

CHSAA 2025-2026 *Music Bulletin*



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CHSAA Member Schools:

Welcome to the 2025–2026 Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) Music School Year! We are excited to partner once again with schools, students, directors, adjudicators, accompanists, and communities across Colorado for another year of education-based excellence.

At CHSAA, our mission is to foster the development of high school students through participation in activities that promote education, leadership, teamwork, and character. Our vision is that every student has access to meaningful, enriching opportunities that help them discover their potential, both on and off the stage. Music education embodies that vision by inspiring creativity, discipline, and collaboration in ways that resonate far beyond the classroom.

We have prepared this year's bulletin to guide directors, adjudicators, and event organizers through the rules, regulations, and procedures for all CHSAA-sponsored music festivals and activities. This resource has been reformatted and refined to make it easier to navigate and to ensure that programs statewide have consistent access to the information they need. Please review it carefully and pay attention to any highlighted updates.

Handbook & Calendar:

Visit www.CHSAANow.com → *Activities* → *Music* to find the most current information, including CHSAA Music Festival dates, other events of interest, and updates from the Music Advisory Committee. CHSAA Music Festival Fees will be published following the committee's upcoming meeting.

As a statewide, education-based activity, CHSAA Music is committed to:

- **Access & Opportunity:** Ensuring students from all backgrounds have the chance to perform, learn, and belong through music.
- **Artistic Integrity:** Providing consistent rules, prepared adjudicators, and supportive environments so that growth, artistry, and musical excellence remain at the center of every festival.
- **Professional Community:** Building a culture where directors, accompanists, and adjudicators collaborate, share expertise, and elevate each other's programs.
- **Student Development:** Helping students connect musical performance to personal growth, teamwork, and lifelong appreciation for the arts.

CHSAA recognizes the essential role of adjudicators, accompanists, and event personnel who make these experiences possible. Your expertise, feedback, and encouragement give students

the confidence to perform at their best and to see themselves as musicians capable of continued excellence.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to advancing education-based music activities across Colorado. Together, we ensure that every student who participates in CHSAA music programs experiences the joy of performance, the power of collaboration, and the pride of accomplishment.

If you have any questions, please contact our office or reach out to a member of the CHSAA Music Advisory Committee.

Enjoy the year,

Rashaan Davis
Assistant Commissioner

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CHSAA Mission Statement:

"Seeking Excellence in Academics, Activities, and Athletics"

In pursuit of excellence, the Colorado High School Activities Association strives to create a positive and equitable environment in which all qualified student participants are challenged and inspired to meet their highest potential.

To fulfill this mission the Colorado High School Activities Association will:

- Act as an integral component of the educational process.
- Provide equitable opportunities for participants that encourages all qualified students to take part in the activity/athletic experience.
- Promote and support the social and emotional well-being of student participants through activities.
- Continue to assess the inherent risks of sports participation and provide safe competitive environments per the NFHS, the Colorado High School Activities Association playing rules and bylaws per recommendations of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.
- Administrate, interpret, and seek compliance with the CHSAA by-laws as needed to promote fair play within Colorado activities and athletics.
- Provide an environment that enhances personal development through sporting behavior, character education, teamwork, leadership, and citizenship while increasing values that partner the educational standards of the State of Colorado.
- Recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Colorado athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators through our academic and activity awards programs.

• Our Core Values •

- Participation is a privilege
- Participation in athletics and activities are education-based
- Participation promotes healthy lifestyle instruction
- Participation promotes respect for diverse cultures, creeds, socio-economic status, racial and ethnic backgrounds, gender identity, and geographic locations
- Participation assists students to remain in school, perform better academically and become better citizens
- Participation finds and nurtures the best effort in each participant
- Participation demands respect for fair play and appreciation for the equitable application of procedures, rules and regulations

- Participation provides a bigger window and, ultimately a larger purpose to students' lives

• **Our Commitment** •

- Zero tolerance holding ourselves, student-athletes, educational leaders, coaches, officials, judges and the many stakeholders accountable in creating an environment that is free from racism and discrimination

CHSAA Music Calendar:

Solo & Ensemble Festivals

Date	Festival Name	Site	Manager	Contact
Feb 21st, 2026	Colorado Springs S&E	Sand Creek High School	Daniel Evans	daniel.evans@d49.org
March 6th, 2026	West S&E	Coal Ridge High School	Abby Schuelke	aschuelke@garfieldre2.net

