestras will receive a thirty (30) minute workshop with the designated clinician.
- B. The State MPA adjudication panel will consist of five (5) members, with three concert judges and two (2) rotating clinicians. The clinicians are non-scoring members of the panel.

XIII. Student Conductor at District and State Level

- A. Student Conductors will take the podium immediately after the orchestra's Sight Reading is completed.
- B. Student Conductors need have two (2) original scores with measures numbered. (One score for the judge and the other for themselves.)
- C. Memorization of the Student Conducting score is not required.

- D. Results for the Student Conductor do not affect the orchestra's Sight Reading rating or the overall rating.
- E. Student Conductors receiving a Superior will receive a medal.

XIV. Results

The results of each school's Concert MPA participation at both the District and State level are published annually by FSMA with copies of this publication sent to all member schools.

A. District Level

- 1. Overall results for Orchestras at the District level will be as follows: Superior (S), Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), Comments Only (CO) and Disqualification (DQ). See chart below for computation and rating standards.
- 2. *District level rules infractions will result in the District Chairperson lowering the orchestra's overall rating by one level.*
- 3. The posting of results during District Concert MPA is at the discretion of each Districts membership.

B. State Level

- 1. Results for Orchestras at State will be as follows: Superior (S), Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), and Disqualification (DQ). See chart below for computation and rating standards.
- 2. *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.*
- 3. Any infractions of the rules at the State level may result in disqualification of an event.

XV. Standards for Performance

- A. *Superior:* Outstanding performance with no serious flaws.
- B. *Excellent:* Performance generally good, but lacking in small details of refinement.
- C. *Good:* Fairly good performance, but some overall weaknesses.
- D. *Fair:* Performance lacks many basic essentials of tone, intonation, balance, phrasing and accuracy of note values.
- E. *Poor:* Performance poor in most respects.

AVERAGE OF THREE PERFORMANCE RATINGS IN EVERY POSSIBLE COMBINATION

Sup	Exc	Good	Fair	Poor
SSS	SEE	SGG	SFF	SPP
SSE	SEG	SGF	SFP	EPP
SSG	SEP	EGG	EFF	GPP
SSF	SEP	EGF	EFP	FPP
SSP	EEE	EGP	GFF	PPP
	EEG	GGG	GFP	
	EEF	GGF	FFF	
	EEP	GGP	FFP	

FINAL RATING

(Combined Stage Performance and Sight Reading Ratings)

Sup		Exc		Good		Fair		Poor	
<u>P</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>SR</u>
S	S	S	G	E	F	G	P	P	F
S	E	S	F	E	P	F	G	P	P
		S	P	G	E	F	F		
		E	S	G	G	F	P		
		E	E	G	F	P	S		
		E	G	F	S	P	E		
		G	S	F	E	P	G		

District and State Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment

I. General Application Procedures and Information

- A. The application for District and State Solo & Ensemble MPA is located on MPA online. No handwritten applications will be accepted.
- 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 7th day
- D. Request to Perform out of District must be made to both the Executive Director and District Chairperson for your District giving detailed justification for the request. Requests must be received before application deadlines for BOTH your District and the District in which you would like to attend the MPA. Once permission is granted to perform out of district, the director must contact the District Chairperson of the desired district to receive confirmation to perform in that district's MPA.

II. 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 I – C)*

III. 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 I – C)*

IV. 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.

V. 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.)

VI. 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 Middle 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 as stated in the FSMA guidelines.
- 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.
- 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 cannot assume this responsibility).
- G. In order to participate at State Solo & Ensemble, students must first participate at the District level and receive a superior or excellent rating.

