The Louisiana Music Educators Association



"We are in this together. Together we can do anything."

Clarifications: Plan for 2nd Round All-State Auditions (Band and Choir)

Dear Colleagues,

<u>Due to the studies regarding aerosol emissions and how it relates to COVID-19 and for the safety of our students and staff, the following recommendation for All State Auditions were made to the full board on 27 July 2020.</u>

"The Executive board has been in discussion with division chairs and have looked at all options for auditions. Through the research presented, it is the recommendation of the executive board that we plan for a full virtual audition at this time and ease those restrictions as the pandemic allows. We will therefore move that a one round all state audition through the Acceptd format take place due by February 7, 2021 for band. Choir will have a two round LIVE process due by February 7, 2021."

What will a full virtual LIVE audition look like for band? Districts must host a <u>LIVE</u> first round audition on or before Saturday February 6, 2021. As the live audition is taking place, it is also being recorded for consideration to be sent to the second round. At the conclusion of the LIVE first round audition, district directors will then send the district allotment to the band division chair due by Sunday, February 7, 2021. The now <u>RECORDED</u> round one audition will then be sent for state level adjudication. Please note, in order to maintain the integrity of the live audition process, the full virtual audition will not be blind. A proctor will assist the audition process while the adjudicator judges the student. All individuals involved will be at different locations. Results will be posted on Saturday, February 13, 2021.

What will a full virtual LIVE audition look like for Choir? Districts must host a <u>LIVE</u> first round audition on or before Saturday January 30, 2021. The audition piece will be "Shenandoah" arr. by Steven Sametz, SSAATTBB, Oxford University Press, 978-0-19-386633-1 (English). As the live audition is taking place, it will be adjudicated by a panel of judges in various sites to ensure the safety of the students and the judges. At the conclusion of the LIVE first round audition, district directors will send the district allotment to the vocal division chair by Sunday, January 31, 2021. The Round 2 audition will then be held on February 13, 2021 using the same social distancing guidelines and the portal site of <u>ACCEPTD.COM</u>. The audition piece will be "Himne" by Roelof Temmingh, SATB - Publisher ID CSM-002. Please note, in order to maintain the integrity of the live audition process, the full virtual audition may not be blind. A proctor will assist the audition process while the adjudicator judges the student. All individuals involved will be at different locations. Results will be posted at the conclusion of second round auditions on Saturday, February 13, 2021.

What format will be used? The format we are using for the live stream audition is ACCEPTD https://getacceptd.com/. They will provide tech support during the audition process to ensure complications are minimized. Cost for the audition is \$20 for the live Acceptd audition and paid directly to them. There will be a \$7 fee for those selected to the second-round audition made payable to LMEA. Please note, the \$7 second round fee does not cover any first round fees that you may incur.

I know this is very different from anything we've done in the past and I hope this will provide a clearer picture. However, if still unclear, please don't hesitate to call or email. I, as well as Greg Oden, can be available to attend your district zoom meeting to help explain this process or discuss any LMEA information. Also, as stated in the recommendation, these restrictions may be lifted or eased as the pandemic allows. Please remember, I ask that you continue to be both positive and flexible as we navigate through these challenging times. Together, I know that we will do what is best for our students.

Have a great week! Scotty Walker, LMEA President