



*California Music Educators Association
Central Coast Section*

www.ccsmusic.org



Dear High School Orchestra Directors:

September 17, 2018

Thank you in advance for your hard work in supporting your students preparation for this year's CMEA-CCS High School Honor Orchestra. We look forward to receiving your students' auditions and anticipate another great CCS Band and Orchestra Honors weekend. The following information will help guide you through the audition process. All forms and audition materials are posted on the CMEA-CCS website (<http://www.ccsmusic.org>). Please note that we are using an online submission process again this year (www.festivalscores.com) for all audition recordings and judging. All paperwork will still need to be mailed or emailed to me (contact information below).

This year marks a shift in audition excerpts. A majority of honor orchestras across the state have adopted CODA Honors Orchestra materials for auditions in the same way that many honor bands now use the CBDA All-State materials. This year, CCS will be using the CODA String Orchestra excerpts for our auditions. There are two primary reasons for the shift. One is an attempt simplify the process of preparing and recording multiple sets of audition music for students and directors at roughly the same time of the year. The other is to encourage more local string players to audition for the CODA Honor Orchestras. It really is a fantastic experience and I'm convinced more local players are ready for it than typically participate. For now, we will still use the traditional CCS scale requirements.

I'll be in contact soon with the event code for auditions and guest conductor information. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Brian Handley
Director of Instrumental Music
Carmel High School
CMEA-CCS HS Orchestra Chair
bhandley@carmelunified.org
(831) 624-1821, ext. 3735

EVENTS SCHEDULE:

Thursday, January 31, 2019, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Rehearsal at Alvarez High

Friday, February 1, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Rehearsal at **Hartnell College**
Saturday, February 2, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Rehearsal at **Hartnell College**
The Concert is February 2, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. at **Hartnell College**

AUDITION PROCEDURES/TIMELINE

Monday, September 17, 2018 - Audition Materials and Paperwork available online
Monday, September 24, through Thursday November 15, 2018 – Online audition submission window
Monday, November 5, 2018 – Postmark deadline for forms and fees
Thursday, November 15, 2018 - Digital Submissions due by **5:00 PM**
Friday-Sunday, November 16-18, 2018 – 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. Please download the Honors Application Packet, High School Honor Orchestra Audition Set – 2018-19, 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.

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 website 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. The fee includes a participant t-shirt.

- 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 5th 2018**.
- If submitting by USPS, mail packages by Monday, November 5th, to:
Brian Handley, Carmel High School, P.O Box 222780, Carmel, CA 93923
- Online submissions must be received by Thursday, 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

Once again, this year all CMEA-CCS instrumental groups will use www.festivalscores.com for submitting auditions.

For violin auditions, please submit both excerpts for first violin consideration and excerpt 2 twice (same recording) for second violin only.

The submission window will be from **September 24 through November 15, 2018**. 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.

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 **Friday through Sunday, November 16-18, 2018**.

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 may be uploaded as separate files.

CCS 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 26, 2018. 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.

Music will be made available in December. Teachers are expected to work on Honor Ensemble music with students and monitor their progress prior to the first rehearsal. Please encourage all your students to audition. The experience of preparing an audition is highly rewarding and can spark your students' focus and ambition.

