

MSHSL MUSIC COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Directors

- 1) Must submit appropriate forms PRIOR to the contest. This includes:
 - Contest Entry Form
 - Eligibility Form
 - Payment to “Region 8A”

Forms/Resources:

Music Entry Form, Eligibility Form and Adjudication Forms can be found at:

<https://www.mshsl.org/sports-and-activities/music>

2) Fees are as follows:

- \$15 per Solosist
- \$15 per Ensemble
- \$60 per Large Group Entry
- \$20 per Jazz/Pop/Chamber Groups participating in Ensemble Contest
- Checks should be made out to “Region 8A”
(check with your business office as to where the funds are taken from. Example: All MSHSL activities payments are run through the AD and Activities budget in the RLF School District and not through the music budget.)

3) Music:

- You must use LEGAL copies of music. Digital/E-print copies are accepted but you must provide proper paperwork that you have purchased the correct number of copies. Photocopies of original scores are not acceptable. Accompanists must also have LEGAL copies of music.
- Must have 2 LEGAL copies of music for Solo and Ensemble contest for the judge and accompanist. 3 Legal copies if the piece is accompanied and not memorized.

- Must have 3 LEGAL copies of music for Large Group Competition (3 for judges and additional copies for conductor and accompanist if used).
- Measures should be numbered on all copies of music
- It is highly recommended to use good, quality music for competitions. Unless a Pop Group is performing, Pop music should be avoided.
- Large Group Competitions: Pieces of varying contrast should be performed. At least 1 piece must be taken from the approved MSHSL list. A suggested number of pieces to be performed at Large Group Contest is 2

VOCAL Approved List:

https://mshsl-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/aince_mshsl_or_g/EfDX3N6-4FVHojbP8fGtC5UBexvVAsJ1IGlkDoPg_uDWhg?rtime=YsRc2G1U2kg

INSTRUMENTAL Approved List:

https://mshsl-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/aince_mshsl_or_g/ERdI0wfdgYhNhITZ7FixnMEBThBDmUEzjy8H9jThGHIP2w?e=8glv4u

- You may submit a piece to be approved by the MSHS Music Advisory Committee via email to [Tim Leighton](mailto:Tim.Leighton@mshsl.org)
tleighton@mshsl.org
Here is a link to the letter regarding information:
<https://www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/2021-22-music-approval-process-instructions.pdf>

Here is a link to the application form:

<https://www.mshsl.org/form/2022-2023-mshsl-music-approval-a>

Dates to submit music are: Oct. 31, Nov. 30, Jan. 31, Feb. 28

4) Restrictions

- A student may not perform in more than three Solo and Ensemble events (total Solo and Ensemble) in either vocal or instrumental. A student may not perform in the same solo event twice. Students may perform in more than one solo event, but each solo must be a different event. For example, a student may perform a Snare Drum Solo (Event 71) and a Timpani Solo (Event 72); or a Soprano Solo (Event 40) and a Mezzo Soprano (Event 41). A student is not allowed to perform a Trumpet Solo and Cornet Solo (Event 65); or two Tenor Solos (Event 43), since those are both under the same event and represent the same repertoire.
- Students may perform in more than one ensemble and may perform in the same ensemble category more than once, provided the ensemble is different in each performance. For example, a student could play in a Clarinet Duet and a Clarinet Quartet (both Event 25); Vocal Duet (Event 11) and a Barbershop Quartet (Event 15); or two different Mixed Ensembles (Event 14). However, a student cannot perform in two Clarinet Duets, or in two Vocal Duets.
- A student may perform in any combination of Solo and Ensemble as noted above, but **the maximum number of entries for any individual in Solo and Ensemble is three.** It does not restrict a student appearing in three instrumental events from appearing in three vocal events.

Clarification: Vocal and Instrumental Contests are considered different entities. Therefore, the same student may participate in 3 vocal solo events, 3 instrumental solo events, 3 vocal ensemble events and 3 instrumental

ensemble events provided the events are in different categories.

- A student may perform in more than one choir, band, or orchestra only if it is a separate group and not created for the sole purpose of contest participation and the student is a participating member in each group. A student may perform in a mixed choir and as a member of an SSA (A) or TTBB group only if it is a separate, bona-fide, group and not created for the sole purpose of contest participation and the student is a participating member in each group.

5) Eligibility

- The Composition of major (large group) high school performing groups shall include grades 10-12.

