

North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

www.njsma.org

Elementary Region I Honor Band Festival

Saturday, May 3, 2025 - Mount Olive Middle School

160 Wolfe Road, Budd Lake, NJ 07828

9:00am ~ 5:00pm

(Directors meeting begins at 8:15am)

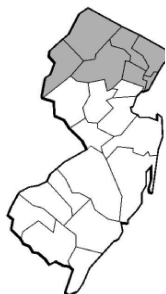
Director Instructions

The NJSMA 12th annual Elementary Honor Band Festival is an event that provides band students in grade 5 and 6 the opportunity to participate in a region ensemble. The ensembles rehearse during the morning, receive a sectional with a specialist in their instrument, and perform in an afternoon concert. Sponsoring directors nominate students for this opportunity. ***Eligible sponsoring directors must teach in a school within Region 1, have a current NAfME membership, attend the Festival event to fulfill their sponsorship requirements.*** Directors will receive Professional Development hours.

Band directors must nominate students **by March 4, 2025**. A minimum of one student will be accepted from each eligible nominating school. The selection committee will do their best to accept as many students as possible, but in order to provide a quality experience for the participants there are limits as to how many students we can accept. **Directors must attend to fulfill their sponsorship requirement.** Should any director not fulfill this responsibility, the director will not be permitted to sponsor students the following year.

Detailed schedules will be shared to sponsoring directors, along with student acceptances. On May 3rd, students will register, rehearse, eat lunch, receive a sectional, and perform a concert. All participants will receive a T-shirt to be worn for the concert. A participation fee of \$25.00 per student and must be sent in upon receipt of the acceptance letter. **Please confirm whether students are available on the date (5/3/25)** prior to nominating your students, but do not collect any money before you have received written notification of acceptance.

1. NJSMA offers a series of programs designed for the benefit of teachers and students of North Jersey (Region I of NJMEA). It is hoped that Region performing groups and other activities will assist in their musical growth. Please be sure your students meet the criteria listed below before recommending them for the ensemble. Please keep in mind that not all students nominated may be accepted.
2. Students currently in Grades 5 & 6 are eligible.
3. All students must be members in good standing of their own school band ensembles.
4. Each sponsoring director may nominate up to 12 students. *Teacher nomination total if at multiple schools
5. You are not required to submit 12 names, just your best students.
6. We are looking to create balanced bands. These numbers are PER GRADE if you teach both 5th and 6th grade band in your district. (Ex: if you teach elementary 5th band and middle school 6th band, you could nominate 2 alto saxes: 1 from 5th grade and 1 from 6th grade). **Please use these maximum numbers as a reference as you nominate students:**
 - Maximum of 1 student for alto saxophone
 - Maximum of 2 students for percussion
 - Maximum of 3 students each for trumpet and flute
 - Maximum of 4 students each for all other instruments
 - NOTE – bassoon, bass clarinet, tuba, horn, and tenor & baritone saxophones are typically in demand
7. If recommending multiple students on one instrument, *please* make it **clear** who your TOP recommended student is. The only insight into the students capabilities we the committee have is what YOU provide us with, so please be as specific as possible!
8. Directors will be e-mailed acceptance letters for those students accepted.



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Nomination Process

1. Read through the Director Instructions to understand the rules/regulations and process.
2. READ THE CRITERIA BELOW VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE DECIDING WHICH STUDENTS TO NOMINATE.
3. You can use the blue links on this Doc or continue following the steps outlined below by visiting the NJSMA website - NJSMA.org
4. Click BAND+ to access the on the ELEMENTARY FESTIVAL link on the right hand side.
5. Before completing the [Director Registration Form](#) and student nominating process make sure you have the following specific information ready:
 - NAFME membership number **please join or renew at <https://nafme.org/>*
 - How many students you are recommending (*max of 12*)
 - Your polo shirt size (*if you do not already have a black NJSMA Elementary Band Festival polo*)

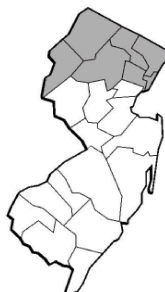
Student Nominations – all instruments nominated on same form

[5th Grade Nomination Form](#) & [6th Grade Nomination Form](#)

- Your ratings help us anticipate the level of the ensembles. Specific comments about the student in terms of their experience, level, and even character can help your students get selected. A copy of your nomination response will be sent to the director email you provide.