VII. 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. Director/students may perform from an electronic tablet, provided the original music is on site. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.
- E. E Print music scores may be used provided proof of purchase is attached to each score supplied to the adjudicators. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.
- F. IMSLP or similar resources may be used for performance. A print out of the general information page must be included with each score showing that the copyright is public domain. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification, receiving judges' comments only with no rating given.
- G. **Photocopied scores/parts of copyrighted music 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, receiving judges' comments with no rating given.**
- H. 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.
- I. 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.
- J. 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.
- K. The maximum number of participants in an ensemble is 11 members.
- L. 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.
- M. Ensembles with six (6) or more members may be conducted by their director.
- N. All ensembles must be complete as scored.
- O. Orchestra music used for ensemble performance may not be performed by that school's orchestra in the same year for a Concert MPA.
- P. Piano accompanists at State Solo & Ensemble may only accompany ten (10) entries.

VIII. Scheduling

- A. District Level
 - 1. Dates for Solo & Ensemble MPA are set by each District at their Spring meeting.
- B. 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.)
 - 1. Schedules should be sent out, or be available to each school participating at least two (2) weeks prior to the event.
- C. State Level
 - 1. Schools will be scheduled on a first come first served basis taking into consideration the distance traveled.
 - 2. Each event will be allotted ten (10) minutes, eight (8) minutes for performance and two (2) minutes for a critique by the judge.
 - 3. Schedules will be available on the FOA website two (2) weeks prior to the event.

IX. 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**
 - 1. 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).
 - 2. District level rules infractions will be dealt with by the District Chairman on an individual basis.
 - 3. The posting of results during District Solo & Ensemble MPA is at the discretion of each District.
- B. **State Level**
 - 1. 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).
 - 2. 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.
 - 3. Any infractions of the rules at the State level will result in disqualification of an event.
 - 4. Comments Only are not allowed at the State level as per 5/16/03 Board motion.

X. Standards for Performance

Superior with Distinction: Outstanding performance resulting in Superior Ratings in all categories on the adjudication sheet, including memorization.

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.

Appendix A
Florida Orchestra Association,
Inc. FMEA All-State
Clinic/Conference
Information Section

1. Hotel/Motel Reservations

Each director should make hotel/motel reservations for himself or herself and his/her students and chaperones, well in advance of the Clinic/Conference. Instructions for making reservations are given each year in the *Florida Music Director* and should be followed to ensure obtaining the special FMEA Convention rates.

2. Chaperones

FMEA rules states that all participating students must be chaperoned. At least one chaperone, other than the director for every 10 students or fraction thereof. Directors should arrange to have enough chaperones so that the director will be free to attend the various events of the clinic.

3. Concert Dress for All Orchestras

Girls: Floor length black skirts/black dress slacks, long sleeved white blouse, black hose and black shoes. No jewelry or large hair ornaments. No perfume.

Boys: Black dress pants, long sleeved white dress shirt, black socks, black shoes, black belt and long black tie. No cologne. No tennis shoes.

4. Pre-Registration

It is to the director's advantage to pre-register with the FMEA Executive Director in advance of the Clinic/Conference/All-State. The deadline for pre-registration is given each year in the *Florida Music Director*. Follow the form given in the *Florida Music Director* or register online at www.flmusiced.org. The name, home address and clinic address, if known, must be given for each student, chaperone and the director. In addition, the director should indicate in which All-State group the students are participating. Pre-registration must be accompanied by the registration fee. Those director who have pre-registered before the deadline will find their complete registration packet awaiting them when they check in at the FMEA registration desk at the Clinic/Conference/All-State.

5. Equipment List for Students

Each student must bring to the Clinic/Conference a folding music stand, his/her instrument(s) and accessories, orchestra music and proper attire for the concert.

6. Clinic/Conference Regulations and FMEA Rules of Conduct

A. General Regulations

1. Directors must accompany their students to the Clinic/Conference and are responsible for the students' registration, transportation, preparation of the orchestra music and, most important, monitoring student conduct while at the Clinic/Conference.
2. The FMEA yearly Clinic/Conference is an activity approved by FSMA. Directors may obtain professional leave for their absence from school and should make request to their principal, well in advance of the Clinic/Conference, for release during the Clinic/Conference dates.
3. The proper behavior of students is of utmost importance. If one student breaks a rule of conduct, the entire school may be disqualified from FMEA Clinic/Conference the following year. Each director should make certain that each of the students knows, understands and abides by the FMEA Rules of Conduct. Any violations should be reported to the FMEA Board.

