

# **Fests & Festivals**

## **A Statement of Principles Governing Participation in PMEA Fests & Festivals**

The system of band, chorus, and orchestra festivals at district, regional, and all-state levels is organized and maintained by PMEA as one of its principal vehicles for implementation of its goals to further music education and encourage the development of music programs in the schools. PMEA members who are the directors of bands, choruses, or orchestras in their schools have the privilege of sponsoring students from their organization to participate in the various festivals, subject to the regulatory policies of the State Executive Board, the individual District, and whatever powers the individual District delegates to the collective body of participating directors to establish procedures.

PMEA holds that participation by a student in a PMEA festival is a privilege granted by, and authorized through, the membership and active participation of the individual teacher/member who is the director of the given organization in the student's school. It rejects the concepts of institutional membership; of membership by a school administrator who is not the director of the school musical organization (intended as a method of qualifying students for festivals); or of sponsorship of a student by another PMEA member who is not the director of the specific school performing group in that student's school.

PMEA directors sponsoring students in PMEA festivals and/or fests must be FULL ACTIVE members of PMEA. Retired members are not eligible to sponsor students in festivals, fests, and/or adjudication (music performance assessment) activities.

**MISSION STATEMENT** - The mission of the PMEA festival system is to promote and support quality music education, learning, and performance, through collaborative interaction between professional music educators and student musicians.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Recognize and enhance student musicianship.
- To encourage involvement of students of active members through representation in PMEA sponsored ensembles.
- Enhance school music programs through student participation, teacher professional development and collaborative sharing of the festival experience.