

# Middle Level Honors Orchestra

Grades 7–9  
February 12–13, 2010

The Middle Level Honors Orchestra is for students in grades 7–9. The best string players from the state will join together for a rehearsal on February 12 at Northwestern College in Roseville and a performance on February 13, 2010 at the Minneapolis Convention Center as part of the MMEA convention. We are delighted that our guest conductor this year will be Foster Beyers, who taught band and orchestra in Green Bay WI schools and currently conducts the Campus Orchestra at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

The goal is to produce the best possible ensemble with the widest possible representation of schools. These policies apply:

1. All students must be string players in grades 7 through 9 during the 2009-2010 school year.
2. All students must be members of their school orchestra, unless there is not an orchestra at their school.
3. Teachers must be members of both MMEA and MNSOTA. The application for MNSOTA is on page 70 of this handbook. MMEA applications are available from MMEA: 888-678-MMEA or [info@mmea.org](mailto:info@mmea.org).
4. All students must submit a tape/CD-R (through their director) which will be scored. A fee of \$10 must accompany each tape/CD-R. Members will be chosen by score with a limitation per school so as to involve as many schools as possible.
5. All chosen students must attend all scheduled rehearsals and activities February 12–13. A participation fee of \$70.00 per student will cover all expenses including the cost of two meals and a t-shirt.
6. Parents will be responsible for transportation, lodging and supervision when the students are not in rehearsal or performance.

## Audition Process

1. Record one student per tape/CD-R
2. Each tape/CD-R must be labeled with the student's name, instrument, grade and school on both the tape/CD-R and tape/CD-R jacket.
3. Students must record their tape/CD-R in the following order:
  - A. The specified major and minor scales
  - B. The specified excerpt
  - C. A short piece, excerpt or etude of their own choosing not to exceed 2 minutes in lengthStudent should record *only* the scales, excerpt and short piece. There should be *no* talking on the recording. There must be *no* electronic editing on the recording (no reverb, etc.) Students should try their recording on multiple play-back machines to make sure that the judges will not have technical difficulties. If the judges are unable to play the recording, the student may be disqualified.
4. Teachers must receive the completed Audition Form, signed by a parent or guardian, a check for \$10 made out to

MNSOTA and the tape/CD-R by Tuesday, October 20.

5. Teachers must mail all the tape/CD-Rs from each school in one package, along with the signed Audition Forms, checks and Director's Ranking Form to the address listed on the Form.
6. **Tape/CD-Rs must be postmarked by Friday, October 23, 2009. Applications must include tape/CD-R, audition form and check. Incomplete applications will *not* be considered.**
7. Teachers will be informed of the results and receive music by January 4, 2010.

## Required Audition Materials

1. All scales are to be played two octaves ascending and descending at  $\text{♩} = 80$  (or faster) with the rhythm:



A metronome must *not* be used during recording. Audition scores will be docked points for incorrect rhythm or slow tempo of scales.

Violin: D Major and E Melodic Minor

Viola: G Major and A Melodic Minor

Cello: G Major and A Melodic Minor

Bass: G Major and E Melodic Minor

2. Required excerpt (to be recorded *without* accompaniment):
  - Violin: 3rd movement of *Concerto in A Minor* by Vivaldi (Suzuki, Vol. 4), beginning to beat 1 of measure 50
  - Viola: 1st movement of *Concerto No. 5* by F. Seitz (Suzuki, Vol. 4), first 45 measures, not counting piano intro
  - Cello: *La Cinquantaine* (Suzuki, Vol. 3), measures 17–40
  - Bass: *Introduction and Dance* by L. Scarmolin (Ludwig), measures 9–51
3. Students must also record a short piece, excerpt or etude of their own choosing not to exceed 2 minutes in length. This selection must be recorded *without* accompaniment, and must be of equivalent or greater difficulty to the required piece.

