

WMTA District Auditions – Information for Parents

The Wisconsin Music Teachers Association sponsors this event for students in grades 1-12 and adults at both the district and state levels. The auditions provide musicians with an opportunity to receive an evaluation of their performance and musicianship skills. Participating in the WMTA Auditions provides students with a specific goal, additional performance experience and the opportunity to have another reputable teacher offer comments as to how their playing could be improved.

The students are carefully guided in selecting appropriate music and preparing for their music theory test. As the audition day draws near, you will be provided with all the information you need regarding registration for the day, where to go and times designated for performances and music theory tests. You pay the entry fee to your instructor and they pay one check for all students to WMTA.

All students who participate will receive the judge's written comments, their graded music theory test, a certificate of participation, and points toward WMTA awards.

What are the benefits of participating in WMTA District Auditions?

- Can participate at any site in the state, if local date does not work
- Madison Auditions are held at the prestigious UW Mead Witter School of Music
- Lots of different participation options for every kind of student, all ages, all instruments
- Encourages learning music theory and ear-training, in addition to performance
- AWARDS!

What does the student do the day of the auditions?

1. Performs the number of solos required according to the level entered (also referred to as "track" entered). See the entry options on next page.
2. Completes a written music theory test – most of the test is written, a small part is aural (listening). Sometimes the district will do theory testing through the teacher, and submitted by PDF before the Audition Day.

How does the points system work?

1. Students can earn up to five points maximum for each solo performed. (Except for District 2-NM entries; see next page).
2. Students can also earn up to five points on their musicianship (music theory) test. The number of points is determined by the percentage scored.
3. If a student participates more than once, their points accumulate from year to year. After a student has earned 22 points, he/she will receive a WMTA plaque. When a student earns 50 points, and later 75 points, he/she will receive a gold bar that can be attached to the plaque. At 100 points, another plaque is awarded – the process continues with more awards for further points earned.

(cont'd on next page)

There are four participation levels (“tracks”) available to the student, depending on the grade level and instrument.

DISTRICT 2 TRACK (D2): ENTRY FEE- \$20.00. The student performs two memorized solos and completes a music theory test. The student is not eligible to advance to the state level Badger Competition.

DISTRICT 2 NON-MEMORIZED TRACK (D2NM): ENTRY FEE- \$20.00. The student performs two solos, with their music (not memorized), and completes a music theory test. These students can only earn a maximum of four points on each piece performed and are not eligible to advance to the state level Badger Competition. This is only available to students in grades 7 – 12 in piano, organ, or vocal solo.

DISTRICT 3 TRACK (D3): ENTRY FEE- \$25.00. The student performs three solos, at least two of which must be memorized, and completes a music theory test. The student is not eligible to advance to the state level Badger Competition. This option is only available to students in grades 7 – 12.

STATE TRACK: ENTRY FEE- \$25.00. The student performs three memorized solos. Each student who receives 14 out of the 15 possible points on the performance, as well as earns a score of 80% or higher on the appropriate level music theory test, is eligible to advance to the Badger Competition in May. Only 4th grade and older students are allowed to advance. **For students grade 3 and younger:** The student performs three memorized solos and takes their appropriate level music theory test. They will receive points but are not eligible to advance to the state level Badger Competition.

BADGER COMPETITION: ENTRY FEE - \$25.00. If a student chose the STATE track option at the District Auditions, is 4th grade or above, scored 14 or 15 points on their performance, and scored 80% or higher on the musicianship test, they are eligible to participate in the state level Badger Competition in May. The student performs the same memorized pieces prepared for the District Auditions but the student does NOT have to take another music theory test. All students that perform will earn an additional ten points for participating and will receive the judges’ written comments, as well as a certificate. A “Winner” from each judging site (categorized by grade level) will be selected to perform in a recital at the end of the day. A number of students are also recognized with “Runner-Up” or “Honorable Mention” titles. Pictures of these students will be taken and published in the WMTA newsletter that goes to all members in the state.