CHSAA Music Festivals (formerly Large Group Festival)

Date	Festival Name	Site	Manager	Contact
March 5th, 2026	CHSAA Mariachi Festival	Skyline High School	Brian Crim	crim_brian@svvsd.org
March 24th, 2026	Northeastern Instrumental (Band)	Weld Central High School	Cameron Bolton	cameronbolton@re3j.com
April 1st, 2026	Colorado Springs Large Group Instrumental (Band)	Widefield High School	Jack Seltenright	seltenrightjack@wsd3.org
April 1st -2nd, 2026	West Central Vocal	Rifle High School	Daryl Gingrich	dgingrich@garfieldre2.net
April 2nd, 2026	Colorado Springs Large Group Instrumental (Orchestra)	Widefield High School	Jack Seltenright	seltenrightjack@wsd3.org
April 3rd, 2026	Southern Vocal Festival	Widefield High School	Jack Seltenright	seltenrightjack@wsd3.org
April 6th - 7th, 2026	Northern Vocal	Berthoud High School	A.J. Wulf	aj.wulf@tsd.org
April 7th, 2026	Mountain West Instrumental (Band & Orchestra)	Summit High School	Karen Bautista	karen.bautista@summitk12.org
April 8th-10th, 2026	Colorado Springs Large Group (Choir)	Doherty High School	Todd Dicamillo	todd.dicamillo@d11.org
April 13th, 2026	Denver V- Instrumental (Orchestra)	Cherokee Trail High School	Neil Guy	nguy@cherrycreekschools.org

April 14th, 2026	Denver V- Instrumental (Band)	Cherokee Trail High School	Neil Guy	nguy@cherrycreekschools.org
April 23rd, 2026	Southwestern Instrumental Festival	Bayfield High School	Derek Smith	dsmith@bayfield.k12.co.us
April 29th, 2026	CHSAA Show Choir Festival	Cheyenne Mountain High School	Dawn Wisdom	wisdom@cmsd12.org
April 30th, 2026	CHSAA Jazz and A Cappella Festival	Cheyenne Mountain High School	Dawn Wisdom	wisdom@cmsd12.org
April 30th, 2026	Northern Large Group (Orchestra)	Northridge High School	Nathan Wilkinson	nwilkinson@greeleyschools.org

CHSAA Music Committee:

Thank you to our Music Committee!

Casey Cropp (Chair) CMEA PresidentCMEA@cmeaonline.org	Kim Waller Alamosa High School kwaller@alamosaschools.org	Kevin Beaber CMAA kev.beab@gmail.com
Jack Yonce CBA fjyonce@gmail.com	Jack Seltenright WSD3 seltenrightjack@wsd3.org	Derek Smith Bayfield High School dsmith@bayfield.k12.co.us
Karen Stacks Advisor sta002826@adams12.org	Sarah Branton Harrison ASC harrison.aschoir@gmail.com	Michelle Ewer Ralston Valley High School Michelle.Ewer@jeffco.k12.co.us
Janay Bird SVVSD bird_janay@svvsd.org	Bill Kohut CMEA executivedirectorCMEA@cmeaonline.org	

CHSAA COMMITTEE MEETING

September 25th, 2025

This meeting will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM. If you plan on presenting a proposal or a topic for discussion, please contact Rashaan Davis, Assistant Commissioner at CHSAA. Changes made at the meeting, pending the legislative council process, are in effect for the 2025-2026 season.

COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

If you plan on bringing a proposal to the committee you must submit a [CHSAA Committee Proposal Form](#) that has been proposed by a league and signed by the league president. This form is due one week prior to the committee meeting. Please email this form back to Marisa Tenorio (mtenorio@chsaa.org).

HOW TO GET RECOMMENDED FOR A COMMITTEE:

Contact your league president, athletic director, or Legislative Council Representative in February for a recommendation.

CHSAA Music Bylaws & Eligibility Rules:

ARTICLE 50: MUSIC

5000.

CLASSIFICATION PARTICIPATION

5000.1 Schools shall participate in state music festivals in classifications on a two-year cycle as dictated by Article 15 of the Administrative and General Bylaws.

