

# Region 20 Orchestra Handbook for Students

2017-2018



# Instrumentation for Region Orchestras

Region 20 will have the following auditioned orchestras:

**Honor Orchestra** – A full orchestra with wind/brass/percussion.

The size of the string sections will be: 20/20/16/16/8. This orchestra will allow 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders to audition. This orchestra is the track to state. The numbers of wind/brass/percussion students will be determined by the repertoire chosen by the Region.

**Symphonic Orchestra** – A string orchestra with repertoire chosen by the Region.

The size of the string sections will be: 20/20/16/16/8. This orchestra will allow 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders to audition.

**Philharmonic Orchestra** – A string orchestra with repertoire chosen by the Region.

The size of the string sections will be: 20/20/16/16/8. Students are assigned to this orchestra through audition. This orchestra will allow 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders to audition.

**Concert Orchestra** – A string orchestra with repertoire chosen by the Region.

The size of the string sections will be: 20/20/16/16/8. Students are assigned to this orchestra through audition. This orchestra will allow 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders to audition.

## The Audition Procedures

### *Audition Procedures*

Appropriate attire will be worn at all times. All hats **will be** removed once a student has entered a building hosting the auditions and clinic/concert. Pajamas **are not** to be worn to any audition or rehearsal. Phones will be **turned off**.

- Strings will follow the audition process as set forth by TMEA.
- Tabulated audition results shall be available for inspection by directors for one hour following the conclusion of the entire audition. At the end of this period the results are subject to the TMEA Appeals Process.
- All students in rank order will be provided for directors only, including DNA's.
- All audition panels will have 5 judges per panel.
- All audition panels must be concealed behind a screen during the audition process.
- Judges should use a consistent scoring method.
- Students may not audition out of order.
- When students enter the audition room, their name must not be communicated in any fashion. Students must remain silent from the time of lineup until returned to the warm up area.
- Once students have entered the audition room, judges will announce audition excerpts to be performed.

- Students are permitted to use a non-audible metronome that is only a single purpose device. Said metronome may only be used prior to the performance by the auditioning student. The student may not use the metronome during the performance. No electronic devices may be used or accessed by a student participant until the auditions for the student's section have been concluded. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in student disqualification. The list of non-allowable electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, phones, electronic games, computers, cameras (within an audition room), and playback systems.
- The audition room is run by the monitor-all communication between students and the judging panel will take place through the monitor. The monitor will call student by audition number, one at a time, to perform the audition excerpt.
- Students will play all excerpts as determined by the judges.
- Student anonymity must be maintained at all times. Any student communicating with the judges or speaking during the audition may be disqualified at the discretion of the judging panel. Students who are disruptive (talking, playing, etc.) while others are performing will be brought to the attention of the judging panel by the monitor and may be disqualified.
- Students will return to the warm up area when finished auditioning.
- Parents may not be present in the audition room with their child nor may they stand outside the door. All parents and chaperones are to remain in the warm up area.

### ***Audition Music***

- Audition music will be available at the August meeting.

### ***Alternates***

Alternates will be chosen in the order they finished in auditions.

## **Certification Procedures(HS Only)**

Students will only be certified to area who have participated in the region audition process the same school year.

### **Clinic/Concert**

Appropriate attire will be worn at all times. All hats **will be** removed once a student has entered a building hosting the auditions and clinic/concert. Pajamas **are not** to be worn to any rehearsal. Phones will be **turned off**.

### ***Student Attendance Requirements***

1. Students selected for All-Region Orchestras will be required to attend ALL rehearsals and the concert.
2. All students chosen for Region orchestra are required to be on time to each scheduled audition, rehearsal, and concert. Students arriving late are subject to, but not limited to:
  - loss of chair by demotion to last chair in the section
  - removal from the orchestra
  - disqualification of state recording

- loss of All State privileges by removal via the TMEA Appeals Process
3. All TMEA functions are considered extra-curricular activities and are subject to Texas No Pass-No Play laws.

