



MSBOA SOLO & ENSEMBLE

INFORMATION AND RULES

Solo & Ensemble Festival is an opportunity for individual 7th and 8th grade students to perform a piece of their choice for a respected instrumental specialist. Solo & Ensemble music is prepared outside of school by the student. The festival will be held on **Saturday, December 3rd, 2016** at **Novi Middle School in Novi**. **This event is not required for students, but is highly recommended.**

Why should I participate in Solo & Ensemble?

- Opportunity for individual musical growth
- Receive tips and feedback from a professional on your instrument
- Display your musical talents for others
- Perform music that *you* get to choose

In what type of ensemble may I participate?

- Students may perform a solo on their orchestra instrument or on the piano
- Students may perform with others in a duet *or* trio

For how many events may I register?

- Students may register for up to three events
- Students who register for two solos must play the solos on different instruments (i.e. one cello solo and one piano solo)

May I perform with a friend who plays a different instrument?

- You may perform with any orchestral instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass)
HOWEVER, if you are seeking music from Mrs. Briski you must confirm availability of music prior to signing up.

How do I choose an appropriate piece of music?

- Appropriate music is available in the orchestra room from Mrs. Briski
- Ask your private lesson teacher for help
- Pop. Music, movie music, etc. are **not** appropriate choices

Will I receive anything for my performance?

- All students will receive a sheet with comments from the adjudicator
- All students will receive verbal feedback from the adjudicator
- Students who receive a first or second division rating will receive a medal for their performance

How do I register to participate in S&E?

- Fill out the attached form. Place the form and payment in an envelope, and turn it into Mrs. Briski. Only one envelope per group, please. This is due no later than **Tuesday, October 4th.**
- **Students who wish to register for multiple events must fill out a separate form for each event**

Students who wish to participate in Solo & Ensemble Festival should choose their music as soon as possible. You may arrange a time with Mrs. Briski to stay after school and look through appropriate music, or you may ask your private lesson teacher to recommend a piece. You should begin practicing this music as soon as possible. Here are some helpful hints for practicing:

- Break the piece into small sections. Master the section before moving on.
- Pay close attention to details such as dynamics, articulations, tempo, and style.
- Listen to a recording of your piece. Try to sound like the recording.

PRACTICING EXPECTATIONS

Students who are not prepared will not do well at the S&E. Students are expected to practice regularly for this event. S&E participants should practice their music **at least** five times per week beginning the first week of October. Students participating in a duet or trio are expected to rehearse as a group **at least** once per week from October 10th through December 3rd.

HELP SESSIONS

Students are responsible for learning their own music; however, Mrs. Briski may be available to help students after school for one or two help sessions. The session is meant to be a check-up. Duets and trios must have rehearsed together at least three times before getting help. Sign-up sheets for help sessions will be posted in the orchestra room. **Weekly private lessons are strongly recommended for students who will be participating in Solo & Ensemble.**

SOLO & ENSEMBLE RECITAL NIGHT

Students will have the opportunity to perform their event at the S&E Recital on **Wednesday, November 16th** in the GMS Cafetorium.

ACCOMPANISTS

You do not have to use the accompanists listed below, but if you do not have a pianist in mind you may call one of the piano players below. They are in high demand so call early!

All solo events must be accompanied or no rating will be given. Accompanists should be contacted before turning in your registration form. Contact information for all approved accompanists is listed below. Please contact an accompanist **as soon as possible** for information regarding availability, fees, and rehearsals.

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|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| ➤ Genevieve McDonald | 313-310-5444 | gen.mcdonald@aol.com |
| ➤ Paul Bechler | | paulbechler@wlcsd.org |

FESTIVAL RULES

Students who do not abide by the following rules will **NOT** receive a rating for their performance:

- Your piece must be AT LEAST **one minute and thirty seconds** long
- You must have an **original score** for the adjudicator. The original score is the book that your music was chosen from. You must have the book or no rating will be given. **Students are responsible for bringing the original score to their event.**
- All measures in your piece must be numbered
- **All solo events must use an accompanist**

Your music must be marked in the following way:

- All measures in your piece must be numbered
- "James R. Geisler Middle School" should be written on the first page of your **original score**

Students will receive their performance times and event rooms approximately one week before the Festival. Please plan on arriving to your warm-up room no later than 30 minutes before your performance time. Directors will NOT be available on site the day of the festival.



MSBOA SOLO & ENSEMBLE REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline: **Tuesday, October 4th** – for performance at the **Saturday, December 3rd, 2016** festival

Entry Fees: \$12.00 per student per solo \$20.00 per duet (\$10.00 per person)
\$18.00 per piano solo \$27.00 per trio (\$9.00 per person)

Payment: Payments may be made by cash or check (payable to **Walled Lake Schools** with **Orchestra** written in the memo). Enclose payment (and form) in an envelope with STUDENT name on it. Important.

Location: Novi Middle School
49000 W 11 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48374

To Apply: **For each event, turn in one envelop with all fees and forms.** A student may perform in up to three events, but if playing solos, they must be played on different instruments (i.e. cello solo and piano solo). **If you would like to participate in more than one event, you must complete a separate form for each event.** Mrs. Briski has extra copies in the orchestra room.

(keep top portion, return lower portion and fees in a sealed envelope)

Name

Instrument

Type of event: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Performance time preference (the festival runs from 8:00am – 5:00pm): Early Middle Late

I will be taking private lessons to prepare for this event: Yes No

Name of private teacher: _____

Does this event use a piano? Yes No

Private Lessons are
highly recommended!

SOLOS: All solos must have a piano accompaniment.

Name of accompanist: _____ **Contact your accompanist today.**

DUETS AND TRIOS:

You must practice with your group members at least once per week outside of class time. In the space below describe when and where you will be practicing each week:

You DO NOT need to know the title of your piece at this time. Private teachers can help you choose music or you can choose a piece from the school's files. All pieces must be a **minimum** of one minute and thirty seconds long.