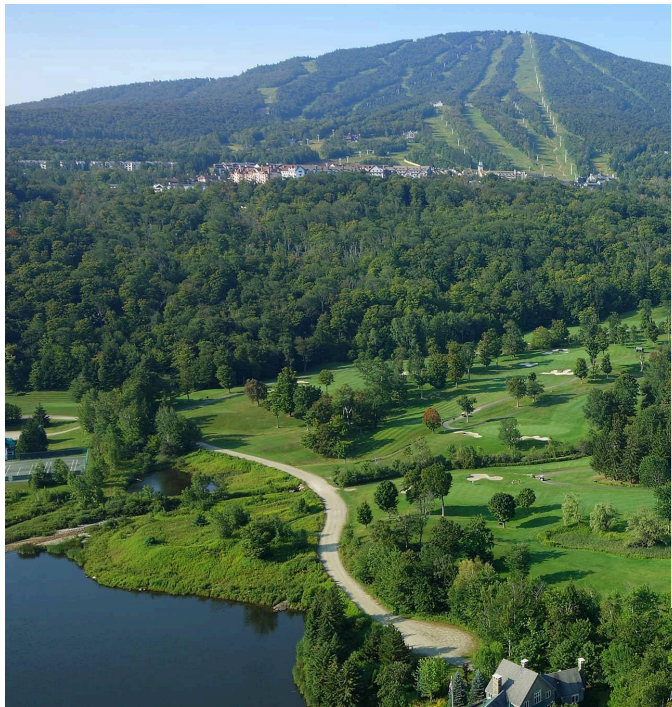


Green Mountain Music District V Handbook



Updated: August, 2026

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Section I – Members and Staff

1.1 Officers of the Green Mountain Music District

PRESIDENT

Rob DeBruyn
Middlebury Union High School
73 Charles Ave
Middlebury, VT 05753
rdebruyn@acsdvt.org

Vice PRESIDENT

Matt Tatro
Mt. Abraham Jr.-Sr. High School
220 Airport Drive
Bristol, VT 05443
matthew.tatro@mausd.org

TREASURER:

Rebecca Fielder
Mount Anthony Middle School
747 East Road
Bennington, VT 05201
rebecca.fielder@svsu.org

SECRETARY:

Samantha Adams
Fair Haven Union Middle and High School
33 Mechanic Street
Fair Haven, Vermont 05743
sadams@svuvt.org

Audition Chair

Zachary Hampton
West Rutland School
713 Main Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
zachary.hampton@grcsu.org

Audition Assistant Chair

Peter Roach
Mill River Jr./Sr. High School
2321 Middle Road
North Clarendon, VT 05759
proach@millriverschools.org

HS Audition Host

Christy Papandrea
Proctor Jr. - Sr. High School
4 Park St. Proctor, VT 05765-1312
christina.papandrea@grcsu.org

MS Audition Host

Cameron Wescott
Otter Valley Jr./Sr. High School
2997 Franklin St.
Brandon, VT 05733
cwescott@rnesu.org

Website

Richard Sherman
Middlebury Union Middle School
48 Deerfield Ln
Middlebury, VT 05753
rsherman@acsdvt.org

Librarian

Jocelyn Noble
Ferrisburgh Central School
56 Little Chicago Road
Ferrisburgh, VT 05456
jnoble@anwsd.org

For a full list of GMMDV positions, job descriptions, and names of individuals filling each position, please click the following link: [Job Document](#)

1.2 Schools of the Green Mountain Music District

Addison Central School	Rutland High School
Arlington Memorial School	Rutland Intermediate School
Barstow Memorial School	Rutland Middle School
Beeman Elementary School	Rutland Primary Schools
Benson Village School	Rutland Town School
Bingham Memorial School	Shrewsbury Mountain School
Bridport School	Shoreham Elementary School
Bristol Elementary School	Tinmouth Elementary School
Burr & Burton Academy	Vergennes Union Elementary School
Castleton State College	Vergennes Union Jr/Sr High School
Castleton/Hubbardton Union School District	Wallingford Elementary School
Christ the King School	Wells Village School
Clarendon Elementary School	West Rutland School
Currier Memorial School	Weybridge Elementary School
The Dorset School	
Fair Haven Grade School	
Fair Haven Union High School	
Fisher Elementary	
Ferrisburgh Central School	
Grace Christian School	
Lincoln Community School	
Long Trail School	
Lothrop Elementary School	
Manchester Elementary-Middle School	
Maple Street School	
Mary Hogan Elementary School	
Mettawee Community School	
Middletown Springs Elementary	
Middlebury Union High School	
Middlebury Union Middle School	
Mill River Union Jr/Sr High School	
Molly Stark Elementary	
Monkton Central School	
Mt Abraham Union Jr/Sr High School	
Mt Anthony Union Middle School	
Mt Anthony Union High School	
Mt Saint Joseph Academy	
Neshobe School	
Orwell Village School	
Otter Valley Union Jr/Sr High School	
Poultney Elementary School	
Poultney High School	
Proctor Elementary School	
Proctor Jr.-Sr. High School	
Ripton Elementary School	
Robinson Elementary School	
Rutland Area Christian School	

Section II – Festival Information and Procedures

2.1 Location

- The festival could take place at any school that participates in the Green Mountain Music Festival or at an area facility that can accommodate the performing groups.