5000.11 Middle and junior high schools may enter students in all CHSAA music activities.

5000.12 PARTICIPATE WITH HIGH SCHOOL — Junior high and elementary pupils of the same school system or of elementary schools that lie within an organized high school district may be permitted to participate with their high school bands, orchestras and choirs or other instrumental or vocal ensembles without affecting their high school eligibility.

5000.13 HIGH SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION — To determine the classification, use the enrollment figure of the high school and use the corresponding class from the chart below.

Enrollments

1A	1 - 100
2A	101 - 300
3A	301 - 724
4A	725 - 1399
5A	1400 up

5000.2 SECOND GROUP – In sight reading, if there are one or more of the same type groups from the school entered, the second group may sight read one classification lower, provided there is no duplication of personnel on the same instrument.

5010.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY APPLIES

5010.1 The general eligibility rules of the CHSAA as outlined in Bylaws 1710 (General Eligibility), 1720 (Stricter Standards), 1720b (Conduct), 1740 (Make-Up Work), 1760 (Regaining Eligibility), 1790 (Co-op Programs), shall apply to students participating in the following events:

All-State Band
All-State Choir
All-State Orchestra
Solo and Ensemble Festival
College and University Honor Groups

5010.2 For all other music participation, Rules 1720 (Stricter Standards), 1720b (Conduct) and 1790 (Co-op Programs), shall apply in conjunction with the requirement that during the period of

participation the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Academic units per semester.

NOTE: Schools are not required to include the names of music participants on semester eligibility lists submitted to the CHSAA. Schools are required to enter music participants onto rosters in the CHSAA electronic platform.

Q1: Two weeks prior to Large Group Festivals, a student fails two courses. Is the student eligible?

A1: Yes, 1710 does not apply to Large Group Festivals.

Q2: May an ineligible try out for an all-state group?

A2: No. Exception: A student who has the possibility of regaining eligibility on the CHSAA regain date in the fall may submit an entry but may not audition until her eligibility is regained.

Q3: Does Rule 1710 (General Eligibility) apply to participation in music activities other than All-State Band, All-State Choir, All-State Orchestra, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and College and University Honor Groups?

A3: No. The student must follow only the 2.5 Academic unit regulation.

Q4: What are some of the CHSAA rules which do not apply to music students?

A4: Transfer, semesters, amateur, seasons, age, outside competition, physical exam, Sunday contact, practice and previous semester academic standards.

5020.

MARCHING BANDS

5020.1 Member schools of the CHSAA are permitted to participate in no more than four in-state marching band contests or exhibition festival dates and two out-of-state marching band contests dates during the school year, exclusive of CHSAA-recognized state qualifying and state-level competition.

NOTE: Should additional out of state travel be needed, the school administrator may petition the CHSAA Music Commissioner.

4920.11 DEFINED – A marching band event is where bands are invited to perform in competition or exhibition or a show demonstrating marching and playing techniques, in a festival atmosphere, either individually by schools or collectively in a massed band. This regulation includes college band day festivals, district

festivals, league festivals, invitationals, festivals sponsored by organizations and festivals sponsored by any type of commercial enterprises.

- 4920.12 NOT INCLUDED — This regulation does not include parades, participation at school football games, individual exhibitions at professional sports activities, etc.

5030.

STATE-WIDE MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

- 5030.1 Any student auditioning for and participating in All-State Band, Choir, or Orchestra must be actively involved with the local school's parallel musical organization (if one exists).

- 5030.11 MUST BE RECOMMENDED — Applicants must be recommended by their local school music director and principal.

Q1: A student tries out for and makes the all-state band, orchestra or choir, after which the student (a) quits the high school musical organization (b) is declared academically ineligible. Is the student eligible to play in the all-state events?

A1: No. Under ordinary circumstances, he/she/they must be an active member of their high school parallel music organization (if one exists) at the time of their all-state participation and must be eligible at the time of participation.

- (a) ALL-STATE BAND — A designated college or university serves as host to the All-State Band each year. The All-State Band is made up of musicians from Colorado high schools that have been selected from recorded auditions. Auditions include the playing of a part of a solo or etude, sight-reading and to demonstrate a working knowledge of common scales and chords.
- (b) ALL-STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — A designated college or university is host to the all-state high school symphony orchestra. Students participating in this activity are selected by a central committee of music adjudicators from recorded auditions in the fall.
- (c) ALL-STATE CHOIRS — A designated college or university serves as host to the All-State Choir Festival each year. Students participating in this activity are selected by a central committee of music adjudicators from live auditions in the fall.