For more information, contact Jen Arco, [jarco@owatonna.k12.mn.us](mailto:jarco@owatonna.k12.mn.us), or Kevin Martin, 763-504-8855, [kevin\\_martin@rdale.org](mailto:kevin_martin@rdale.org).

## Event Cancellation Policy

Since events cannot be rescheduled, MNSOTA is committed to holding all events as planned. MNSOTA will cancel an event only in cases of a safety emergency (e.g. road conditions/weather), based on state advisories. If an event is cancelled, at the discretion of the board, a partial refund to participants may be considered after expenses have been paid.



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## Audition Form

PLEASE PRINT

Student Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_ M/F \_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ Choice Piece \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_

This student has demonstrated outstanding conduct and musical ability, and I recommend him/her for membership in the 2010 MNSOTA Middle Level Honors Orchestra. Teachers will be informed of the results and receive music by January 4, 2010.

Orchestra Director's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(If there is no orchestra in the school have only the Principal sign above.)

I understand that if my child is accepted as a member of the Honors Orchestra, I will be responsible for \$70 fees, plus transportation, lodging and supervision at all non-rehearsal or non-performance times during the Honors Orchestra weekend, February 12–13, 2010.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Students must return the following to their director **no later than Tuesday, October 20, 2009:**

- \_\_\_\_ Completed Audition Form
  - \_\_\_\_ Audition Tape/CD-R
  - \_\_\_\_ Check for \$10.00 made payable to MNSOTA
- A \$15 NSF fee will be charged for any returned check.*

Signed audition form, tape/CD-R and check are all required. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

### Audition Tape/CD-R Instructions

Record one student per tape/CD-R. (Do not use a CD-RW.) Each tape/CD-R must be labeled with the student's name, instrument, grade and school on both the tape/CD-R and tape/CD-R jacket. The label should be easy to cover and re-label to allow for anonymous judging. Do not speak on the recording. Do not use any electronic editing (reverb etc.).

Students must record their tape/CD-R in the following order:

- A. The major and minor scale for their instrument. A metronome must *not* be used during recording.
- B. The excerpt chosen for their instrument, to be recorded *without* accompaniment.
- C. A short piece, excerpt or etude of their own choosing not to exceed 2 minutes in length. This selection must be recorded *without* accompaniment, and must be of equivalent or greater difficulty to the required piece.

All scales are to be played two octaves ascending and descending, without metronome, at  $\text{♩} = 80$  (or faster), with the rhythm:



- Violin: Scales – D Major and E Melodic Minor  
Excerpt – 3rd movement of *Concerto in A Minor* by Vivaldi (Suzuki, Vol. 4), beginning to beat 1 of measure 50
- Viola: Scales – G Major and A Melodic Minor  
Excerpt – 1st movement of *Concerto No. 5* by F. Seitz (Suzuki, Vol. 4), first 45 measures, not counting piano introduction
- Cello: Scales – G Major and A Melodic Minor  
Excerpt – *La Cinquantaine* (Suzuki, Vol. 3), measures 17–40
- Bass: Scales – G Major and E Melodic Minor  
Excerpt – *Introduction and Dance* by L. Scarmolin (Ludwig), measures 9–51

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## Director's Ranking Form

Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

MNSOTA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

MENC Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Directors must be members of both MNSOTA and MENC-MMEA. If your MNSOTA membership has expired, include your membership application from page 74 and dues payment with this form. Contact MMEA to renew its membership.)

Teachers will be informed of the results and receive music by January 4, 2010.

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

List all students in order from strongest to weakest regardless of instrument. Please consider overall musicianship, technique and maturity. This ranking will serve as a resource for the judges. Mail all tape/CD-Rs and forms in one package to:

Kristine Wiese - MNSOTA  
16831 Creek Ridge Trail, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Signed audition form, tape/CD-R and check are all required. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Tape/CD-Rs must be postmarked by Friday, October 23, 2009.**

	Student's Name (last name, first name)	Instrument	Grade	Tape Audition		
				/CD-R	Form	Check
1.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	_____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use more paper as necessary