B. FMEA Rules of Conduct

1. Students must maintain reasonable quiet at all times in hotel rooms, both night and day. People in neighboring rooms, not associated with the Clinic/Conference, may be trying to sleep. TV sets and radios must be played with volume at low level.
2. Students must wear their Clinic/Conference badges and school clothes at all times when outside their rooms.
3. Room doors should be locked at all times.
4. Boys are not allowed to visit girls' rooms and vice versa.
5. Curfew for students on Thursday and Friday nights is 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. on Saturday night. Curfew means that students must be in their rooms and must not leave them after the hour of curfew.
6. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are allowed in students' rooms at any time.
7. Students are not permitted to smoke.
8. Students are not permitted to visit students in other motels/hotels. Nuisance phone calls are prohibited.
9. Students are not allowed to ride in cars unless with chaperones.
10. Students are reminded that extreme caution should be exercised near windows.
11. Nothing should ever be thrown from hotel windows.
12. Good common sense and consideration of others should be exercised at times.

7. Check-List for Directors

- A.** Well in advance (possibly before the summer break), director begins preparing any students who wish to audition.
- B.** Before the posted deadline, director submits applications and auditioning fees to the District Chairperson and prepares students for the taping session at the designated dated, site and time as scheduled by the District Chairperson.

- C. Director selects chaperones and makes hotel/motel reservations for self, students and chaperones.
- D. Students unable to attend All-State
 - 1. Notify the Executive Director by the published date, IN WRITING (Only fax, e-mail, FedEx, UPS, or US Postal Service or equivalent), of any student not able to attend All-State. This date may be found on the FOA website, Parental Agreement Form, and calendar. Please note: Notification via the FOA All-State Message Boards is not acceptable.
 - 2. Immediately return music to the Executive Director.
- E. After the students receive their music from the Orchestra Chair, director rehearses students on their parts.
- F. Director pre-registers self, students and chaperones by registering online at www.flmusiced.org.
- G. The director arranges for transportation of students, instruments and any other equipment.
- H. Several days before Clinic/Conference/All-State, the director should:
 - 1. Prepare copies of the FMEA Rules of Conduct to give to each student and chaperone.
 - 2. Prepare typewritten list of students, chaperones and self, with boys and girls listed separately, for the hotel manager.
 - 3. Remind students:
 - a. To bring to Clinic/Conference/All-State their instrument, music and folding music stand for rehearsals.
 - b. To bring proper All-State concert attire.
 - c. To obey FMEA Rules of Conduct.

8. Only for Directors Who Did Not Pre-Register

Prepare typewritten list of names, home addresses and Clinic/Conference/All-State addresses for each student, chaperone and self (also indicating in which All-State organization each student is participating) for FMEA registration at Clinic/Conference/All-State. The director should also collect the registration fee from each student.

- A. First day of clinic, upon arrival:
 - 1. Director gives students and chaperones copies of Rules of Conduct.
 - 2. Director instructs students.
 - 3. "Lights out" time.
 - 4. Clinic/Conference/All-State transportation system (if available).
 - 5. Encourages students to visit exhibits.
 - 6. Reminds students to be prompt at rehearsals.
 - 7. Reminds students that no one may be excused from rehearsal without permission from the FOA President or Executive Director.
 - 8. Informs students of all scheduled rehearsal times and places.
 - 9. Suggests a good restaurant and reminds students to eat 3 times a day.
 - 10. Warns students to avoid "questionable" areas during their free time.
 - 11. Warns students to guard their instruments and luggage at all times.
- B. The director checks with chaperones to be sure they are properly briefed and

will know how to handle any situation.

- C.** The director gives hotel/motel manager a typewritten list of names of students and chaperones and self.
- D.** The director checks in at the FMEA registration desk. NO ONE else may do this for the director.
- E.** On the last day of the Clinic/Conference/All-State, before checking out, the director should check each hotel room for forgotten articles and for any damage by students. This check is for the director's protection.