

Waterford Mott High School Orchestras

SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

- FESTIVAL DATE: Friday, January 15, 2016•••
- FESTIVAL DATE: Saturday, January 16, 2016•••

Dear Students and Parents,

This letter is to invite and encourage Mott High School students to participate in this year's District 4 Solo & Ensemble Festival. This is an event sponsored by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) and is designed to help instrumental students improve and to receive constructive educational comments from a professional adjudicator. The students may enter as a soloist and/or in a small ensemble (duet, trio, quartet, etc.) in a maximum of **three events and two chamber events** (over 9 players). The event will be held on ***Friday, January 15, 2016 and Saturday, January 16, 2016.***

Students will be rated and awarded one of the following Divisions: Division I (Superior); Division II (Excellent); Division III (Good); Division IV (Fair); and Division V (Poor). Students who receive a Division I or II will be eligible to receive their medals at the festival.

We feel many of the students would benefit from working in a small ensemble, and are capable of doing an excellent job. The music should be of a "classical" or "symphonic" nature, not from "pop" tunes or show tunes. We will help the students pick their music if needed, and we are willing to help the student(s) prepare their music. Students who would like our help will need to be able to meet outside the school day. All students will need to play their piece for us a couple of times before the festival to show their progress.

Please consider this opportunity, and decide if you are going to participate. Detailed information is attached on the following sheet. Please note: Since most solos need a piano accompaniment, it will be your responsibility to find one or pay the fee for the school accompanist. The form must be filled out and returned to Mr. Karpinsky by **Friday, October 30, 2015, at the time of their class.** Last-minute additions ARE NOT POSSIBLE. Please feel free to email or call if you have any questions, **KarpiN01@wsdmi.org.**

Sincerely,
Mr. Karpinsky
Director of Orchestras
Waterford Mott H.S.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Important Dates

Deadline for entry: **Friday, October 30, 2015**
Dates of Festival: **Friday, January 15, 2016**
Saturday, January 16, 2016

Cost to perform

Solo w/your own accompanist	\$10.00
Solo w/Mott accompanist.....	\$50.00 (orchestra students)
Piano Solo	\$14.00
Duet	\$ 9.00 each person
Trio	\$ 9.00 each person
Quartet	\$ 9.00 each person
Quintet	\$ 9.00 each person
Sextet	\$ 9.00 each person
Septet	\$ 9.00 each person
Octet	\$ 9.00 each person
Chamber Ensemble	\$ 7.00 per student

NOTE: This is a **NON-refundable** fee, so **Please** be certain that you can participate before you pay.

Place

Hartland High School will be hosting this years Solo & Ensemble Festival. Directions will be provided as we get closer to the Festival, or you can use a computer mapping site like mapquest.com or yahoo.com or others.

Other Information

1. Medals will be available free of charge if you receive a I or II rating.
2. If you are performing a solo, you must find an accompanist. We will help if necessary.
3. You must find your own ride to the Festival.
4. There will be concession-type food available the day of the performance.

Information from the MSBOA Rule Book

1. The music must be a minimum of two (2) minutes long or no rating will be given.
2. You must *number each measure* of the score to your music for the judge.
3. Students must be in the warm-up room approximately 30 minutes before their scheduled playing time. The warm-up room is to be used for the purpose of tuning and briefly warming up the instrument. No more than one soloist or one ensemble is to warm up at a time.
4. All events are open to the public. The performance room will not be cleared for any event.
5. The host school and MSBOA cannot assume any responsibility for lost or stolen property and equipment. (Suggestion: keep money with you and leave nothing of value in any room).

Name _____

WM Orchestra Solo & Ensemble Festival

REGISTRATION FORM FOR
SOLOS

If you are interested in performing a solo at Solo and Ensemble Festival on January 15th or 16th, 2016, please fill in the following information and return with your money – **Please use a separate sheet for each event you are entering.** More forms are available from your teacher, if needed.

- I am going to participate in a SOLO at Solo & Ensemble Festival **Cost: \$10.00**
 I am going to participate in a PIANO SOLO at Solo & Ensemble Festival **Cost: \$14.00**

Student's Name _____

Instrument: _____ Grade: _____

Accompanist (check one):

- I am using my own—Name of accompanist: _____
 I need help finding an accompanist for my solo.

TOTAL COST → \$ _____

How will you be paying?

- Cash or Check Submitted –
• Please make out your check to: *Waterford Mott Band Boosters*
 Take it from my Orchestra Student Account
• Orchestra Students: you must have funds in your account to use this option. Login to charms to verify the funds are available in your account.