PURPOSES — The purposes of membership in All-State Choir are:

- (1) To raise the level of choral music in Colorado high schools.
- (2) To provide an opportunity for fellowship with other outstanding high school students of vocal music.

- (3) To provide an opportunity for high school students to experience musical inspiration from participation in amassed choral groups under the direction of a master musician/conductor.
- (d) VOCAL JAZZ/SHOW CHOIR FESTIVAL — A vocal jazz/show choir festival is sponsored annually by the Colorado High School Activities Association in the spring and is open to all junior and senior high school jazz vocal/show choir ensembles in the state.

5040. MUSIC ADMINISTRATION-JUDGES

- 5040.1 Judges for the state music festivals are employed by the CHSAA Board of Directors and assigned to festivals. Judges are employed and assigned based on recommendations from the CHSAA Music Advisory Committee and Colorado Music Educators' Association.
- 5040.11 LEAGUE LOCAL FESTIVAL — These regulations do not apply to any league's local festivals. League music meetings may be organized and conducted according to league rules, provided these rules do not conflict with the provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Association.

5050. FESTIVAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 5050.1 The CHSAA Festival opportunities include solo and small ensembles as well as instrumental and choral large groups that include sight reading.
- 5050.11 REQUIRES MEMBERSHIP — All pupils participating in the instrumental and vocal festivals (including CHSAA Solo/Ensemble and Large Group Festivals) or non-competitive festivals must be members of a major school musical organization, if there is such a group available. A piano soloist must be a member of a major school organization or an accompanist, if there is such a group available.

5060. SOLO AND SMALL ENSEMBLE FESTIVALS

- 5060.1 LIMITATION ON ENTRIES — In solo and small ensemble festivals each school may enter the following:
- (a) Four contestants on each instrument.
 - (b) Two ensembles for each classification (i.e., two clarinet quartets, two clarinet trios, etc.)
 - (c) Sixteen vocal soloists regardless of voice classification.

NOTE: The festival director may amend festival limitations at their option.

5060.2 **SCORES AND MEMORIZATION** — Adjudicators for solo and small ensemble events must be furnished with original scores. Measures in the scores must be numbered. Compulsory memorization will be required for all vocal soloists, vocal ensembles, and piano soloists. Memorization is recommended but not required for piano soloists in grades elementary to 10th grade. Memorization is required for piano soloists in grades 11th and 12th. Vocal and piano soloists (11th and 12th grade) and vocal ensembles who do not memorize their solos will be graded down one division. Memorization will not be required for all other instrumental participants.

CHSAA Music Committee Report:

TBA

Colorado Music Adjudication Association (CMAA):

APPLICATION

For those seeking to adjudicate CHSAA Large Group festivals, you must be a CMAA member. CMAA applications can be found on the CHSAA music website <https://chsaanow.com/activities/music/>

ADJUDICATION

Requirements for CHSAA Large Group Adjudicators:

1. Must be a current member of the Colorado Music Educators Association (unless out of state).
2. Adhere to the guidelines set forth in this Handbook and CHSAA Judging Contract. The Judging Contract will indicate and confirm your agreement to the CHSAA travel requirements and behavior expectations laid forth in both of these documents.
3. New Adjudicators – Must submit a formal CMAA Application which is found online.
4. New Adjudicators MUST attend a CHSAA adjudicator training. The 2025-2026 training will be held in January at the CMEA conference at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs.
5. New Adjudicators – Achieve three Superior Ratings in five years at large group festivals if a practicing teacher or demonstrate a parallel pattern of success if a retired educator.
6. New Adjudicators – Provide three letters of recommendation that speak to the individual's success and musical qualifications.
7. New Adjudicators – Must shadow a CMAA Adjudicator at a CHSAA Large Group Festival and complete a short mentor session on each performance observed. A minimum of three festival performances at any CHSAA Large Group Festival is required.

MENTOR ADJUDICATOR DUTIES:

1. Assists the trainee with strategies to communicate in Proficiencies.
2. Provides examples regarding performance standards appropriate for level and background of students.
3. A prospective adjudicator is required to shadow a current CMAA Adjudicator at a CHSAA Large Group Festival for a minimum of three performances/sight reading.

