

# OKMEA District Audition Guidelines

- **DO NOT ALLOW DEVIATIONS FROM THE ESTABLISHED AUDITION PROTOCOL. ALL STUDENTS MUST PERFORM ALL THE SELECTED MATERIALS.**

## GENERAL INFORMATION & PREPARATION FOR AUDITIONS

- OKMEA rules state that district auditions must occur four weeks before the final audition. No early, taped or phone entries will be accepted. Each district site may choose to hold auditions in the afternoon to avoid local SAT testing times. This decision will be determined by the district chair.
- **Be sure to confirm that every student auditioning is listed on the OKMEA Master Roster available to you through the OKMEA audition program.** If a student is not listed on the roster for that instrument, contact the Band Chair before allowing them to audition. Any student entered under the emergency application must have the signatures, fee, and the director must be a member of OKMEA. Schedule this student at your convenience.
- The OKMEA Audition Chair will provide each host the following:
  - Access to a list of students auditioning.
  - A list of exercises and scales to be performed (with cuts)
  - Copies of sight-reading material.
  - A copy of final round etude selections.
  - Copy of OKMEA Membership Application.
- Directors must be present at the district level audition. If a director cannot be present due to an emergency, someone who is an OKMEA member must represent the students from that school (membership forms should be available at the audition site). Directors are to be used as judges for district auditions. District chairs should have a minimum of two judges per room, preferably three judges if possible. A copy of the OKMEA Emergency Membership application form has been included to be used in the event that a school representative filling in for an absent director needs to become an OKMEA member on the day of the district audition.
- The District chair is to provide each audition room with a screen or partition for use during auditions. The district chair will review all protocol with judges and monitors regarding proper conduct and behavior during the district audition process. A separate list will be included to each district chair on this topic from the OKMEA Band chair.
- Use numerical evaluation for district level auditions. Please advise your judges in the morning meeting that the 50% rule (minimum of 50% passing to the December round) will be used for all instruments except flutes, clarinets, trumpets, French horns, trombones, and percussion.
- The district chair should use responsible local high school band students and parents to work as inside and outside monitors at the district audition.
- Post exercises to be played 30 minutes before auditions begin. This should be posted in a conspicuous area where all students who are auditioning have the opportunity to see it prior to auditioning.
- Students must draw for audition order. This can be done, automatically, via computer (automatic draw via computer has been standard procedure at the December round since 2012). If the student is late to his or her audition time he or she forfeits the opportunity to audition. No delay tactics or switching of audition order is permissible. At the district level, the chair must know prior to auditions if any students are involved with SAT testing. If there are any, then the district chair will assign those students an audition time that will not conflict with the test.
- If an unavoidable conflict occurs, such as a student auditioning on two different instruments in which the times conflict, the monitor at the door will help solve the problem, however, students auditioning on multiple instruments will be allowed to audition within a reasonable time window.

## STUDENT AUDITION PROCESS

- **When a student presents himself or herself at the audition room, that student may bring and use his or her own music for scales and etudes. Upon entering the audition room, the inside monitor will announce the audition number of the student, and the audition will begin. While in the audition room, the student may not communicate, directly, with the judges in any way. ALL communication must be facilitated through the inside monitor.**

- **SCALES:** The procedure and performing requirements for scales have changed for 2017. Each auditioning brass or woodwind student will perform one of four sets of scales (Percussion have no scale requirement). The scale set is determined, by random draw, for EACH INDIVIDUAL performing student by the inside monitor in the following manner:
  - When the student enters the audition room, and the door has been closed, the student will draw a number between 1 and 4, representing the scale set to be performed.
  - The inside monitor may use labeled cards (for the student to draw) OR a random number generator on a smartphone.
  - The inside monitor will announce the number of the drawn scale set to the judges and performer.
  - The student will then perform the drawn set of scales. Per established OKMEA guidelines, scales are not required to be performed from memory, and there are no articulation requirements, thus a student may use his or music and may use any articulation pattern desired.
- **ETUDES:** The OkMEA Audition Chair will send each district chair specific excerpts from the audition materials listed in the Oklahoma School Music News, for each instrument, to be performed by each auditioning student. These materials will be released to the district chair no more than one week prior to the district audition, and **this material should not be released to any student or director prior to the posting of audition excerpts on Saturday morning.** After performing scales, auditioning students will perform all of the selected excerpts.
- **SIGHT READING:** The OkMEA Audition chair will include specific sight reading excerpts among the materials sent to the district chair. Each auditioning student will be provided a thirty (30) second period to study the sight reading excerpt. This will be timed by the inside monitor and he or she will announce when the auditioning student is to begin. No delay tactics will be permitted after the monitor has called time.
- All students must play materials. If a student chooses not to play any of the THREE scales from the drawn scale set, etude excerpts, or sight reading excerpts, he or she will automatically fail, **even if this results in a violation of the 50% rule.**
- Upon completion of the audition, student scores will be tabulated, checked for accuracy, and then sent to the final tally office for processing. The district chair should confirm that a maximum of 21 flutes, 34 clarinets, 23 trumpets, 20 French horns, and 16 trombones proceed to the December round. All other instruments are subject to the 50% rule (minimum of 50% proceed of those who auditioned).
- The 50% rule is in effect for sections of four (4) or more like instruments. The only exception to this rule would be in the case that the auditioning student will fail if he or she chooses not to play all the required material.

#### **AFTER THE AUDITION**

- Give a copy of the final round etude pages to each student (or his/her director) that qualifies before he/she leaves the audition site. Final auditions will be held at Westmoore High School on Saturday, December 2, 2017. The weather contingency audition date is December 9, 2017.
- The deadline for completing 2<sup>nd</sup> round advancement list to the OKMEA Chair is Monday, November 6, 2017. This must be done via your district login to the OKMEA audition program sent to you by David Gorham.