### ***Student Elimination***

1. Students who fail to meet their obligation to the All-Region Orchestra will not be eligible for an official participation patch or other award and risk being removed from further participation in the All-State process through the TMEA Appeals Process. Conflicts with other organizations, personal discomforts, personal schedule conflicts, stuck in traffic, etc. will NOT constitute reasonable excuses for missing any activities for this Region.  
Exceptions: personal illness, hospitalization, and doctor's notes will be dealt with at the discretion of the Region Orchestra Chairperson.  
Membership will be forfeited if a selected student fails to attend the rehearsals.
2. Any student recording for state must attend all Region rehearsals and performances as scheduled or his/her state recording may be disqualified.

### ***All-State Auditions***

1. Students who qualify for Region Orchestra and are also entered in the All State process must reconfirm their intent to record by sending payment of \$40 per student to the chair by the Monday before the Saturday recording through the school director. A recording schedule will be generated by the chair and delivered to the appropriate directors by email. TMEA rules state that directors must be present while their students are at the recording site.
2. Harp and piano students wishing to record for state will be required to audition at the Region orchestra auditions if there are more students registered than are allowed to record. If the number of students registered at the Region level does not exceed the number allowed to record, no audition will take place. The state excerpts will be used for the Region auditions and students must play a portion of both All-State etudes. If harp and/or piano is required for the Region concert, harp and/or piano students will be held accountable to the same rehearsal requirements as strings/wind/brass/percussion students as set forth by TMEA and Region 20 Orchestra Division.
  - All procedures as set forth by TMEA will be followed.
  - A professional recording technician will be hired to record the audition.
  - Each school that has a student recording must have both original etude books in the room as each student records.
  - Students MAY use their thirty seconds between recording tracks any way they see fit, including practicing the excerpts.
  - Audition music will be posted on the TMEA website by 2:00PM the day before the recording.
  - Students will pay a \$40 fee for all state recording.
  - Students may not record for both All State Orchestra and All State Jazz Band
  - Once a student is notified of placement in an All-State Orchestra (strings) he/she may not advance to Area for another All-State group.

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## TMEA Region Orchestra Student Contract

I, \_\_\_\_\_, intend to audition for the 2017-2018 TMEA Region 20 Orchestra. I state that if selected I am committed to attending the following events:

November 6, 2017	7:00pm-8:30pm	MS String Sectional	Houston MS, Irving ISD
November 6, 2017	7:00pm-8:30pm	HS String Sectional	MacArthur HS, Irving ISD
November 17, 2017	6:30pm-9:00pm	Clinic/Rehearsal	Conrad HS, Dallas ISD
November 18, 2017	8:30am-3:00pm	Clinic/Rehearsal	Conrad HS
November 18, 2017	4:00pm	Concert	Conrad HS

I consent to the following guidelines:

- To bring copies of the all-Region music to all rehearsals
- To bring a pencil to all rehearsals
- To bring a music stand to all rehearsals
- To be on time for all rehearsals and the concert. Depending on the seriousness of the infraction, excessive tardiness will result in loss of chair, moving to the back of the section, or removal from the orchestra
- To uphold the highest standards of attitude and conduct while on site for rehearsals and performance
- To maintain eligibility as required by House Bill 72, "No Pass/No Play" and any local district policies
- To wear the designated attire for the concert performance

By signing this form, you commit to and are required to be at all rehearsals and the performance. It is your responsibility to plan ahead to make sure you will have no conflicts that would require you to miss any rehearsal or the concert. Should a conflict arise which prevents you from attending any part of a rehearsal, whether it be an athletic event, SAT/ACT test, family obligation, etc. you will be removed from membership in the All Region Orchestra and will not be allowed to participate, nor receive an all-Region patch, or be certified for further All State competition.

Students are responsible for their own property at all times and liable for loss of property.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**David Fleming, Region 20 Orchestra Chairman**

**Directors will collect and bring all audition contract forms with them to the region auditions. These forms will be collected by the region chair or his/her designee when directors pick up folders of students chosen for region. A folder of music will not be given unless the director has the students audition contract.**