

NHMEA
SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL
Mark Zielinski, Chairperson (mark.zielinski@unh.edu)

Application Deadline: January 11, 2025

Festival Date: February 15, 2025

Location: Keene State College, Redfern Arts Center, 90 Wyman Way, Keene, NH

The 2023 Solo & Ensemble will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2025. The festival is a unique opportunity for students of all ages and ability levels to perform for an adjudicator without the stress of an audition. Students have the option of performing for a rating or in a non-competitive setting for feedback only.

The application deadline is Friday, January 11 2025. Any application received after the deadline will not be accepted. If a specific performance time is needed, please email Mark Zielinski at mark.zielinski@unh.edu Requested accommodations will be met to the best of our ability.

If there are any questions, please contact Mark Zielinski at mark.zielinski@unh.edu

SOLO & ENSEMBLE
RULES & REGULATIONS

The following lists of the general Rules & Regulations for the festival. They are taken in part from the NYSSMA Manual.

1. Students performing for a rating must select music from the NYSSMA Manual, Wisconsin, Texas, New England, or Virginia music lists. If a grade level discrepancy exists, the NYSSMA manual will take precedence. Information on how to order a NYSSMA Manual can be found at <https://www.nyssma.org/committees/manual/>. Students wishing to perform for “comments only” may select any piece of music.
2. Providing music for adjudicators is optional, but suggested for ensembles. All performers must be reading from originals. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE NOT ALLOWED.**
3. Memorization is not required.
4. There is a time limit. All instrumental performances are blocked in 12-minute intervals and vocal in 10-minute intervals. This time frame includes the selected piece(s), scales (when required) and the time for adjudicators to write comments. Students should plan on a maximum of 6 minutes for their actual performance, realizing the adjudicator will make suitable cuts in the music.
5. Students will be assigned a warm-up time 10-12 minutes prior to their performance time.
6. Students participating for a rating will receive a letter grade of A, B, C, or D without the use of pluses or minuses. Grades will be recorded by level followed by grade (ex: II-B).
7. Ensembles are limited to sixteen members. Ensembles of five or less must perform without a conductor.
8. Scales are required for any student performing an instrumental solo for a rating. Each student will play 3 major scales from memory ascending and descending at a moderate tempo. Percussionists will be asked to play specific rudiments. For a complete list of required scales and rudiments, consult the NYSSMA manual, or contact the chairperson.
9. Private teachers can now register their students for this festival. To do so, private teachers must obtain or maintain a membership to NHMEA/NAfME. Please visit www.nhmea.org and click on the Join/Renew link at the very top right hand corner of the page. This will take you to the NAfME website where you can purchase your membership. After that, you will need to make an account in OPUS, our registration software. A link to OPUS can be found at www.nhmea.org. When creating an account, it will ask you what school you teach at. If you do not teach at a school, please select “my school is not listed” and enter the information for your studio instead. You will need to wait for approval (shouldn’t take long), and once approved, you can begin registering your students.

10. One check per school, made payable to NHMEA should accompany all applications. No refunds will be given for withdrawal from the festival. Performers must be paid in full by the time of the festival.
11. Students performing for a rating will receive a certificate of participation. Music directors have the option of ordering medals for those students who receive a rating of "A" or "B".
12. All performances are open to the public, and where space available, students are encouraged to listen to other performances.
13. All performers must be accompanied by a chaperone for the whole time they are in attendance at this festival. Chaperones may not leave the festival site while the student(s) they are responsible for are in attendance. No exceptions. Chaperones must be music directors or private music teachers.
14. Improper behavior on the day of the event may be cause for disqualification and/or removal from the event. This would include, but is not limited to un-sportsmanlike conduct, destruction or theft of property, and smoking in the buildings by participants.