Student Recommendation – **specifically percussion**

- Which of the following does the student excel at – Snare Drum, Multi Percussion (auxiliary/traps), Timpani, Mallets
6. Click on the [Director Registration Form](#) link, and enter your information. You only have to do this ONCE.
 7. Once you have registered, click on the STUDENT RECOMMENDATION links for the appropriate grades (5th and 6th grades only).
 - You will have to submit this form for EACH of your students. (*max of 12*)



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CRITERIA

**These criteria is what has been established for the 6th Grade Band over the past 10 years of this event. 5th Grade teachers- please use this as a guide to help you complete your student nominations, not as what the expected level is of 5th grade band students at this time.*

All students recommended should have the ability to demonstrate the following concepts with **above average proficiency** for admittance into either ensemble.

1. Following the conductor
 - a. Ability to interpret preparatory beats and style
 - i. Legato
 - ii. Staccato
 - iii. Varying dynamics
 - iv. Varying tempos
2. Ability to perform basic varying articulations
 - a. Normal
 - b. Legato
 - c. Staccato
3. Proper embouchure/hand position for chosen instrument
 - a. Instrument specific tone
 - b. Knowledge of intonation
4. Sitting with good posture, and good breath support/stick control
5. Knowledge of musical terms

● Time signature	● Largo	● Double Bar
● Key signature	● Andante	● D. S. al fine
● Staff	● Moderato	● D.C. al fine
● Ledger lines	● Allegro	● 1 st and 2 nd ending
● Accidentals	● Pick up measure	● Repeat Sign

Scale requirements are given in concert pitch, while the chromatic and ranges refer to written note.

Flute

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, Ab; 2 Oct: Eb, F
Chromatic – Eb Range – C4-F6

Oboe

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, Eb, F
Range – C4-C6

Bassoon

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, Eb, F, Ab
Chromatic – F Range – Eb1-D3

Clarinet

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb; 2 Oct: Eb, F, Ab; crossing the break
Chromatic – 2 Oct: E Range – E3-Bb5

Bass Clarinet

Scales – 1 Oct: Eb, F, Ab
Chromatic – 1 Oct: G Range – G3-Bb5

Saxophones (alto, tenor, or baritone)

Scales – Bb, Eb, Ab, F full octaves
Chromatic – G Range – C4-D6

Trumpet

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, Ab, Eb
Chromatic – C Range – Ab3-F5

French Horn

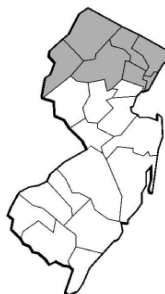
Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, F, Eb
Chromatic – Bb or F Range – F3-D5

Trombone, Euphonium

Scales – 1 Oct: Bb, F, Eb, Ab
Chromatic – Bb Range – Ab2-F4

Tuba

Scale – 1 Oct: Bb
Chromatic – Bb Range – Bb1-C3



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CRITERIA - continued

Percussion

It is not expected that each student can successfully demonstrate all of the techniques listed below, but are achievements that merit recommendation into either ensemble.

Snare Drum

Reading Rhythms

Notes – quarter, eighth, sixteenth, dotted quarter, mixed eighth sixteenth, dotted eighth, basic 6/8 time

Rests – whole, half, quarter, eighth, multi-measure

Technique

Rolls – Basic buzz roll, five, nine, and seventeen stroke rolls

Flams – Basic flam, flam taps, flam accents, swiss triplets,

Drags – Basic drags

Multi-Percussion

Tambourine – Basic quarter/eighth note rhythms, shake rolls, sixteenth notes rhythms.

Triangle – Basic quarter/eighth notes rhythms and rolls.

Suspended Cymbal – Basic quarter/eighth note rhythms, rolls, chokes, and proper crescendo/diminuendos.

Crash Cymbals – Basic crashes, chokes, and various proper dynamics.

Timpani

Reading/Technique – Quarter/eighth/sixteenth note rhythms on 2,3 and/or 4 drums.

Tuning – Basic tuning of intervals (4th and 5th).

Mallet Percussion

Notes – Can demonstrate, with proper grip and posture performance of concert C and/or Bb and/or Eb scales.

Rhythm Reading – quarter and eighth notes with variations, dotted quarter notes, sixteenth/eighth note variations, and a knowledge of 6/8 time.

***If you have any questions regarding the
NJSMA Elementary Region I Honor Band Festival, please contact –***

Michelle Christianson
Band Division Co-Chair

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