ADJUDICATORS FOR SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

1. Individual solo & ensemble festival sight managers are responsible for hiring adjudicators.

EVALUATION REVIEW

1. Reporting An Incident/Concern With Adjudication
 - i. Detail concerns, stating the facts and identifying any specific comment or scoring mistake.
 - ii. Attach a copy of the original score sheet.
 - iii. Send to Rashaan Davis Assistant Commissioner, CHSAA, 14855 East 2nd Ave., Aurora, CO 80011
2. The Evaluation Process
 - i. All evaluations are read by the CHSAA Liaison, Adjudication Representative, and CHSAA Music Committee.
 - ii. A written or oral response to all concerns will be communicated to all parties concerned.
 - iii. The adjudicator responsible for the evaluation will be notified of the review.
3. Music Advisory Committee Review: If the review of the adjudicator is unfavorable, the CHSAA Music Committee may:
 - i. Place the adjudicator on probation for up to two years
 - ii. Determine a remediation program for the adjudicator, including but not limited to, mentoring and workshop attendance.
 - iii. The adjudicator will be removed from the judges' list for a period of time and allowed to reapply following a retraining process.

ASSIGNMENTS

If an adjudicator is selected to judge, every attempt will be made to assign that judge in his/her area of expertise at least once every three years. Circumstances may prevent this, primarily the adjudicator's availability on specific dates each year. However, the goal is to assign each judge a minimum of once every three years.

ADJUDICATION STIPEND

Solo & Ensemble: \$20.00 per hour

CHSAA Music Festival: \$200 per day (CMAA member only)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADJUDICATORS

- Participation in a CHSAA music festival should be a positive educational experience for all performers and directors and adjudicators are a key component of this experience.
- It is the responsibility of the adjudicator to provide equal performance opportunities for all performing ensembles. Judges should refrain from delaying or rushing a performance for any reason.
- Comments (spoken or written) should be phrased in a positive, constructive manner, and should not attack the director or students.

- Criticisms should be given with suggested remedies for improvement or success. Recording devices will be provided by the CHSAA for large group festivals.
- Judges should avoid the appearance that they are conferring among themselves about a performance, ensemble, or director during the performance.
- Judges will determine, prior to the start of judging, the rotation for the clinic/sight reading judge unless that position is already assigned by the CHSAA. As found on adjudicator's forms, the clinic/sight reading judge must be aware, prior to the performance, whether they are to provide clinic, comments only, rating, or no sight reading.
- The performance environment should reflect the judge as an educator first, an adjudicator second.
- It is important that the clinic/sight-reading judge adhere to the allotted time schedule.
- The clinic/sight reading judge should begin and end with positive comments, and should confine criticism to one or two items demonstrating some possible remedies which will improve the overall quality of the ensemble.
- Prior to the start of the day, the site director shall inform all judges of the procedures regarding the collection of judging sheets.
- If there are large discrepancies between the three judges, the site manager should confer with the judges to determine the final rating. Widespread discrepancies must be resolved by the judges by adjusting ratings.

The Rating Sheet:

Many times each year a music educator who is new to CHSAA music festivals asks what each rating means. Everyone, it seems, knows what a “I” is, but what does it signify, or what does a “III” mean? The information below, while certainly not telling a complete story, lets directors and adjudicators alike know what is expected within the confines of the 5-step rating system. Criticism in the past has many times focused on the fact that there are far too many “I” ratings given when the paradigm should shift to lower ratings to more adequately reward the better performances.

Rating I

An outstanding, or consistent, performance, with few technical errors exemplifying a truly musical expression. This rating should be reserved for a truly exceptional performance.

Rating II

An excellent performance in many respects, but not worthy of the highest rating due to minor defects in performance techniques, interpretation or ineffective use of existing instrumentation. The CHSAA lexicon says that performances in this rating frequently, but not consistently meet the highest standards.

Rating III

An average, or “good” in CHSAA parlance, performance showing accomplished and marked promise. The performance lacks one or more essential musical qualities, has musical weakness, and ineffectively uses existing instrumentation. In truth, most performances generally belong within the parameters of a “III” rating. It could be viewed as the base from which each group is judged.

Rating IV

A fair performance with many technical errors, poor musical conception, lack of musical interpretation, ineffective use of existing instrumentation, and musically-essential qualities are seldom evident.