2.2 Participation

2.2.1 Auditions

- 1) All students who audition will perform before an adjudicator for an evaluation.
- 2) Not all students will be guaranteed placement in a performance group. The top audition scores for the instrumental category will be selected to fill the rosters of the various groups involved in the festival. Only a pre-chosen number of participants will be selected for the Jazz Ensemble. Those ineligible due to an insufficient score will not participate.
- 3) Absentee Policy for Auditions (unexpected or emergency circumstances): A death in the family or illness will be allowed for a make up audition. The student's director is responsible for requesting the make-up audition, and must contact the president, the audition chair, and the ensemble manager(s) by the end of the following day. The student's director must send a recorded video audition to the adjudicator within five (5) school days of the audition date. The adjudicator will score the video audition, and must return the score sheet to the ensemble manager and audition chair within eight (8) school days of the audition date.
- 4) Absentee Policy for Auditions (planned circumstances): If a student has a direct conflict due to extenuating circumstances, they may request an alternate audition. Examples may include a VPA Sponsored Event, Student Leadership Conference, Awards Night, District/State Level Competition, College Audition, etc. This application must come from the TEACHER that is responsible for the student, is to be submitted to the Audition Chair upon recognition of the conflict, and must be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to the audition date in order to be considered. If awarded, the student's director must send a recorded video audition to the adjudicator within five (5) school days of the audition date. The adjudicator will score the video audition, and must return the score sheet to the ensemble manager and audition chair within eight (8) school days of the audition date.

2.2.2 Absentee Policy & Ineligibility

- In order for an absence from a festival to be excused (illness or death in the family), the District President should be informed **prior** to the festival, 9:30 AM.
- In order for an absence from a festival to be excused (academic ineligibility (failing two or more courses with documented proof from the school), a VPA sponsored event), a note must accompany this request, signed by the parent and principal. If the absence occurs on festival days without time for prior

notification, a note should be sent to the District President within 7(seven) days after the festival.

- **Ineligibility** If a student does not have an excused absence (academic ineligibility, VPA sponsored event, illness or death in the family), and fails to attend the festival for which he/she has signed an acceptance form, the student will **not be eligible** for participation in either festival for the following year.

2.2.3 Eligibility

- A student who wishes to participate in a festival must be a participating member of a Green Mountain District V Music Department or a homeschooled student with (an agreement) with their school district's music educator and abide by the policies of their respective districts in regard to participation. A student is not eligible to participate in the GMMDV festivals unless they are affiliated with a school in a manner where their medical information is in the school's system so that the school is medically liable. All students participate in auditions and festivals at the discretion of their director. In order to audition for an ensemble, a student must participate in the equivalent ensemble in their school, in which they are registered, unless that ensemble is NOT offered in their school or a scheduling conflict has precluded participation in the ensemble. If a student has auditioned for and not been accepted into a school ensemble, that student will be allowed to audition for the equivalent GMMDV ensemble.

2.2.4 Fees

2.2.5(a) – Audition/Nomination Fees

- Each participating school is required to pay a \$10.00 fee per audition/nomination for each student who auditions. For any student completing a second audition/nomination, there will be an additional \$5.00 fee for each audition after the first registered audition/nomination. The fee is paid with submission of names to the District Treasurer, in one check, with a duplicate copy of names sent to the Audition Host and Treasurer.

2.2.4(b) – Audition Registration Fees & Penalties

- As a result of late registration, students will be placed at the end of the audition schedule. I.e. If a teacher registers a student late, but their school begins at 4:30 PM, that one student will be placed at the end of the audition schedule for the day, which could be 9:30 PM or later.

2.2.4(c) – Festival Registration/Acceptance, Fees, & Penalties

- Music Directors/Schools are required to have each student/family fill out one Festival Registration/Acceptance form. The Music Director/School will mail all forms to the GMMDV P.O. box.

- Music Directors/Schools are required to submit a \$30.00 Participation Fee for each student selected, in one check to the District Treasurer. This includes the cost of dinner for each student. A fee is due for each ensemble in which a student participates. All fees are due to the Treasurer prior to each festival, in one check.
- Any school that has their paperwork postmarked after the due date will be charged a \$100 penalty late fee.

