

Composition/Arrangement Classification Explained

Eligibility: Any student in grades 4-12 may enter an original or arranged solo or ensemble composition for adjudication as a student-written work. All entries must be performed at the Saturday Contest but a copy of the full score and all parts is submitted as early as possible to allow advance adjudication of notation accuracy (transposition, beats, rhythms, pitches, etc.) format considerations (signs, key/time signatures, musical signs/markings, repeats, dynamics, clefs, tempo, note-stems, score-order, bar-line alignment, etc.), and words (if there are any, broken into syllables).

Please note that there is an additional entry fee for composition/arrangement in order to allow them to be partially adjudicated prior to hearing the composition at Contest. Registering such an entry will be an option on the online entry form.

The Music: Compositions/Arrangements may be any style of music for any instrument, voice or combination that we currently allow in the Solo & Ensemble Contest. In other words, it could be a composition for SSAATTBB, Barbershop Quartet, brass choir, flute solo, jazz ensemble, piano solo, violin duet, drum solo, percussion ensemble, harp-guitar-cello trio or woodwind quintet. There are no scale or memorization requirements for a student's Composition/Arrangement entry but time and group size limits apply.

Adjudication: The adjudication will be focused on the music as a composition, not as a performance. The performance serves only to give the composition a hearing, observe how all the elements (melody, harmony, rhythm and tone color) all come together, and enjoy the total effect of the cooperative work of the performer with the composer. The performance will not be adjudicated, only the music itself.

Please submit questions to: Debbie Hunt

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