Rating V

An ineffective, or unprepared, performance indicating major deficiencies in tone quality, intonation, balance, blend, musical expression and effective use of existing instrumentation. The fundamentals of good performance need careful attention. This rating is used sparingly, citing specific ways to improve major problems.

For the rubric and ratings sheets, these items will be posted on the CHSAA website [HERE](#).

Music Festival Benefits:

Music directors often develop “tunnel vision” during various points in the school year due to MUSIC FESTIVALS. As Spring music activities approach, music educators need to reflect upon the importance of music festivals and discuss the philosophy, benefits, risks, and responsibilities with their administration, parents and students. Many of the following ideas were expressed at a Texas UIL sponsored symposium on the risks and benefits of music festivals. Determining real goals for music festivals can help to achieve real musical growth.

Values of Music Festivals:

1. Are festivals our primary reason for performing or simply one of the many ways to test musical skills to develop musicianship?
2. Are we teaching young people to perform or using performance to teach musical insights and appreciation that will accompany our students throughout their lifetime?
3. Is our goal for festival performance perfection of the objective elements of music that “rate well” in festivals or the motivation of students to achieve real musical growth?
4. Do we participate in festivals only when we feel we can “rate well” or do we participate for the growth and evaluation we and the group can receive?
5. Is the festival with the MUSIC, OURSELVES OR OTHER GROUPS?

Benefits of Music Festivals:

1. Develops positive concepts about life and self; human values, self-worth, desire to challenge oneself, self-discipline.
2. Motivates toward achievement of musical excellence.
3. Provides performance standards and a process for evaluation against those standards.
4. Helps create a background for the lifelong appreciation of music.
5. Allows for opportunities to cope with success and failure.
6. Motivates for achievement in academics.
7. Brings forth interplay between young people and adults.
8. Produces teamwork and allegiance necessary to work in a group toward a worthy goal.

Risks of Music Festivals:

1. First Division ratings at festivals may receive more emphasis than learning about music. In other words, the end may become more important than the process.
2. Pressured for First Division ratings, directors may resort to negative motivation and rote teaching; these methods will not foster the self-control and musical understanding that can come from better teaching methods.
3. Directors, students, schools and communities may develop resentment toward others who receive First Division ratings.
4. Peers may look for negative qualities in their counterparts.
5. Students may develop “tunnel vision” for the music program if they lose sight of the need to also learn in other areas.

6. Directors and students may lose a sense of self-worth if they do not learn how to ACCEPT ADJUDICATION.
7. A community's evaluation of the music education program may be solely based on festival results, although there are more important factors to be recognized.
8. Too often, the greater the success the higher the expectations, so that peers and adults may fail to recognize students for strides that they have made unless their ratings are equal to or better than previous years.

How to Increase the Benefits and Reduce the Risks of Music Festivals:

1. In word and action, emphasize the importance of the music, not the importance of the festival.
2. Establish goals that stress progress toward musical goals rather than First Division ratings, medals and plaques.
3. Constantly take steps to enlighten students and patrons regarding the fact that success is an outgrowth of learning and not an end in itself.
4. Prepare students, administrators and patrons for the SUBJECTIVE ADJUDICATION of music festivals. Although Colorado uses a process that stresses objectivity, traces of subjectivity will always be a part of music adjudication.
5. Allow time after all festivals to reflect upon the achievement of musical goals rather than the results of the festivals.

Music Activities and Proper Behavior Standards:

Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in Colorado's schools. They provide an avenue for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of proper behavioral standards. They are an opportunity for directors and administrators to teach and model proper behavioral standards, to build school pride and to increase student/community involvement, ultimately translating into improved academic performance.

As professional music educators, desirable and unacceptable behavior should be demonstrated and discussed in and out of the classroom. The following five "desirable" and "unacceptable" behavior illustrations are encouraged and recommended by the Colorado High School Activities Association's Music Advisory Committee.

1. Be courteous to all:

- *Desirable Behavior* – As we participate in music activities, we should be constantly applauding the efforts of other schools and students. Applause is always a positive show of appreciation; students meeting with other students after an event in a congratulatory manner; and appropriate behavior during the performance.
- *Unacceptable Behavior* – Disrespectful actions, noises, or gestures show disrespect for the efforts of others (students or teachers); disturbing or entering a performance room in progress. No sounds of any kind should be heard during a performance.

