

## **NCKMEA High School Choir Clinic/Concert** (excerpted from the NCKMEA handbook, pp.17-24)

### **General Dates**

The North Central District will hold a High School Mini-Convention corresponding to the following dates:

High School Choir, Orchestra, and Band                      1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in December

### **Honor Ensembles**

- **High School Level** - Band, Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Band

Each participating school must be a member of KSHSAA, or a KSHSAA Approved school, and be in good standing with the organization. Directors who register students for the North Central Honor ensembles must be a member in good standing with the KMEA.

Participating students must be enrolled in the performance area at their school, if one exists, during the semester in which they participate. Special circumstances are left to the discretion of the District Executive Board.

All schools submitting auditions will be represented in an ensemble provided student(s) meet a minimum audition score.

### **4 Year Medallion**

The North Central District will award a 4 Year Medallion to any student who has participated in any North Central District High School Honor Ensemble for all four years of their high school tenure.

### **Honor Ensemble Auditions/Selection Process**

#### **A. High School Choir (Grades 9-12)**

1. Students who audition for an Honor Ensemble in the North Central District must be enrolled in a music program whose Director is an active member of KMEA/NAfME.
2. Auditions for placement in the North Central District Band, Choir, and Orchestra will take place on the first Saturday in November.
3. Students must be registered and supervised by a staff member from their music department while at the audition site.
4. Directors who send students to audition must be in attendance and willing to judge.
5. Choir Directors who need to make a voice part change to a registered audition must (1) cancel the original registration, then (2) re-register the student with the appropriate voice part. Late fees will apply if re-registration happens after the deadline.

## **Administration of Live Auditions (High School Level)**

1. The State Choir Chair/ District Orchestra Chair/ Individual Room Band Judges will determine cuts of the audition music to fit into an eight minute or less audition time. The cuts will be posted by 8:30 a.m. in the warm-up area.
2. Audition times will not be assigned. Students will audition on a first-come, first-served basis.
3. A screen will separate the judges from the auditioning students and the judges will not have access to the student's names or schools.
4. Students will play for a panel of no less than two but no more than three judges.
5. Auditions will include scales, the etude material, and sight-reading. The three scores will be tallied to determine District Festival Group participants.
6. Sight-reading selections for Band auditions will be chosen by the District Chairs.
7. Tie-breaking criteria
  - A. Choir
    1. Seniority (Previous District Choir participation then Grade Level)
    2. School district representation within choir
8. Results will be posted on the North Central District website no later than Wednesday following the auditions. Music will be mailed to the respective schools.
9. All schools submitting auditions will be represented in at least one honor group, provided student(s) have met the minimum performance score.

## **AUDITION RECORDING PROCEDURES**

If a student is unable to attend Live Auditions due to a conflict with a KSHSAA event or the FFA State/National Band that takes place on the same day, the musician will be allowed to make a single recording of the required audition materials with the District Chair. Recordings made by the student or the student's director will not be accepted.

Requirements:

1. The musician's director must register the audition.
2. The recording will take place the Wednesday evening before District auditions. Thursday will be the weather contingency date.
3. The recording session will be held at Manhattan High School, or at a location mutually agreed upon by the Student, Director and Chairperson.
4. The student and the director must be at the recording session.
5. The musician's director will contact the District Chair before Friday the week before District Auditions to schedule a time for recording the audition - a 20-minute time slot will be allotted.
6. The choir audition materials will be the State Audition pieces.
7. A warm-up room will be provided.
8. The musician will make a single recording of the required audition materials.
9. Once the recording session begins, the District Chair will pause the recording for one minute between each major section of the musical passages (since they are having to record the full audition materials).

10. When the recording is played for the judges at the live auditions, the judges will critique the same sections of the solo/etudes performed by students auditioning at the live-audition session.
11. Two members of the executive committee will attend the recording session.

## **Fees & Honorariums**

Audition and Participation fees will be assessed as follows:

	<b>High School</b>
<b>Audition Fee</b>	\$12.00
<b>Participation Fee</b>	\$15.00
<b>Late Fees</b>	Double fees (band, orchestra, Jazz band)
	Choir follows State late fee rules.

## **Clinician / Accompanist / Special Musician Honorariums**

	<b>High School</b>
<b>Clinician/Conductor</b>	\$450.00
<b>Accompanist</b>	\$150.00
<b>Special Musician</b>	\$50.00

All clinicians and accompanists will be paid the honorarium plus mileage, at the current state KMEA rate, and expenses. All mileage and expenses will cap at \$250.00. Hotel costs, if any, will be paid by the North Central District on top of mileage and expenses.

