

Music Beat

Issue 25

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The Director's Corner

Contest time is the busiest and most important time of the year for band or chorus members. The effort put forth in individual practice and rehearsals these next few months will reap great pleasure and satisfaction on contest day, not to mention the student's performance ability will increase at least threefold during contest season. Please mark these important contest and contest related dates on your calendar:

Saturday, February 27

All Day

I.G.S.M.A. District 3 Solo & Ensemble Contest

at

Unity Point School
Carbondale, Illinois
(Transportation provided)

Saturday, March 27

All Day

I.G.S.M.A. District 3 Organization Contest at

Marion Jr. High School
Marion, IL

(Full Band performs)

(Transportation provided)

Saturday, April 24

I.G.S.M.A. State Organization Casey Jr. High School

Mt. Vernon, IL

(Transportation provided)

Time - TBA

Saturday, May 2

I.G.S.M.A. State Solo & Ensemble Contest at Casey Jr. High School

Mt. Vernon, IL

(transportation provided)

Spring Concert TBA

What is Contest?!?

Saturday, February 27, is the Illinois Grade School Music Association (IGSMA) District 3 Solo and Ensemble contest. This year the contest will be at the Unity Point School, Carbondale, IL.

With only a few exceptions, every member of the middle school band is involved with either a solo or an ensemble. The effort of each member working on a solo or an ensemble will, in turn, help improve the overall performance of our band.

You may not know what contest is all about or are not aware of what preparations that must take place in order to be fully prepared by contest day.

On contest day, a soloist will enter a room at a given time, give a judge the music that they will perform, perform that music, then receive a rating on how well the solo or ensemble performed.

By this date, all soloists should be able to perform their solos with music and very few errors. They should begin to practice with their accompanist these next 6 weeks. This may mean staying after school on certain days when their accompanists are here at school or playing at the home of their accompanists. Ensemble members may also need to stay after school to practice with the other members of their ensemble. This is not the time for ensembles to practice. Each member of an ensemble must be able to play their part BEFORE the ensemble is even put together.

Your accompanist spends many hours working on your accompaniments. A small cash gift will let them know how much you appreciate their time and effort.



\$20.00 will help them know you care. Please pay them at your first rehearsal with them.

You must get your own accompanist. If you do not know of an accompanist, the following is a list of a few known accompanist. You may know of some one else and that's OK. You are not limited to this list, but you must find your own. More important, you must pay them for their time!

Marla Uhles 542-8046
Susan Graham 542-2999
Linda Davis 542-5306
Tammy Carson 542-5466

In February, before contest, you will receive a list of times and other performance information about contest.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Montgomery.

Contest Fees

Int. Ens. 2 _____

These fees are due for your entry(ies) in the District Solo & Ensemble contest.

Please mark each entry you are in along with the title and return this page with a check for the correct amount made out to:

Please be sure and pay your accompanist at your first practice with her!

Fees are as follows:

**Marching Warriors
-CONTEST FEES**

Each Solo \$ 5.00
Each Ens. \$ 5.00

If you send cash, please in close in an envelope with your name on it.

It is important that you get your fees in immediately. We have to pay our fees for contest or we will not receive our medals on contest day.

Name _____

Home

Phone _____

Total enclosed:

Solo _____

Must be returned with payment by:

Piano _____ **Tuesday, February 10 , 2010**

Vocal Solo _____

Inst. Ens. 1 _____



Contest Make Our Band Better!