Which Day and Time Preference?

Friday, Jan. 15 from 5-9 pm

Saturday, Jan. 16 from 8 am - 5 pm

Early

Middle

Late

Please turn this form and your entrance fee in to Mr. Karpinsky by **Friday, October 30, 2015.** Students who turn information and money late will not be allowed to participate. Checks need to be made out to **Waterford Mott Band Boosters.**

My son/daughter has my permission to participate in solo and ensemble festival on Friday, January 15, 2016 or Saturday, January 16, 2016, and I will provide transportation for them.

Date

Parent Signature

Name _____

WM Orchestra Solo & Ensemble Festival

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR
ENSEMBLES**

If you are interested in performing a solo at Solo and Ensemble Festival on January 15th or 16th, 2016, please fill in the following information and return with your money – **Please use a separate sheet for each event you are entering.** More forms are available from your teacher, if needed.

I am going to participate in a small ensemble event at Festival:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duet (2) \$ 9.00 each person | <input type="checkbox"/> Trio (3) \$ 9.00 each person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quartet (4) \$ 9.00 each person | <input type="checkbox"/> Quintet (5) \$ 9.00 each person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sextet (6) \$ 9.00 each person | <input type="checkbox"/> Septet (7) \$ 9.00 each person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Octet (8) \$ 9.00 each person | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamber Ensemble (9+) \$7.00 per student |

These are the people in my group: (List names)

Each person must fill out a form and the list below should be the same.

NAME	INSTRUMENT
1. _____	_____ (leader)
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____

TOTAL COST → \$ _____

How will you be paying?

- Cash or Check Submitted –
- Please make out your check to: *Waterford Mott Band Boosters*
- Take it from my Orchestra Student Account
- Orchestra Students: you must have funds in your account to use this option.

Which Day and Time Preference? Friday, Jan. 15 from 5-9 pm

Saturday, Jan. 16 from 8 am - 5 pm Early Middle Late

Please turn this form and your entrance fee in to Mr. Karpinsky by Friday, October 30, 2015. Students who turn information and money late will not be allowed to participate. Checks need to be made out to **Waterford Mott Band Boosters.**

My son/daughter has my permission to participate in solo and ensemble festival on Friday, January 15, 2016 or Saturday, January 16, 2016, and will provide transportation for them.

_____ Date

_____ Parent Signature

Festival Philosophy

Solo & Ensemble Festival is an activity sponsored by the Michigan School Band & Orchestra Association (MSBOA). MSBOA is a statewide organization that provides activities that promote music education and achievement through educational adjudication by certified judges. Solo & Ensemble Festival is an opportunity for students to perform one or more musical selections for a single judge, to receive a written evaluation, and sometimes, verbal comments. These comments will all address ways in which the student can improve their musical abilities. The Festival is organized such that students may select music that is at their individual performance level. It is an honor for a high school band or orchestra director to have a lot of his/her students attend such a festival.

Accompanists

If you are taking a piece of music that has a piano part (either a solo OR an ensemble), you **MUST** have an accompanist. Otherwise you will not receive a rating. You may also use the school accompanist, but please include the fee for them with your S & E Festival registration. We will contact students who use the WK accompanist regarding when you will rehearse with them (please give your Director the piano accompaniment ASAP and they will get it to the accompanist).

Evaluation

Students are evaluated and then given a final rating ranging from "Division I" through "Division V." These ratings are basically equivalent to an overall grade of "A" for a Division I; "B" for Division II; "C" for Division III; "D" for Division IV; and "E" for Division V. Students who receive a Division I or II will receive a free medal of recognition which can be picked up soon after their rating has been posted (before they leave the Festival site). There is no 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or last place at S & E Festival...ALL students have the opportunity to receive a Division I rating if they work hard enough.

Festival Location and Transportation

The S & E Festival will be at Hartland High School. We will probably not have exact information for you regarding your performance time until about a week before the Festival. **Remember, students are responsible for their own transportation (including transportation of their instrument) to and from the Festival site. Whatever you do, DON'T LEAVE YOUR INSTRUMENT OR MUSIC LOCKED UP AT MOTT ON FRIDAY NIGHT BEFORE THE FESTIVAL! TAKE IT HOME ON FRIDAY NIGHT!!**

State Solo & Ensemble

If you get a Division I rating at District S & E Festival, you will automatically be eligible to go to State S & E Festival. The date for State is: **Saturday, March 26, 2011**. This Festival is usually held at Rochester Stoney Creek High School. It is a great honor to go to State, and we would encourage you to do so if you get a "I." The decision has to be made right away, however...forms for State are due the week after District...so let us know!