“The MSHSL requires large performance groups to be made up of primarily 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students are eligible to participate with these performance groups if they are part of the regular ensemble. Ninth grade choirs, band and orchestras are not eligible to be involved as large performing groups. 7th and 8th grade students are not eligible for solo or ensemble contests. However; 9th grade students are eligible for solo/ensemble performance if they are a member of that school's high school student population and are a member of one of that high school's major performing groups which includes grades 10-12.”

- **REGION 8A AMENDMENT:** On Oct. 5, 2022, the Region 8A Board approved the following:

7th & 8th grade students will be eligible to participate in Ensemble and/or Large Group Contests provided they are a current member of a bonafide 7th - 12th grade performing group within their school. If a 7th & 8th grade performing group is a separate entity from the varsity group, they are NOT allowed to participate in Ensemble and/or Large Group Contest.

Large Group: 7th-12th as long as 7th, 8th & 9th graders are part of the 10th-12th grade bonafide performing group

Ensemble Contest: 7th-12th as long as 7th, 8th and 9th graders are part of the 10th-12th bonafide performing group.

Solo Contest: 9th - 12th as long as 9th graders are part of the 10th-12 bonafide performing group.

- Administration must sign off on Eligibility Statements in order for your student(s) to participate in the MSHSL Contest.

6) Other

- Students are encouraged to dress appropriately when participating in a MSHSL Music Contest.
- Students should make every effort to watch other performers throughout the contest in order to learn and grow.
- Memorization of Vocal music is strongly encouraged
- Make sure to note to the Host Site if you only have 1 accompanist for your students so they do not overlap your times in the schedule.
- Percussionists must provide their own mallets/sticks for contests.
- Directors are encouraged to become registered judges for our music competitions. There is a high need for qualified judges in our region. Region 8A pays judges \$125 + mileage per contest. More information and registration process can be found by clicking on the link:

<https://www.mshsl.org/who-are-you/fine-arts-judges>

- If you are interested, the MSHSL is encouraging all directors and coaches to sign-up on their Coach's Dashboard. Here is the link to begin the process:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MWOOb7VdhpC_QZIHmdQGEZEOCZu7LeerMyonGF8z7a70/edit?usp=sharing

Host Directors

- It is **STRONGLY** suggested that paperwork and payments be submitted to you **2 weeks prior** to the contest in order for you to make schedules, check that Large Group piece(s) are on the MSHSL Approved List, etc...
- It is suggested that directors NOT be bringing paperwork and payments to the contest itself, but rather turn it in earlier in order for you as the Contest Manger to do your job in an appropriate time frame.
- You must hire judges that have taken the Adjudicator Course through the MSHSL.
Here is a link to the Approved Judges List:
<https://www.mshsl.org/fine-arts-judge-eligible-list>
- Pianos should be tuned and in good condition. Region 8A pays for the tuning of pianos used in MSHSL Contests.

- Section Manager's Report and ALL payments should be mailed to (As of August 1, 2022) in a timely manner:

Mike Kolness
Region 8A Secretary
1512 Laurel Drive SE
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
218-784-8590 (cell)

- When scheduling groups, please do NOT schedule a majority of a school in the same room and in a row. Try to allow time for students to listen to performers from other schools. Also, be aware to give accompanists/directors plenty of time to get from one room to another.
- A Google Spreadsheet has been a nice way to schedule the contest. In our Sub-Section, the contest manager schedules the schools/rooms/times and directors can put in the name of ensembles/solos where he/she wants.
- Please provide a schedule to directors 1 week prior to the contest. This will help directors make appropriate plans.
- Plan to post results frequently for students and directors to see. It is nice for students and directors to have critique sheets (if possible) before they depart the contest. It helps with the learning and teaching process to get feedback at the contest.
- Certificates should be secured through the Region 8A Secretary PRIOR to the contest. Certificates should be typed and mailed to the director in a timely fashion. At this time, only 1 certificate is provided by the MSHSL per entry. Some Host Directors choose to create additional certificates using a template or photocopying in order to provide each member of an ensemble with his/her own certificate. Those groups that receive a Superior Rating at Large Group Contest

may choose to purchase a trophy at their school's expense. It may be a good idea to include the trophy order form with the critique sheet.

- It is a good idea to provide refreshments and numerous pencils for the judges!

HERE IS THE LINK TO THE FULL GUIDELINES FOR THE MSHSL CONTESTS:

<https://www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/Music%20Policies%20and%20Guidelines%202022-23%20.pdf>