

**Audition Procedures for Performing Groups  
2019 NAFME/PMEA Eastern Division In-Service Conference  
April 4-7 – Pittsburgh**

***Innovation, Access, & Insights***

Music has always served as an inspiration to connect not just melodies, harmonies, and rhythms, but most importantly, people. The theme of the 2019 NAFME Eastern Division Conference, “*Innovation, Access, and Insights*”, focuses on how in today’s rapidly changing world, the need for quality music education *for all*, has never been more vital. Pittsburgh, PA, with its long history of being one of the country’s most industrious cities, and now a cultural center for progress and development, provides the perfect backdrop to showcase how relevant and inclusive music education creates a positive impact on our students and communities.

**Application Fee - \$15**

**Window of Opportunity to Submit – Wed. May 9 - Wed. June 13**

*Failure to comply with the Eastern Division Conference Performance criteria will result in the performance application not being considered for the conference. All deadlines and criteria must be met. No refunds of performance application fees will be made.*

1. **All** Teachers and conductors of all performing groups submitting applications **MUST BE CURRENT MEMBERS OF an Eastern Division MEA (CT,DC,DE,EU,MA,MD,ME,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,VT)**. In the case of faculty ensembles, all performers in the ensemble **MUST BE CURRENT MEMBERS of their state MEA - No exceptions**.
2. All groups wanting to appear in any concert session of the 2019 PMEA/NAFME Eastern Division Conference must complete the following application during the submission window (Wed. May 9 - Wed. June 13). \*Please note that a Submittable account (no cost) is required in order to submit an application. (Information on creating an account can be found below these instructions.)
  - A. Completed application for performance
  - B. **Application fee of \$15 per submission** - A quality recording of your ensemble’s performance must be submitted online via Submittable (application fee must be paid with credit card).
  - C. **Copies of performance program(s) from the current school year which must include all selections submitted on the audition recording** (look for the attachment fields on the online application).
  - D. Unedited live recording of **three (3) selections** (individual movements of a piece can be considered as separate pieces) performed during the current school year (audio only or audio and video - **please be sure conductor cannot be identified if submitting video**).
    - i. Unedited shall mean NO studio enhancements or alterations of any type.
    - ii. Live performance shall mean a complete performance of each selected work, whether in the rehearsal room or concert venue, with or without an audience. *Example: It is not acceptable to “build” a recording using individual tracks recorded at different times and then mixing the tracks together to create the final recording of that selection.*
    - iii. Live performances shall also mean that all accompaniments must be live; no recorded accompaniment tracks.
    - iv. Show choirs/vocal jazz choirs must submit a video file.
    - v. Elementary applicants may opt to audition by a video file.
  - E. **Choral & Instrumental Submissions** must include **three** contrasting selections illustrating wide musical variety with a **total time limit of 15 minutes**. Accompanied choral groups must be accompanied by live

musicians. No commercial pre-recorded tracks may be used. Non-commercial recorded accompaniments done by student musicians may be used but must be identified on the application.

F. **General Music Submissions** (i.e. Orff ensemble, recorder ensemble, etc.) must follow the guidelines as above; however, if the group involves visual material and the director feels it would be beneficial, a video may be submitted. The submission must be clean and cannot contain anything that would identify the group or director in any way.

G. **Community Groups** must follow the same procedures as above; however, eligible groups will be invited at the discretion of the Conference Chair.

H. All audition materials shall be submitted via the Submittable program during the window of opportunity which begins on **Wednesday, May 9** and will close at midnight on **Wednesday, June 13, 2018**.

3. Each application for performance must be verified by an administrator (principal or superintendent) certifying it is the intent of the group to appear on the conference program, if invited (with the exception of college & community groups).

4. Conductors of performance groups:

A. must be paid members of NAFME & their state MEA

B. must be the director of the group on the audition recording.

C. who are submitting multiple ensembles for consideration, should more than one ensemble be selected, must choose only one ensemble to perform at the conference.

5. Performance groups appearing at the conference must be the same ensemble represented on the audition recording. If accepted, students in the performing group must be current members of the ensemble (cannot bring back students that were in the ensemble last year, but not this year). *Example: If your 2017-18 5th Grade Honor Choir auditions and is selected, your 2018-2019 5th Grade Honor Choir performs.*

6. PMEA/NAFME acknowledges the wide diversity of performing ensembles and encourages the submission of the following groups:

A. Bands: traditional concert bands, wind ensembles, and jazz bands (no combos)

B. Choirs: traditional choral ensembles of like or mixed voices, chamber choirs, show choirs, vocal jazz ensembles, etc. (minimum of 16 members)

C. Orchestras: string or full orchestras (minimum 16 members)

D. Small Ensembles: wind, brass, percussion, string, jazz combos, or vocal small ensembles.

E. Non-Traditional or Emerging Ensembles: mariachi, steel drum, guitar ensembles, technology ensemble, etc.

7. An effort will be made to ensure that invited performing groups will represent a variety of levels, sizes and genres.

8. Groups selected as performing ensembles may be asked to serve as a demonstration group for the conference.

**9. If submitting more than one ensemble for consideration, a separate application must be completed and a separate fee must be paid for each ensemble auditioning under the same director.**

10. The director of the group submitting the application **must remain the director** if the group is selected. If there is a change in directors, the group will be disqualified, **no exceptions**.

11. All performing groups are auditioned on a strictly anonymous and impartial basis by panels of music educators who serve as adjudicators. Quality of performance, literature displayed and the potential contribution to the entire content of the conference program will be the determining factors in the final selections. No evaluations from the adjudicators will be provided for the auditioning groups.

12. Invitations to appear at the 2019 Eastern Division In-service Conference will be issued by the Conference Program Chair by early September. \*Please note that you may be asked to share a concert hour with another performing group.

**Deadline: Wednesday, June 13, 2018**