2.2.4(d) – Music Reimbursement

- Managers will collect music after each concert, review, and organize music to see what music from which schools is missing. Managers will fill out the “Missing Invoice” form as appropriate for each school and send it to the correct music teachers by the date(s) on the Calendar. Music teachers either need to pay the invoice (by check to the treasurer) or return the music (to the manager) by the due date listed on the Calendar.

2.2.5 Lunch

- Brown Bag lunches should be brought for Friday lunch and beverages should not be in glass containers.

2.2.6 Dinner

- Teachers are required to purchase dinner tickets priced at \$10.00 each for their students. This is included in the \$30.00 total participation fee for the festival. Dinner tickets for teachers may be included at the time of acceptance, OR may be purchased at time of registration on the day of the festival. No person will be allowed through the dining line without a ticket.

2.2.7 Transportation

- Students participating in any festival **MUST** be transported by school transportation OR a parent. There are to be **NO STUDENT DRIVERS. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

2.3 Music Ensembles

The following groups make up the District Music Festivals:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1) High School Symphonic Band | Grades 9 – 12 |
| 2) High School S. A. T. B. Chorus | Grades 9 – 12 |
| 3) High School Jazz Ensemble | Grades 9 – 12 |
| 4) High School String Ensemble | Grades 9 – 12 |
| 5) Middle School Symphonic Band | Grades 6 – 8 |
| 6) Middle School Chorus | Grades 6 – 8 |
| 7) Middle School Jazz | Grades 6 – 8 |
| 8) Middle School String Ensemble | Grades 6 – 8 |

- In the event that a High School Ensemble is not complete, 8th graders **from within the District** or a teacher, will be considered as participants. Discretion is left up to the manager and President.
- In the event that a Middle School Ensemble is not complete, a High School student **from within the District or a teacher**, may be considered to fill the position. Discretion is left up to the manager and President
- In the event there is no manager for an ensemble, the ensemble will be canceled. An alternative plan to include as many students as possible will be considered.

2.4 Musical Ensemble Libraries

- 1) The GMMD, VMEA, NEMFA, and consenting school music libraries will provide music for each festival. New music will also be purchased by GMMD. (Complete sets of parts are available on loan to any school from the GMMD, VMEA, and NEMFA libraries). **The purchase of ALL new music *must* be submitted to the District President for prior approval.**
- 2) Music must be returned to Ensemble Managers after the Festival Concert, who will then return it to the library.

2.5 Green Mountain Music District Library

- 1) The library is located at Mary Hogan School in the Music Department. The library is open to all music teachers in the GMMD. It is requested that the following guidelines be followed for use:
 - a. All music must be signed out on the sign-out sheet.
 - b. Estimated date of return *must* be noted.
 - c. Make sure you return the same number of copies you borrow or a replacement fee will be assessed.
 - d. When borrowing band arrangements, please return them to the library in score order.
 - e. Be prompt about returning borrowed selections, so that others may use them.
 - f. All music being returned by Festival Managers should be in order and stamped. Choral Managers should have music counted as well.
 - g. Do not file the music when you return it. Place in box provided.
 - h. Check your own school libraries to see if you have music that belongs to the District.

2.6 Tickets

- The members and board of the Green Mountain Music District in careful consideration of the economy and financial needs of the district set the ticket prices dependent on expenses accrued by the festival events. Each year there is careful consideration of the prices and sales of tickets. Please see below for the current prices:
 - o Family price applies to 3 or more members.
 - o Please note that there is a 3% charge added for tickets paid via credit/debit card.

Adult	Student	Senior Citizen	Family
\$10	\$8	\$8	\$25

Ticket prices adjusted 2025-2026 school year.

2.7 Festival Expectations

2.7.1 Teacher Responsibilities

- The Music Teacher ***must*** register all students between 9:00-9:30 am on the day of the festival. If there is a problem, contact the ensemble manager before Friday or call the District President. Teachers will be present at all times during the rehearsals. If they are unable to be present then they must have a chaperone and notify the president as soon as possible and leave an emergency contact number. **Educators will be responsible for knowing all medical information about their students and carrying a medical kit.**

2.7.2 Student Responsibilities

- 1) Students are to be on time for all rehearsals and concerts. **Students are required to be at all rehearsals except in the case of illness or emergency.** Infractions will be reported to the District President, the student's Music Teacher, and the student's school administration.
- 2) Students **MUST** remain at the Festival site at **ALL** times, and are not dismissed until the concert is complete in its entirety.
- 3) Materials to bring:
 - a. Symphonic Band:
 - i. Instrument, music, music stand, pencil.
 - b. Chorus:
 - i. Music (in folder), pencil.
 - c. Jazz Ensemble:
 - i. Instrument, music, music stand, pencil.
 - d. Orchestra:
 - i. Instrument, music, music stand, pencil.
 - e. ALL:
 - i. Accessories (reeds, oils, mutes, etc.), bag lunch, snacks, and water.
 - f. Students are responsible for knowing and observing festival rules.
- 4) DRESS:
 - a. Rehearsals:
 - i. Comfortable, appropriate school clothes. No hats or gum.
 - b. Concert Attire (Gender Neutral):

