

Solo & Ensemble Festival - Virtual

1. Description

- a. The Solo & Ensemble Festivals are events in which individual students and small ensembles, grades 6 – 12, have the opportunity to submit a YouTube link and receive comments and/or a rating from a qualified adjudicator.
- b. The experience is designed to encourage individualized as well as ensemble instruction and participation.
- c. The event is open to all students who are members of their school's music program.
- d. Students who attend schools which do not offer a comprehensive music program may also participate (e.g. Community College High School).
- e. **Teachers must be NMEA members in order for their students to participate at a lower price.**
- f. **Students MAY record together in the same room.**

2. Policies and Procedures

- a. Festival Structure
 - i. The NMEA Solo & Ensemble (Virtual) Festivals are a NON-competition style festival in which students will be given a professional critique and over-all rating.
 - ii. The NMEA Solo & Ensemble Festivals shall be comprised of the following levels:
 1. Regional Zone
 - iii. The NMEA website (nmeamusic.org) will indicate all dates and digital forms for Solo & Ensemble Festivals.
 - iv. Solo & Ensemble issues must be presented to the board by the students' NMEA member educator.
- b. Registration
 - i. Registration will be through Google Forms.
 - ii. Students will have one week (Fall 11/14-11/29 & Spring 2/14-2/18) to submit their video with payment and application. Late submissions will not be allowed. This includes names of ALL participants. No further notification will be sent.
- c. Participation
 - i. Student Eligibility
 1. Students must be members of their school's music program.
 2. Schools that do not have a music program must have a NMEA member sponsor in order for students to participate.
 - ii. Ensembles (2 or more participants)
 1. Maximum Number of Participants
 - a. Instrumental ensembles can be any size.
 - b. High School Choral ensembles can be any size.
 - c. Middle/Junior High Choral ensembles can be any size.
 2. Interschool/Organization Ensembles
 - a. When an ensemble is composed of students from multiple schools/organizations it is the responsibility of the educator who registers the ensemble to inform the educators of the participating students.

- i. When multiple registrations for the same ensemble are received NMEA will not refund additional monies paid.
 3. Ensembles may perform with or without a conductor.
- iii. Performances
1. Time Allotments
 - a. Vocal Solos may not exceed five (5) minutes of performance time.
 - b. Vocal Ensembles and Instrumental Solo & Ensembles may not exceed seven (7) minutes of performance time.
 - i. Ensembles may only perform one selection.
 2. Video Recording and Uploading Video
 - a. Recordings must be made within the current school year.
 - b. Videos must be unedited except for title sequence.
 - c. The contestant's face, hands and feet must be clearly visible in the recordings when possible. (we need to see *what* is making the music)
 - d. Videos do NOT need to be recorded separately and spliced together. Students may record together in the same room/space.
 3. Memorization
 - a. Recommendation:
 - i. Vocal Solos and Ensembles should be memorized.
 - ii. String Solos should be memorized.
 - iii. Wind and Percussion Solos **need not be memorized** at regional zone and command levels.
 - iv. Instrumental Ensembles **need not be memorized** at regional zone and command levels.
 4. Music
 - a. Each entry will self verify that they have original music
 - b. Vocal Solo repertoire will be selected from standard classical literature.
 - c. Directors are encouraged to select music which will be challenging and commensurate to the student's ability.
 - d. Performers are not permitted to repeat literature they have performed in previous years' NMEA Solo & Ensemble Festivals.
 5. Accompaniment
 - a. Performers must provide their own accompanist or backing track.
 6. Ratings
 - a. Ratings will be emailed to the student and teacher upon payment confirmation
 - b. Students may elect to receive a rating or "Comments Only"
 - c. All comments, questions, and concerns should be directed to the event chair or an NMEA board member.
 - i. Only NMEA members can bring complaints and requests to the board.
- iv. Fees and Medals
- d. Entry fees are \$10.00 per Performer (Duet \$20, Trio \$30, etc)
 - e. Participants that score a "Superior" will receive a medal, which will be sent to their school.