

State Judges Information

Divisions

I—10-11 year olds

II—12-14 year olds

III—15-18 year olds

Possible Grades

Outstanding—Student has a great understanding of the pieces both musically and technically producing an overall solid performance.

Excellent—Student knows the music, but there are numerous memory, musical, and/or technical issues preventing the student from having a convincing performance.

Good—Student does not seem to have a good grasp of the pieces technically or musically; there are numerous memory slips where it is difficult for the student to go on and make the piece sound cohesive.

Comments Only

If students arrive without original copies of their music or the repertoire does not meet audition requirements, they will still be allowed to play their audition, but will receive comments only, and will be disqualified from receiving a grade. The judge is required to meet with the event chair before giving this score.

Most students at the state level receive Outstanding or Excellent. They should be at this level since they have already scored an Outstanding in Performance and Theory at the district level in order to qualify for the state auditions; however, it is up to the discretion of the judge to assign whichever score they deem appropriate.

State Winner and Honorable Mention

State Winners (the highest honor) and **Honorable Mentions** will be selected out of the students who receive an Outstanding. State Winners play at the AMTA Conference in June, and Honorable Mention students are listed in the AMTA Conference program book. A student does not have to be named a State Winner or Honorable Mention if they have been given an Outstanding. Judges can give as many Outstanding scores as they want, even if it is to all of the students they hear, but judges need to decide out of those Outstanding students who will be State Winners and Honorable Mentions. The number of State Winners a judge can choose is based on the amount of students they will be hearing over the span of two days (approximately 20% of the students you hear), and the amount will be told to them at the Judge's Orientation prior to their start time the first day of judging. A judge can pick as many Honorable Mention students as they feel worthy. There is not a set amount of State Winners and Honorable Mentions that need to be picked each day—the selection is cumulative over the two days.

Junior and Senior Judges

There is one judge who will hear all of the high school Juniors play, and another judge who will hear all of the high school Seniors play. Juniors and Seniors are in Division III, along with tenth graders; so each of these judges can possibly hear tenth grade students as well. The Junior judge has to pick the top Junior to receive a special scholarship, and the Senior judge has to pick the top Senior to receive a special scholarship. All other winners can be any age.

Concerto Judges

One judge will hear all concertos from a particular division. All concertos will be heard on Friday of the auditions, and judges will select a certain number of winners based on the amount of students they hear (amount will be told to the judge the day of judging prior to their start time).

Reminders

1. Do not give students their adjudication sheet. Teachers will be given all of their students' forms to hand to their students personally.
2. Remember to sign your name and write your score in ink.
3. Make sure that your comments support your score so that students and their teachers understand from your comments why a particular score was given.
4. Remember to sign each student's certificate.
5. Please do not instruct the students or ask them personal questions during their audition time.
6. Judges should not engage in any conversation with teachers or students until all decisions have been made. Any questions should be directed to the State Auditions Chairman.