- i. Concert attire must be all black (solid black). Please note that the goal is to create a uniform look. Appropriate clothing for a concert includes the following:
- ii. Black dress pants (no jeans or sweats, etc.)
- iii. Black leggings can be worn under a long shirt or tunic (that covers the student's bottom), or skirt/dress
- iv. Black dress shirt with collar (polo shirt is okay)
- v. Black top (with shoulders covered, no deep necklines or reflective material)
- vi. Black skirt (must extend past the knee when seated and include black tights or nylons)
- vii. Black dress (must fit rules for top and skirt)
- viii. Black socks, tights, or nylons
- ix. All black dress shoes (no sneakers)

All teachers in the GMMD will communicate with parents and students about changes in the festival, such as snow date.

2.8 One Day Festival Rehearsal Schedule

2.8.1 *Friday Festival Day*

- 9:00 - 9:30 - Registration (Directors ONLY)
 - Students go directly to rehearsal areas
- 9:30 – 9:45 - Managers/Guest Conductors: Intro, Announcements
- 9:45 - 12:30 - Rehearsals * **Lunchtime is at manager's discretion**
- 1:15 - 4:00 - Rehearsals - Same locations
- 1:30 - Directors Meeting
- 4:30-6:15 - Dinner rotation & Dress rehearsals
 - **Dress Rehearsal Schedule - (20 minutes for each group including set-up)**
- 6:15-6:45 - Dress for concerts
- 7:00 – Concert
 - Students should remain in Warm-Up/Dressing areas until performance.

2.8.2 *Saturday – Snow Date Only*

- In the case of snow date for the Friday (one day) Festival, the festival will follow the same schedule put in place for Friday on Saturday. Due to the weather conditions some schools may need to, and have permission to, arrive late depending on the condition of the roads. Teachers should communicate to the district president about transportation concerns due to change in schedule.

2.9 Festival Postponement/Cancelation

- In the event of bad weather on Friday, the festival will take place on Saturday. The decision to postpone/cancel the festival will be made by the District President and Vice President by **1:00 PM the day preceding the festival**. The President will be responsible for contacting the music teachers, festival host(s) and ensemble managers by email and or

phone calls. Teachers are responsible for contacting their students to notify them of the cancellation. Ensemble managers are responsible for contacting their conductors and pianists.

Section III – Audition Guidelines

3.1 General Audition Guidelines

3.1.1 General

- Teachers are required to notify prospective students of the audition date and site.

3.1.2 Audition Scoring

- The scoring system used, ranks all instrumental audition scores to determine participation based on Scales/Rudiments, Solo, and Sight Reading. Rubrics for each ensemble can be found online.

3.1.3 Audition Requirements

- Only pre-registered students may take the audition. ***NO SUBSTITUTIONS ALLOWED.***
- Each student **MUST** enter the audition room with the ***original copy*** of the required piece for auditions.

3.2 Vocal Audition Guidelines

3.2.1 Middle School Auditions

A. Selections

- i. Each year a specific selection will be assigned for the audition. Every attempt will be made to establish a 3-year rotating list, as is done instrumentally.
- ii. 2026-2027 [Shenandoah, arr. Rugger](#)
 1. Performance note: this piece must be performed in the written key (E major) in two parts. It must be performed with the melody (soprano line) sung in any octave (meaning a baritone may audition by singing the soprano line down an octave) plus any other part.
 2. Sopranos must sing the melody for their audition.
 3. Altos may sing either the upper or lower divisi (note: the lower divisi is identical to the upper divisi of the baritone line).
 4. Baritones may sing the upper or lower divisi of the baritone line, or they may sing the melody (soprano line) down an octave.

B. Guidelines

- i. There will be two adjudicators per audition room.
- ii. Adjudicator(s) will provide beginning pitch using a pitch pipe.
- iii. Students will audition two at a time. (Each student will have an assigned adjudicator.)

- iv. If a school has only one student who auditions, either a student from another school or one of the adjudicators may substitute.
- v. Audition times for no more than one half the number of students auditioning will be assigned per school (i.e. 12 students auditioning will be assigned 6 slots; 13 students auditioning will get 7 slots, etc.). The one student who must audition twice (if necessary) will be judged the **first time only**.
- vi. There is *NO limit per school*, as to the number of students accepted to the festival. Every attempt will be made to accept at least one student (per school) provided he/she scores a minimum of 60 points on the audition. The manager, on behalf of the festival, reserves the right to adjust, if necessary.

