



California Music Educators Association Central Coast Section

www.ccsmusic.org



Dear Middle School Orchestra Directors,

It is time to prepare your students for this year's CMEA-CCS Middle School Honor Orchestra auditions!

This year's selected students will have the opportunity to play exciting string orchestra repertoire in a large ensemble of players from around the Central Coast region. Notably, they will work with a very exciting area conductor, David Dally. Mr. Dally is the first violinist and founder of the Monterey String Quartet and is Concertmaster of Ensemble Monterey and I Cantori di Carmel. He is conductor of the Monterey Peninsula College String Ensemble and Orchestra, and has been a past Conductor for the Central Coast Section Honor Middle School and High School Orchestras. He graduated with honors from U.C. Berkeley in Music.

CCS Middle School Honor Orchestra audition materials will be posted on the CMEA-CCS website (www.ccsmusic.org) by Monday, September 18th. Please note that we are using Festival Scores (festivalscores.com), an online submission process, for all audition recordings and judging. All paperwork and audition fees will still need to be mailed or hand delivered to me.

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ORCHESTRA EVENTS SCHEDULE

This year's event will be held at Pacific Grove Middle School in Pacific Grove.

Thursday, January 18, 2018, 5:00pm-8:00pm: Rehearsal

Friday, January 19, 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm: Rehearsal

Saturday, January 20, 2018, 9:00am-12:00pm: Rehearsal

Saturday, January 20, 2018, 2:00pm: Concert

AUDITION PROCEDURES AND TIMELINE

Monday, September 18, 2017: Audition Materials and Paperwork available online

Monday, September 25-Thursday, November 16, 2017: Online audition submission window

Monday, November 6, 2017: All audition forms and fees due to the Event Chair

Thursday, November 16, 2016: Digital submissions due by **5:00PM**

Friday-Sunday, November 17-19, 2017: Online listening window

AUDITION PROCEDURE AND FEE INFORMATION

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

Please note: 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 (<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 GUIDELINES

- 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 and a Student Honor Group Application for each auditioning student.
- Audition fees and paperwork must be hand delivered or postmarked by November 6, 2017 to:
Sarah Prusasky
Carmel Middle School
PO Box 222740, Carmel, CA 93922 (mailing address)
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923 (physical address)
- Online submissions must be received by Thursday, November 16th by 5:00p.m.
- 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 submission window will be from September 25th through November 16th at 5:00pm. Teachers can upload their students' auditions as they are ready rather than all at once.

Event Code for 2017 CCS MS Orchestra Auditions: **K T D W K F T**

Once the submission window ends then teachers will be assigned a section to judge and can do so from the comfort of home at a time that is most convenient. The adjudication weekend will be Friday-Sunday, November 17-19th.

A handout and a video tutorial are available on the website to help assist with this process. Though the video shows a single sound file upload per student, please note that audition excerpts must be uploaded in two separate files: one track for all scales and one track for all excerpts, with a sufficient pause in between each scale or excerpt on the track.

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, SSATs and all other extra curricular activities are not acceptable reasons for absence or tardiness to the rehearsals or the performance. Students and families should plan ahead.

All music will be sent out or hand delivered at the beginning of December. I encourage you to work on Honor Orchestra music with your students and monitor their progress. Please encourage as many students as possible to audition for the Honor Orchestra. 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. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Sarah Prusasky
Instrumental Music Director, Carmel Middle School
CCS Middle School Honor Orchestra Chair
sprusasky@carmelunified.org
203-209-7729 (cell)