2. Know the rules, abide by and respect decisions

- *Desirable Behavior* – Utilize every opportunity to promote understanding of the rules of the festival within the school and community; accept the decisions of the adjudicators; respond in a positive manner; utilize proper avenues for complaints; cooperate with the site host and aides in interpretation and clarification of the rules.

- *Unacceptable Behavior* – Disrespectful display concerning a decision; criticizing the merits of the adjudicators; displays of temper and arguing with adjudicators and site hosts; derogatory remarks toward the adjudicators, site host and aides.

3. Display appreciation for good performances regardless of the school

- *Desirable Behavior* – Teachers, students, parents searching for participants to recognize them for outstanding performances; recognizing an outstanding performance with appropriate response; discussing outstanding performances of schools and students with others in attendance.

- *Unacceptable Behavior* – Laughing, gesturing or other types of movements in an attempt to distract; to degrade and excellent performance by other students or schools.

4. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, students and school

- *Desirable Behavior* – Support other schools and students by a display of total unity; respect the efforts and facilities of the host school.

- *Unacceptable Behavior* – Display of anger, boasting, use of profanity, antics that draw attention to you. Trashing, vandalizing, or showing disrespect for the host school's facilities or personnel.

5. Permit only positive appropriate behavior to reflect on your school and its activities

- *Desirable Behavior* – Positively encourage those around you to display only appropriate conduct; report poor behavior to school, administration or site hosts; member schools insist that appropriate behavior be a priority; administrators help teachers to teach, model and reinforce positive behavior; recognize teachers for exemplary conduct; teachers need to acknowledge students who display appropriate behavior; teachers and administrators must take appropriate action to insure positive behavior.

- *Unacceptable Behavior* – Teachers, students or other school supporters unwilling to get involved and take a stand to defend one of the basic tenets students activities – teaching and promotion of appropriate behavior.

Music educators need to be leaders in the development of positive appropriate behavior. The attitudes developed in the classroom reflect what students display at activities. Music educators must read and abide by the rules and regulations set forth by each activity. Breaking rules through loopholes is not a way to justify improper actions or conduct.

Site hosts give of their time and facilities for music activities. Directors that verbally abuse hosts or adjudicators and talk negatively to the students and parents cannot expect students or parents to display respect or positive attitudes at music activities. Directors' actions set the tone for others in attendance. It is important to keep the education value of the activity at a high level. The continued growth of music requires the need for ethical conduct to become as much a teaching tool in the classroom as the development of musical fundamentals.

Pathway to a CHSAA Large Group Festival:

Directors,

Ever wonder how you can get your group to “take it to the next level,” or perhaps just get ready for your first large group festival? Need help? Our CHSAA certificated adjudicators are here to help!

Our goal is to help all schools – large or small, achieve musical greatness and success.

Who: Any and all schools across Colorado (High School, Middle School, Elementary School).

What: A skilled veteran CHSAA adjudicator comes to you! Six hours of a CHSAA judge in your building. The CHSAA judge listens to the whole program, helps you, as the director, in any way possible, and clinics each group. Judge also meets with the director for a 1 on 1 Q and A, review of programs and ideas to get groups attending CHSAA Music Festival (formerly Large Group Festival).

When: Any time that works best for both the school and the CHSAA judge. Though schools should keep in mind that March and April will be busy for judges due to Solo and Ensemble and Large Group Festivals.

Why: For the music group to increase their musicianship, for the director to give information vital to a successful CHSAA experience at Large Group Festival in the future, and for CHSAA to increase participation in the CHSAA Music Festival (formerly Large Group Festival).

Focus: Emphasis will be on instruction and improvement, not on scoring. This would be a “comments only” clinic where students (and director) would learn what they are doing well and what they need to improve on. Directors can request specific help and the clinic will be adjusted to meet individual needs.

Cost: \$200.00/day/judge paid by the school (6 hour maximum). There would be no mileage, food stipend or overnight lodging expectations. Attempts would be made to get judges close to the schools requesting “Pathway to the Festival.” Interested directors should contact Rashaan Davis at CHSAA (rdavis@chsaa.org).

Success looks differently to every school, and our adjudicators are here to help you with your goals!

Yours in music,

Rashaan Davis (rdavis@chsaa.org)
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(303) 344-5050 ext. 4