3.2.2 High School Auditions

A. Selections

- i. Vocal audition selections are on a four-year rotation, as determined by Vermont All State auditions. **See vmea.org for this year's selection.**
- ii. GMMD's audition procedure is different from the Vermont All State auditions, as detailed below.

B. Pre-audition

- i. Vocalists should warm up in the appropriate room at the audition site. Warmups or last minute rehearsing will not be permitted in any other location, including the hallways.
- ii. All of a school's auditioning vocalists should report to their audition room 10 minutes prior to their audition time slot.
- iii. Students should sign in on arrival outside the audition room.
- iv. The adjudicators and/or room proctors will call for students when the adjudicators are ready.
- v. Schools that require an adjudicator to sing one of the parts will perform a large (entire school) run through of the piece with that adjudicator prior to sending their first quartet into the Audition Room.

C. Audition

- i. Students will be adjudicated on the first appearance before the adjudicator.
- ii. The starting pitch may be given by anyone using any sound producing device. An adjudicator may, if asked, provide the starting pitch for a student in the student's octave without a deduction. The students then sing the quartet piece together.
- iii. The vocal audition piece may be sung in the original key, or up or down a half or a whole step (i.e.: the piece may be sung in F, F# (Gb), G, G# (Ab) or A when G is the written key.).
- iv. The piece may be performed from memory or from published sheet music edition. **NO PHOTOCOPIES OF THE AUDITION SELECTION WILL BE ALLOWED**, unless it is an approved public domain edition.
- v. Students may audition and be considered for acceptance for only one vocal part.

- vi. Incomplete quartets may use singers from other quartets to complete the quartet, or an adjudicator may be asked to cover a part.
- vii. The number of quartet audition slots per school should equal the greatest number of students auditioning on any one voice part.

3.3 Instrumental Audition Guidelines

3.3.1 Middle School Auditions

3.3.1.1 Jazz

- A. Students will audition individually for the Middle School District Jazz Ensemble. There are two judges (one for rhythm and one for horns) and stereo systems available for the audition.
- B. *Solo*: from the rotating list: With or without the written music. Students are to play the assigned solo three times in a row with the CD accompaniment: the written head (stylized in an appropriate jazz style), an improvised solo over the chord changes, and the written head a second time.
- C. *Technical Study*: Students will play the technical study which comes from a rotating list. Please make sure you attend the GMMDV fall meeting to receive the current technical study.
- D. *Sight-Reading*: Sight-read a section of Big Band Music. Junior High Jazz students will be given a short phrase (8-10 measures) to sight read for the adjudicator. The Adjudicator will provide the sight-reading example.
- E. *Rhythm Players*:
 - a. DRUMMERS SPECIAL INFORMATION:
 - i. Students will play a section of a big band chart from the Standard of Excellence Jazz Method. In this excerpt, they will accompany the band, trade fours, and support a soloist. Please make sure to attend the GMMDV fall meeting to receive the selection.
 - ii. Styles - Demonstrate various rhythmic styles of music such as Swing, Funk/Rock, Bossa Nova, and 3/4 Ballad with brushes
 - iii. Sight-reading - a section of Big Band Music.
 - b. PIANO INSTRUCTIONS - play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out

- v. Technical Study - Please attend the GMMDV fall meeting for the year's technical study
- vi. Sight-reading: may be changes, or may be written, or maybe both
- c. GUITAR INSTRUCTIONS play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out
 - v. Technical Study - Please attend the GMMDV fall meeting for the year's technical study
 - vi. Sight-reading: may be changes, or may be written, or maybe both
- d. BASS INSTRUCTIONS - play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out
 - v. Technical Study - Please attend the GMMDV fall meeting for the year's technical study
 - vi. Sight-reading: may be changes, or may be written, or maybe both
- 2. Instruments allowed to auditions for the GMMDV MS Jazz Band are as follows: alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, trombone, rhythm section: piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, drum set.
- 3. The instrumentation for the GMMDV MS Jazz Band will ideally be as follows: two alto saxophones, two tenor saxophones, baritone saxophone, four trumpets, four trombones, rhythm section: piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, with the option of selecting two drummers.

