

**INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM FOR**  
**SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST**

Hilda Walker Intermediate School, 19900 S. 80<sup>th</sup> Ave., Tinley Park, Illinois  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2012

The solo & ensemble contest is for Cadet Band, Concert Choir and Concert Band members. All band members will have their private teacher select a solo and possibly an ensemble, if the private instructor chooses to do so, for them to perform at the contest. The choir members will get their solo and ensemble through Mrs. Schaap.

To properly register for the contest just fill in the registration form completely on the back page. The registration form and all fees must be submitted to Mr. Allie or Mrs. Schaap by Friday, December 9, 2011. Entries will be sent to the State Office over Christmas Vacation.

The information you turn in will be typed into a database from the Illinois Grade School Music Association. This information will be sent to the state office where they will process all the schools and return to us a schedule of the day's events. We will not receive a schedule until late January or early February 2012. A schedule of the contest will be issued to all participants as soon as they become available.

The solo and ensemble fee is \$8.00 per person for each solo and for each member of an ensemble.

The accompanist fee is \$50.00. This includes the performance at the contest and as many as three practice sessions, if enough time is given to the accompanist to schedule three practice sessions. IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTACT AN ACCOMPANIST IMMEDIATELY FOR SOME ACCOMPANIST WILL ONLY TAKE A FEW STUDENTS. All soloists, except for specific percussion solos, MUST have an accompanist. Ensembles do not need an accompanist unless the composition requires one.

When you know who your accompanist is, provide them with the piano part to the solo you are performing, as soon as possible, so that they may have time to practice it. A practice schedule, with your accompanist, should start about three weeks before the contest or when you can perform your solo in its entirety.

The following people are available as accompanists: The accompanist will practice with you in the band room at Memorial.

Mrs. Mahn	895-4987
Mrs. Schaap	474-4450
Mrs. Stookey	895-1422

- CHECK LIST:**
1. Contact your private teacher for a solo. Contact your director for an ensemble.
  2. Order an original score with accompanist part. (see the *How To Order* info sheet)
  3. Contact an accompanist
  4. Fill out the REGISTRATION FORM  
Check that the spelling and all information is correct.
  5. Pay all fees with registration form (make checks payable to  
District #158 Music Boosters)

***ILLINOIS GRADE SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST***  
***A FEW RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW:***

1. *A student may participate in a total of five (5) solo and ensemble events, but is limited to two vocal ensembles, two instrumental ensembles, one vocal solo, and one instrumental solo unless a second solo is performed on a different instrument. A student may participate in not more than four (4) instrumental events.*
2. *Soloist and instrumental ensembles may read from a score. Vocal ensembles must be memorized.*
3. *The use of electronically-recorded accompaniment is prohibited in contest.*

# I.G.S.M.A. SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST REGISTRATION FORM

*Please fill out and submit one form for each event you wish to participate in.*

*example: (two events = two forms etc.)*

All fees are due with the registration form(s) by Friday, December 9, 2011.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and Xerox the number of forms needed.

STUDENTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ VOCAL: MALE OR FEMALE  
Area Code + Number Circle one

TYPE OF ENTRY: SOLO OR ENSEMBLE  
Circle one

INSTRUMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS PLAYED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Include the current year as one

MUSIC TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPOSER: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRANGER: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If applicable)

SOLO ACCOMPANIST: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Or Ensemble if applicable) NAME PHONE NO. WITH AREA CODE

*ALL SOLOS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED. (EXCEPT FOR A FEW PERCUSSION SOLO'S)*

ENSEMBLES Only:	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	INSTRUMENT
LIST NAMES OF ALL	1.		
OTHER MEMBERS:	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
	5.		
	6.		
	7.		
	8.		

CERTAIN TIME REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_ REASON: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only if absolutely necessary)

*\*If more than one event, this part of the form needs to be filled out one time only.*

Number of solos\* (\$8.00 for each solo) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of ensembles\* (\$8.00 for each ensemble) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanist Fee \*(\$50.00 for each performance) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed with this student's registration = \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: DISTRICT #158 MUSIC BOOSTERS

All fees are due with the registration form(s) by Friday, December 9, 2011.

## Everything you wanted to know about:

### How to order music for solo & ensemble contest.

If you have never previously ordered a solo or ensemble from a music company, or you just forgot, there are a few steps you should follow.

1. Call a reputable music company that can send out the solo or ensemble music in a reasonable amount of time. Give them at least one to two weeks for delivery. Make sure you ask what the approximate delivery time will be.

The following companies are very reputable. The list will be in order of the delivery speed.

