



California Music Educators Association Central Coast Section

www.ccsmusic.org



Dear Middle School Band Directors:

September 15, 2017

Thank you for your hard work in preparing your students for this year's CMEA-CCS Middle School Honor Band. I look forward to receiving your students' auditions and hearing this year's ensemble. The information on the following pages will help you through the audition process and contains all the information needed to ensure that you, your students, and their parents are informed and prepared. Audition materials will be posted on the CMEA-CCS website (www.ccsmusic.org) on Monday, September 18th. Please note that we are using an online submission process this year for all audition recordings and judging. All paperwork will still need to be mailed or emailed to me.

Our conductor this year is Mr. Jonathan Grantham. Mr. Grantham is the Director of Bands at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. He currently leads a band program of 330 students in which his groups have consistently earned superior ratings and high honors. Mr. Grantham has also been a long time member and supporter of CMEA and CBDA.

EVENTS SCHEDULE:

*This year's event will be held at the **Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center** at 835 Forest Ave. Pacific Grove, 93950
Thursday, January 18, 2018, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Rehearsal
Friday, January 19, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Rehearsal
Saturday, January 20, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Rehearsal
The Concert is January 20, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

AUDITION PROCEDURES/TIMELINE

Monday, September 18, 2016 - Audition Materials and Paperwork available online
Monday, September 25 through November 15, 2017 – Online audition submission window
Monday, November 6, 2016 – All forms and fees due to the Event Chair
Wednesday, November 15, 2017 - Digital Submissions due by **5:00 PM**
Saturday-Sunday, November 19-20, 2017 – Online listening sessions

AUDITION PROCEDURE AND FEE INFORMATION

All forms and audition materials are available for download from the CCS Website (<http://www.ccsmusic.org>) under Honor Groups > MS Band. Please download the Honors Application Packet 2016-2017, Middle School Honor Band Audition Set B and the Middle School Honor Band Director's Letter Packet. Please inform me of any band directors that you know who are unable to access email or the webpage and must be mailed this information.

CCS policy states that directors must be current NAFME members at the time of the auditions and the event. All NAFME membership transactions are through their webpage located at <http://musiced.nafme.org>. If you have questions, call Membership Services (800-336-3768 ext. 213) to speak with a membership service representative.

Auditions will be conducted by the review of an unaltered recording. Be sure to proof listen to the recordings you submit.

Audition fee: **\$5.00** per student
Participation fee (if accepted): **\$40.00** per student

- CCS only accepts one director or school check per group. Checks from students or parents will not be accepted.
- Please submit one Teacher and School Information form for each honor group student and a Student Honor Group Application for each auditioning student.
- Audition fees and paperwork must be postmarked by **November 6th 2017.**
- If submitting by USPS, mail packages by Monday, November 6th, to:
Diane Gehling, Gavilan View Middle School, 18250 Van Buren Ave. Salinas, CA 93906
- Online submissions must be received by Wednesday, November 15th by 5:00 PM.
- Please note we will not accept auditions for students who have not previously submitted applications and fees.

ONLINE AUDITIONS + SUBMISSION WINDOW

This year all CMEA-CCS instrumental groups will use www.festivalscores.com for submitting auditions. The website is very straight forward and I think you will enjoy the simplicity of this process. Teachers will have a more involved roll with their students' uploads so we have created a large "submission window" to help schools submitting many auditions.

The submission window will be from **September 25 through November 15, 2017.** By doing this, teachers can upload their students' auditions as they are ready rather than all at once. Please note that the final day to upload a recording is November 15th by 5:00 PM.

Similarly, teachers will no longer need to meet on a Saturday for a Listening Session. Teachers will be assigned a section to judge and can do so from the comfort of their homes, at a time that is most convenient. The adjudication weekend will be **Saturday and Sunday, November 19 and 20, 2017.**

A handout and a video tutorial will be created and sent out to help assist with this process.

CCS 2017-2018 LISTENING POLICY

In an effort to increase teacher involvement, **CCS requires that all teachers who submit student audition materials help adjudicate student auditions. Each teacher will be assigned a section to judge.**

AUDITION RESULTS

Directors will receive a complete list of audition results by Monday, November 27, 2017. Accepted students should confirm their schedules as they are expected to punctually attend all rehearsals and the performance. Sports and all other extra curricular activities are not acceptable reasons for absence or tardiness to the rehearsals or performance.

All music will be sent out in early December. I encourage you to work on Honor Band music with your students and monitor their progress. Please encourage all your students to audition. The experience of preparing an audition is highly rewarding and can spark your students' focus and ambition.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Diane Gehling
GVMS Music Director
CMEA-CCS-Board Member, MS Band Chair
dgehling@santaritaschools.org
831-262-8095