3.3.1.2 Band

A. Scales

1. *Scales need to be performed per the specifications of the district scale sheets located at <https://sites.google.com/site/greenmountainmusicv/?scrlybrkr=daef7342> A "clean" scale sheet will be provided by the adjudicator for use in the audition.*

2. *Major Scales*: Two major scales will be performed at the audition. One selected by the student, the other by the judge. The scales should be performed to the specifications on the scale sheets that can be downloaded on the GMMDV website. The scales do NOT need to be performed memorized.
 3. *Chromatic Scales*: Played to the specifications of the scale sheets that can be downloaded from the GMMDV Website under scales. Does NOT need to be memorized.
- B. Sight Reading
1. Students will be given a short phrase (8-10 measures) to sight read for the adjudicator. The Adjudicator will provide the sight-reading example.
- C. Prepared Solo
1. Level I: Selected excerpts from rotating Band pieces.
 - a. Year I: The Last Ride of the Pony Express by David Shaffer
 - b. Year II: Above and Beyond by James Swearingen
 - c. Year III: Andromeda Overture by Mark Williams
 2. Level II: Selected piece from three-year rotating list.
- D. Percussion Rudiments
1. Paradiddle, flam, flam tap, Flam accent, 5-stroke roll, 9-stroke roll, long roll.

3.3.1.3 *Strings*

- A. In place of auditions, the make-up of the GMMDV string ensembles will be determined through a nomination process. The [GMMDV MS Strings nomination form](#) can be found on the Auditions page of the website.
- B. The following skill benchmarks are available to help determine a student's readiness. Students should meet the majority of these standards, though it may be acceptable to still be developing these skills at the time of nomination.
 - a. Intonation - The student should be able to play in tune in key signatures up to 2 sharps or 1 flat. The student should be familiar with all finger patterns and all strings in first position.
 - b. Tone - Students should be able to perform with characteristic tone on their instrument.
 - c. Rhythm - Students can perform rhythms such as whole, half, quarter, 8th notes, dotted quarter note/8th note combinations and syncopated rhythms accurately.

- d. Ensemble Skills - Students should be able to play as a member of an ensemble - playing in time with the orchestra and blending with their section.
 - e. Bowing - The student should be able to perform bowings such as slurs, staccato, and hooked bowings as required in the music.
- C. The student's director should take the skill benchmarks into consideration when determining whether or not to nominate a student. Final say for acceptance and participation in the festival lies with the MS Strings Manager.

3.3.2 High School Auditions

3.3.2.1 Jazz

- A. *General*: Students will audition individually for the Senior High District Jazz Ensemble. There are two judges with the appropriate Abersold cd's. There are separate rooms with an additional judge for sight-reading.
- B. For Everyone but drummers:
 - 1. *Solo*: Using the song selected by the All State jazz committee, interpret the melody in the style of the jazz masters, improvise one full chorus, and then return to the melody. In the audition, you will be accompanied by the cd cited with the audition selection.
 - a. PIANO INSTRUCTIONS - play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out
 - b. GUITAR INSTRUCTIONS play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out
 - c. BASS INSTRUCTIONS - play the solo four ways:
 - i. Melody with the cd, using chords or single lines as desired.
 - ii. Second time - comping
 - iii. Third time - improvising
 - iv. Fourth time - play head out

- C. *All State Jazz Excerpt*: Excerpts are now from the Jim Snidero Jazz Conceptions book and are not available for download. Books must be purchased. Play the first four lines - give or take a measure to honor a phrase ending.
- D. *Sight Reading*: usually in a separate location.
 - 1. High School Jazz students will be given a short phrase (8-10 measures) in a separate room, for a separate adjudicator. The Adjudicator will provide the sight-reading example.
- E. *Drummers*:
 - 1. *Styles*- Demonstrate the following drum set styles: swing, bossa nova, samba (or something closely related), rock, funk, jazz waltz, and brushes on slow-medium swing..
 - 2. *Big Band Tune* - Using the cited example, perform the song with the CD. Your playing does not need to be identical to that of the drummer on the recording. All written kicks should be played, with set-ups at your discretion. When accompanying the solos on the recording, be interactive with the soloist and provide a solid rhythmic foundation.
 - a. The selection will align with the Vermont All State Music Festival audition requirements, which run on a four-year rotation.
 - i. 2026 - "Spain", arr. Paul Jennings
 - 3. *Sight Read* (10 pts) - usually in a separate location.
- ii. Instruments allowed to auditions for the GMMDV HS Jazz Band are as follows: alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, trombone, rhythm section: piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, drum set.
- iii. The instrumentation for the GMMDV HS Jazz Band will ideally be as follows: two alto saxophones, two tenor saxophones, baritone saxophone, four trumpets, four trombones, rhythm section: piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, with the option of selecting two drummers.

3.3.2.2 *Band*

A. *Scales*

- 1. *Scales need to be performed per the specifications of the district scale sheets located at*
<https://sites.google.com/site/greenmountainmusicv/?scrlybrkr=daef7342>
- 2. *Major Scales*: Two major scales will be performed at the audition. One selected by the student, the other by the judge. The scales

should be performed to the specifications on the scale sheets that can be downloaded on the GMMDV website. The scales need be performed memorized.

3. *Chromatic Scales*: Played memorized to the specifications of the scale sheets that can be downloaded from the GMMDV Website under scales.