## **Fee Deadlines / Penalties**

A. **Deadlines** - The following are the general dates for the various entries and fees:

1. High School Band, Choir and Orchestra Audition fee payment(s) are due on or before 8 days prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in November (HS audition day). Please print two copies of the online invoice and send one with payment. Double fees will be assessed if payment is not received 8 days before the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in November (audition day).
2. High School Band, Choir and Orchestra Participation fee payment is due on or before on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in December (HS Mini-Convention). Please print two copies of the online invoice and send one with payment. Double fees will be assessed if payment is not received on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in December (HS Mini-Convention).

**IT IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO PAY FEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

We will continue to have our HS auditions on the first Saturday in November with the option of changing the date if there is a major KSHSAA conflict with the date and that will be left to the discretion of the NCKMEA Executive Board.

### **B. Penalties**

1. Payment must be delivered to the Executive Director by the posted deadline or double fees will be assessed.
2. Schools must pay any outstanding balances by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year or they will not be allowed to participate in the event carrying the outstanding balance the following year.
3. Appeals for an exception to this penalty (for example, if a teacher enters a District where a former teacher neglected to pay the fees) can be made to the North Central District Executive Committee.

## **Responsibilities**

### **A. Chairperson Responsibility**

1. Each chairperson will provide the chair elect with a notebook outlining all duties and responsibilities.
2. Organize honor groups that will perform at each respective Mini-Convention & Clinic/Concerts.
3. Secure the services of a clinician for the honor group.
4. Provide the Executive Director with all contact information for the clinician, accompanist, and/or special musicians.
5. Organize audition selection committee or handle selection process of group.
6. Determine instrumentation/part distribution of honor group.
7. Work with clinician to select and distribute music for honor group.
8. Secure needed equipment for performance.
9. Host and supervise honor group rehearsals and performance.
10. Provide a report at District meeting(s) of respective area directors.
11. HS only: Report students who are eligible for State Ensemble participation to District President by Monday following Mini-Convention in December.
12. HS only: Secure needed equipment for recording auditions on the Wednesday before
13. HS only: Schedule recorded auditions in 20 increments.
14. HS only: Coordinate with site manager, executive council, and other HS chairs for recording auditions

### **B. District Responsibility**

1. Will not allow students to be selected to both choral and instrumental groups.
2. Provide teachers in the District the information, rules, regulations, and guidelines concerning District and State honor groups.

### **C. School Responsibility**

1. Supervision, conduct, and behavior of participating honor group students.
2. Will be a member of KSHSAA in good standing.
3. Will determine student eligibility according to KSHSAA and their school district guidelines.

4. Will meet entry and payment deadlines as determined by District.

#### **D. Teacher Responsibility**

1. Will abide by all policies and procedures of the North Central District of KMEA.
2. Must be a member in good standing of KMEA/NAfME

#### **E. Student Responsibility**

1. Will be in good standing according to the rules and guidelines for participation established for KSHSAA eligibility and the resident school.
2. Must be in the following grades to participate in the following groups:
  - a. High School Honor Groups - Grades 9-12
  - b. Must be enrolled in performance area during semester of audition.
  - c. Must be enrolled in performance area in which they audition, if one exists at the resident school.
  - d. Will audition according to the rules and regulations of the North Central District.
  - e. Will participate in rehearsal and concert at respective Mini-Convention - this participation is required to be eligible for the State Festival Group.

**Exception:** *Any absence due to an emergency conflict that will affect the rehearsals or performance at the District Mini-Convention must be approved by the District Chairperson and District President. (Note: SAT and ACT Tests are not regarded as emergency conflicts; however, a student may be excused for the SAT English Competency Test upon prior notification of the District Chairperson and the District President).*

#### **Event Cancellation**

- A. In case of inclement weather, the Executive Board of the North Central District will decide whether or not to cancel an event.
- B. Any cancellations will be posted on the District website. KMAN radio, WIBW and KSNT will be contacted. A mass e-mail will also be sent to the North Central District membership. The membership may also contact the respective ensemble chairperson if weather is in question.
- C. Clinicians will be paid half the stipend due to the cancellation of an event. Clinicians will also be paid any travel expenses incurred prior to the cancellation of an event.
- D. If the event is cancelled - **there will be no refund of fees.**