Award Points

Everyone who goes to S & E Festival will receive points for **each** entered event in the WM Orchestra Award Program. If you go to State, you will receive additional points for each event you take to State. Please consult your band or orchestra director to determine the exact amount.

Rehearsal Requirements

Students who choose to participate in Solo & Ensemble Festival (this is not required) are expected to rehearse with Mr. Karpinsky at least one time prior to the Festival. See your Director to sign up for FREE HELP on your music after school or during Seminar time. If you want to schedule more than one time to meet with a teacher, you are welcome to do so. We *strongly recommend*, however, that you find a **private lesson teacher** to help you with your music, as this will be the very best source of help. Let us know if you want help finding a good lessons teacher. Either way, we are here to help, so let us know how we can help you.

Your Director will invite you to perform your music in ORCHESTRA CLASS near the middle of January. This will be an opportunity for you to play your music in a public setting before you play for the judge in February at the Festival. This is a perfect time to give your piece a try and it will help you to "get the jitters out." It will also give you an opportunity to receive some written and verbal comments from your Director before Festival.

Music Selection Guidelines

Students can play a solo (with or without accompaniment—whatever the music specifies) and/or an ensemble (between 2 and 8 players). **If a musical selection is published with an accompaniment (piano or other), it must be performed with this accompaniment, or no rating will be given (only written comments will be given).** Students must perform a minimum of two minutes, or no rating will be given. To satisfy the minimum time requirement, you may play more than one piece, but this is not recommended. The maximum time allowed for a selection is six minutes—you may be asked to stop if the time goes over this. This will not negatively affect your rating; it is just a way to keep the Festival day on schedule.

The student must provide the judge with the original score (the part which shows piano and your part together for solos; or the part which shows all ensemble parts together). **The score must have all its measures numbered.** Due to copyright laws, you must provide the adjudicator with the original score (not a photocopy) and you might be asked to prove that you own or possess an original copy of your part as well (no photocopied parts should be used either). Students may use a copy of the original for their personal use and for the use of the accompanist (just be prepared to show that you do indeed own or possess the originals). Violations of any of the above rules will result in no rating being given.

If we can assist students in choosing musical selections that are appropriate for S & E Festival, let us know. As you are choosing your music, or as we help you select your music, the difficulty level of your music should stretch you a little bit and be within your capability to play an excellent complete musical performance. There is no extra points or credit given for an extremely hard piece that is partially learned, or one that you cannot play with all of the musical aspects required. If we do not have the right music in our files, we will make every effort to recommend appropriate music that you can purchase. Due to severe budget restrictions, however, we will most likely NOT be able to purchase music for students to use at S & E. Students are encouraged to purchase this music anyway (even if we DO have it in our library) to begin and develop their own personal music library. Here are 2 good sources of S & E music:

- **JW Pepper Company 800-345-6296 www.jwpepper.com (go to “Catalog & Services” then “Complete Catalog” and then “Solo & Ensemble”)**
- **SharMusic.Com 800-248-7427 www.sharmusic.com (go to “Online Store” then to “Sheet Music”) [for string and piano music only]**

Remember to find **appropriate** music for S & E Festival...music should be “classical” or “symphonic” in nature, because pop music and show tunes are not appropriate.

Opportunity to Play in District & State Honor Groups

Students who go to District Solo & Ensemble and receive a Division One rating qualify for State Solo & Ensemble. Students who play a solo at State S & E and receive a Division One on Proficiency III their senior year may qualify for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honor Band or Orchestra. ***This is the single greatest honor that can be achieved by a high school musician—to perform in an All-State group.*** To date, only three orchestra students have made it into the MYAF Orchestra.

FROM THE DIRECTORS

We believe that student participation in the Solo & Ensemble process is the best indicator of the health of our program and of our groups. While we are here ready to help you prepare for S & E, this is largely a process of self-preparation for each student and it showcases their abilities and successes. We would love to see EVERY STUDENT PARTICIPATE! We realize that this is not possible or practical for everyone, though.

PLEASE do not underestimate the importance of Solo & Ensemble Festival to:

- YOU AS AN INDIVIDUAL
- YOUR BAND OR ORCHETRA PROGRAM
- YOUR DIRECTOR

When kids get involved in Solo & Ensemble, when they are enthusiastic about it, and when they are successful at it, we know that WE ARE ON THE RIGHT TRACK!!