B. Sight Reading

1. Students will be given a short phrase (8-10 measures) to sight read for the adjudicator. The Adjudicator will provide the sight-reading example.

C. Prepared Solo

- a. Level I: Selected excerpts from rotating Band pieces.
 - i. Year I Pacifica by Randall D. Standridge
 - ii. Year II Jet Stream by R. Scott Whittington
 - iii. Year III Ride Through the Valley by Chris Bernotas
 - iv. Year IV Tesla's Dream by Gary D. Zeik
- b. Level II: See All State list (vmea.org)

D. Percussion Rudiments

1. Paradiddle, flam, flam tap, Flam accent, 5-stroke roll, 9-stroke roll, long roll, double paradiddle, drag, single ratamacue, double ratamacue

3.3.2.3 Strings

- A. In place of auditions, the make-up of the GMMDV string ensembles will be determined through a nomination process. The [GMMDV HS Strings nomination form](#) can be found on the Auditions page of the website.
- B. The following skill benchmarks are available to help determine a student's readiness. Students should meet the majority of these standards, though it may be acceptable to still be developing these skills at the time of nomination.
 - a. Intonation - The student should be able to play in tune in key signatures up to 3 sharps or 2 flats. The student should be comfortable with all finger patterns and all strings in first position.
 - b. Shifting - Students should be comfortable in 3rd position (violin/viola) or 3rd and 4th (cello/bass).
 - c. Tone - Students should be able to perform with characteristic tone on their instrument.
 - d. Vibrato - Students should be able to use vibrato appropriately in their playing.
 - e. Rhythm - Students can perform rhythms such as whole, half, quarter, 8th notes, 16th notes and combinations of 8th and 16th notes, dotted and syncopated rhythms accurately.

- f. Ensemble Skills - Students should be able to play as a member of an ensemble - playing in time with the orchestra and blending with their section.
 - g. Bowing - The student should be able to perform bowings such as slurs, staccato, spiccato, detache, slurred staccato, portato as required in the music.
- C. The student's director should take the skill benchmarks into consideration when determining whether or not to nominate a student. Final say for acceptance and participation in the festival lies with the MS Strings Manager.

4.1 Conductor Guidelines

4.1.1 Program Selection

- Managers need a tentative program as soon as possible. After your program is confirmed, please mail the program order, biographical information, seating chart, and any special considerations. Please include notes about voicing, percussion needs, language pronunciation, etc.

4.1.2 Festival Schedule

- Please refer to section 2.8.

4.1.3 Deadlines

- By meeting the following deadlines, we are guaranteed adequate time to mail out music to your group and to prepare for your needs: Please follow the GMMDV calendar on the website for a more complete and up to date listing.
 - Late September:
 - Conductor contracts due back to the ensemble managers.
 - Early October:
 - E-Mail or Mail a copy of your conductor contract and tentative program to the President.
 - Mid December:
 - February Festival music mailed out to participants
 - Mid January:
 - March Festival music mailed out to participants

4.2 Conductor Letter

- See Appendix A
- Revised as of 2/27/24
- Print Separately from the Managers Page on <https://sites.google.com/site/greenmountainmusicv/?scrllybrkr=daef7342>

Section V – Scholarship

5.1 Guidelines

- The GMMD music Scholarship(s) will be awarded to students within the Green Mountain Music District (VMEA District V) on a yearly basis. Each year, scholarship(s) will be

offered to deserving students from the District. The scholarship amount is a minimum of \$500. Multiple awards or awards of greater value may be given, as determined by the Scholarship Committee and Treasurer based on available funds.

- Scholarships are available to applicants who demonstrate an enthusiastic commitment towards developing their musical skills at the high school level and/or are pursuing a career in the field of music.
- GUIDELINES FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS
 - 1) All applicants must be contributing members to their own school music program.
 - 2) Scholarship requests may be made to assist with the following endeavors: private lessons, attending music camp, upgrading an instrument or the pursuit of college studies.
 - 3) Applicants must be in grades 9 –12.
 - 4) Applicants must have auditioned for one (1) of the District Senior High Ensembles in the current year.
 - 5) Applicants must complete:
 - 6) Application Form
 - 7) Submit three (3) letters of recommendation
 - a. School Music Director
 - b. Private Teacher, if applicable (you may submit another music related person, if necessary)
 - c. Personal (preferably non-music related)
 - 8) Essay including personal musical goals, what the scholarship will be used for (e.g. financial need)
 - 9) Resume containing musical and non-musical activities
 - 10) School Transcript
 - 11) Announcement of the scholarship winner(s) will be made at the District Music Festival at which the recipient is present.
 - 12) Applicants may apply more than once.
- Mail to the District President (see your Music Teacher). Must be postmarked by **January 15.**

5.2 Application

- See Appendix B
- Use Printable from <https://sites.google.com/site/greenmountainmusicv/?scrlybrkr=daef7342>, under documents and forms.