- A. J.W. Peppers Music, Inc. (2 or 3 days)  
130A E. St. Charles Road  
Carol Stream, IL 60188  
**Phone:** 630-462-0787  
**Fax:** 630-462-7905  
**Email:** [chicago@jwpepper.com](mailto:chicago@jwpepper.com)  
**Hours of Operations**  
Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 6:00pm  
Sunday: Closed  
<http://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/welcome.jsp>
- B. Quinlan & Fabish Music (if not in stock two to three weeks)  
6827 High Grove Boulevard  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
Phone: (708) 654-4111  
<http://www.qandf.com/>

2. When you call, ask for the instrumental or vocal music department and write down the name of the person to whom you are talking. Have a credit card number ready and tell them the following information.

- A. **NAME OF INSTRUMENT OR VOICING**  
You need to tell them the instrument that will be performing the solo. Solos are written in different keys to fit a particular instrument. Vocal solos can appear in high, medium or low ranges.
- B. **TITLE OF THE SOLO OR OF THE ENSEMBLE**  
Be sure to give the correct spelling of the solo or ensemble.
- C. **NAME OF THE COMPOSER AND POSSIBLY THE ARRANGER**  
This is found in the upper right hand corner of the solo or ensemble. Since many arrangements may be made of a given song, be sure to order the correct one.
- D. **NAME OF THE PUBLISHER**  
This is usually found on the bottom of the page of your solo or ensemble.

All solos and ensembles are shipped with a piano accompanist part. This is all included in the price of the solo or ensemble. Some percussion solos and many ensembles do not require a piano part.

The music companies will ask you for your credit card number and where you want the solo delivered. Have it sent directly to your home. If you have not heard from the company in two weeks, please call them again.

# **WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR MUSIC:**

## **1) IDENTIFY:**

- A. Solo Part**
- B. Piano Part**

## **2) NUMBER (USING PENCIL) ABOVE THE MEASURES OF EACH PART BEING CAREFUL THAT YOU ARE:**

- A. Neat**
- B. Correct (Make sure numbers agree on both parts)**

## **3) GET TWO GOOD COPIES OF THE SOLO PART TO BRING TO YOUR LESSON AND PRACTICE FROM ONLY.**

## **4) STORE THE ORIGINAL SOLO PART WHERE IT WILL BE SAFE TILL THE DAY OF THE CONTEST. (THIS IS THE JUDGES COPY).**

## **5) GIVE THE PIANO PART TO YOUR ACCOMPANIST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER YOU HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THEM. (Remember they have to practice their part too!)**

# CONTEST TIPS

These tips cannot replace careful, correct and regular practice. They can, however, help you to do the best you are capable of doing relative to the amount and quality of your preparation.

## **"CONTEST WEEK"**

**Monday** - BRASS: Clean your instrument thoroughly for the last time prior to your contest performance.

WOODWINDS: Have at least 4 to 6 reeds that are broken-in properly.

**Thursday** - This is the last day of hard practice.

**Friday** - Very little playing. Use today to rest so that you can be strong tomorrow. Try to relax and get a good night's rest.

**Saturday** - **BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME FOR THE CONTEST:**

1. Get up 2 or 3 hours before your performance time.
2. (Diet) Do not eat any dairy products, eggs or sugar before playing.
3. Make sure you have all of your equipment.  
Keep your instrument in a warm place during transit.
4. Leave home so that you will arrive at the contest site 30 to 40 minutes before your playing time.

### **AT THE CONTEST SITE:**

1. Locate your warm-up room and your performance room.
2. Return to the warm-up room and go through a thorough warm-up.  
Woodwinds select your best reed.
3. Finger (do not play) your solo slowly with exaggerated and strong finger motions.
4. Don't leave your best performance in the warm-up room. If you must play your solo, do it once at a comfortable and even speed.
5. Do not get to the performance area too early.
6. Do not wait in the performance room. Wait in the hall until you are to play.
7. Try to get rid of nervous energy. (laugh, cry, pace, etc.)
8. Keep your instrument warm and reed wet.

### **IN THE PERFORMANCE ROOM:**

1. Give the original copy of your solo to the judge.
2. Tune with the piano; wait for the judge to ask you to play.
3. Take a couple big breaths and exhale slowly as you wait.
4. Concentrate on your solo.

*Your accompanist is performing with many soloists. They are doing their best to get to all the rooms on time. It is impossible to be on time for every soloist. Please inform the judge that you are waiting for your accompanist and wait in the hallway for your accompanist to arrive.*

**REMEMBER:** The real value in participating in a contest is the preparation, not what a judge says based on a 5-minute evaluation. If you have grown as a musician through your solo preparation, then you are a winner.