END OF DOCUMENT



GREEN MOUNTAIN MUSIC DISTRICT FIVE

CONDUCTOR CONTRACT

This is an agreement made this _____ day of _____ between the Green Mountain Music District V President **Rob DeBruyn**, Ensemble Manager _____, and Musician/Educator _____, who has resolved to be a Guest Conductor at a GMMDV Festival.

This document will serve to verify the details of the agreement and the Festival, while also identifying the expectations for both the GMMDV and the Guest Conductor.

The Guest Conductor agrees to conduct the (check one or make bold)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ HS String Ensemble | ☐ MS String Ensemble |
| ☐ MS Jazz Ensemble | ☐ HS Jazz Ensemble |
| ☐ HS Symphonic Band | ☐ MS Symphonic Band |
| ☐ MS Chorus | ☐ HS Chorus |

The conductor agrees to the following rehearsal beginning at 9:30 AM and a concert at 7:00 PM on (check on or make bold):

- ☐ Friday, February 6, 2026 ☐ Friday, March 6, 2026

In the event of a snow day, the Guest Conductor agrees to perform said duties on (check on or make bold):

- ☐ Friday, February 7, 2026 ☐ Friday, March 7, 2026

The Festival will be held at **TBD (TBD)**. These locations will be determined at the September meeting, when contracts are signed between the Host and District President.

GMMDV agrees to appoint a Manager for each ensemble. The Manager will supervise the arrangements for student participants, facilities, and equipment. The Manager will also provide the Guest Conductor with a festival schedule and advice regarding the suitability of program selections, recently performed repertoire, and the experience and abilities of the ensemble's student participants. The manager will also serve as the contact point between the district officers and conductor.

The Guest Conductor agrees to work with the Manager and GMMDV to select the repertoire, provide a biographical sketch, and headshot (digital photograph) for the program by **November 1**.

The district agrees to pay an Honorarium in the amount of **\$600.00**, plus mileage (current state rate, not to exceed \$250.00), within two weeks of completing the festival.

Other expenses covered that will be prepaid by the district, will include two meals on the day of the festival (Lunch and Dinner), and a hotel for the night before or after the festival to be chosen at the discretion of the district.

GMMDV reserves the right to postpone or cancel Festivals for the safety of the participants (see Snow Date). If the schedule is changed, every effort will be made by the district and the Ensemble Manager to notify the Guest Conductor of the adjustments in a timely manner. If the Festival cannot be rescheduled, the GMMDV will reimburse the Guest Conductor for all accrued expenses relevant to preparing for the Festival, plus the Honorarium at half of the original honorarium, \$300.00.

	Guest Conductor	Ensemble Manager	GMMDV President
Name			Rob DeBruyn
Signature			
Date			
e-mail			
cell phone			N/A
Alt. phone			
Address 1			
City, State ZIP			

*Manager - Please make sure to send a copy of this contract to GMMDV Treasurer.

END OF CONTRACT

Revised Contract: 10/17/2025

APPENDIX B – SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



GREEN MOUNTAIN MUSIC DISTRICT FIVE

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION COVER FORM

Student Information

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

INSTRUMENT/ VOICE PART: _____

PARENT'S NAME: _____

PARENT'S ADDRESS (If different from students): _____

School Information

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

SCHOOL PHONE: _____

INSTRUCTOR'S NAMES: _____

Applicants are encouraged to read the guidelines for the scholarship process provided in the handbook.

DEADLINE: POSTMARKED JANUARY 15

Application Packet **MUST** include the following:

- Application Cover
- Essay
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
- Resume
- School Transcript

Mail Completed Application to the District President

APPENDIX C – ACCOMPANIST CONTRACT



GREEN MOUNTAIN MUSIC
DISTRICT FIVE

Green Mountain District V **Piano Accompanist Contract**

Green Mountain Music District V agrees to hire:

For chorus rehearsals on the following date(s): _____

And for the performance on: _____

The district agrees to pay an Honorarium in the amount of **\$300.00**, plus mileage (current state rate, not to exceed \$250.00), within two weeks of completing the festival. Other expenses covered that will be prepaid by the district, will include two meals on the day of the festival (Lunch and Dinner).

Signature below denotes agreement with this contract.

Signature of accompanist: _____ Date: _____

Choral Manager responsibilities include the following:

- I. Obtain piano or keyboard
- II. Provide transportation for the instrument to and from the festival
- III. Bring the instrument to the rehearsal space and set it up
- IV. Move the instrument to the performance space and set it up
- V. Take the instrument down and return it safely to the lender.

Signature below denotes services have been provided and payment requested:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Rob DeBruyn

GMMDV President

*Manager - Please make sure to send a copy of this contract to GMMDV Treasurer.