



# **NMAA STATE CHOIR CONTEST**

*April 13-14, 2012 – Albuquerque Academy*  
**Guidelines**

**This year we are celebrating the New Mexico Centennial. The NMAA is participating in this celebration in many different ways. In cooperation with the NM Centennial Committee, the NMAA is reducing this year's registration fee from \$175 to \$100 per ensemble. Additionally, the first five ensembles to register that have never participated at the State Contest will have their registration fee waived! We will be naming and awarding the highest overall scoring ensemble the New Mexico Centennial Choir (a Centennial Band will be named during the State Band Contest). The Centennial ensembles will be invited and offered financial assistance to perform the National Anthem at pre-determined Spring Championship events. Look forward to seeing you there!**

## **Eligibility:**

1. The NMAA Choir Contest is open to all NMAA Member High Schools, JH/Mid Highs and Middle Schools. NMAA scholastic eligibility requirements must be adhered to by all participating members. All performers must be eligible student participants; adults are not permitted to perform (with the exception of ONE school recognized piano accompanist).
2. Only ONE ensemble per school will receive competition scores and placement. Additional ensembles may register, if scheduling allows, but will only receive judges' comments and will not be eligible for placement and/or awards.
3. Participating ensembles must have received a composite 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> division rating in a recognized NMMEA district festival in the past year.
4. Ensembles that received a composite score of 88 or better in the previous year's state contest are automatically eligible for the contest.
5. All ensembles must participate in their most recent district festival prior to the State Choir Contest to be eligible. The NMAA/NMMEA may make any necessary exceptions. Cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.

## **Classifications:**

1. There shall be five classes of performance: Middle School/ JH/Mid High, High School A-AA, AAA, AAAA, and AAAAA.
2. Ensembles must compete in the same classification level in which their school declares athletic participation in Boys Basketball. Class B schools will participate in the A-AA Classification.

## **Performance Specifications:**

1. Ensembles must adhere to a 20 minute time limit on stage (from step on to step off).
2. Ensembles exceeding this time limit will be assessed a 2 point penalty, taken from their averaged competitive score.
3. Each ensemble must meet the following performance requirements:
  - a. A maximum of 3 pieces
  - b. All pieces must be memorized
  - c. One selection performed a capella
  - d. One selection in a foreign language
4. A concert piano will be provided for use during warm-up and performance.

5. Recorded accompaniment will NOT be permitted.
6. Additional instrumental accompaniment is permitted provided it is written in the original score of the piece. Additional accompaniment is limited to three instruments and must be performed by eligible students from the same NMAA member school.
7. Any and all commentary prior to, during, and after a performance shall be made by the contest Master of Ceremonies.
8. Directors should prepare their musical selections with the understanding that this is a Choir Contest and is not meant to showcase the theatrical abilities of an ensemble.

### **Participant Code of Conduct:**

Each participant; student, director, chaperone, worker, etc., is expected to act in a mature and responsible manner and to Pursue Victory With Honor while at the State Choir Contest.

**Ensembles are subject to contest disqualification, by the NMAA and the NMMEA Executive Director, for non-adherence to the above stated policies and guidelines.**

### **Judges:**

1. Judges will be selected to meet the following requirements.
  - a. Judges must be selected from the database of qualified judges compiled and maintained by the NSCCAC.
  - b. All judges must be from out of state
  - c. 2 judges will be selected on a regional scale
  - d. 1 judge will be selected on a national scale
  - e. 1 judge will be a director at the Middle School/Junior High level
  - f. 1 judge will be a director at the High School level
  - g. 1 judge will be a director at the Collegiate level
2. Judges will complete a NMAA State Choir Contest Adjudication Form for each ensemble.
3. No verbal/recorded remarks will be made by the judges.

### **Trophies and Awards:**

1. Ensembles will be rated and ranked (i.e. Superior 14-23, Excellent 24-33, Good 34-43, Fair 44-53, Unprepared 54 and above) according to the NMAA State Choir Contest Adjudication Form.
2. Trophies will be distributed as follows
 

a. Classes with less than 3 competing ensembles	1 <sup>st</sup> place trophy only
b. Classes with 4 or 5 competing ensembles	1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> place trophies
c. Classes with more than 5 competing ensembles	1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> place trophies
3. There shall be trophies in each of the following classifications according to the guidelines above:
  - HS Class A-AA
  - HS Class AAA
  - HS Class AAAA
  - HS Class AAAAA
  - JH/Mid High
  - Middle School
4. A NMAA Championship Banner and Championship medals will be presented to the High School State Champions (A-AA, AAA, AAAA, & AAAAA).
5. To be eligible to win a Championship, an ensemble must receive an average score of 33 or below.
6. To be eligible to place in the top three ensembles in a classification, an ensemble must receive an average score of 43 or below.
7. Trophies will be awarded to ensembles that receive a Superior Rating

8. All ensembles will be given adjudication sheets and competing ensembles will be given a recap of overall scoring. *See item 2 under Eligibility for clarification.*
9. No State Championship trophy or banner will be awarded in the Middle School and Mid High classifications as per rule 9.8.3 in the NMAA Bylaws.

**Please submit the following to the NMAA:**

1. Completed and signed registration form – *must include program*
2. Roster of participants (to be used for certificates and medals)
3. Additional copy of roster attached to the NMAA Verification of Eligibility Form, completed and signed by a school administrator.
4. Check, PO or CCD for \$100.00 per ensemble (*One time Centennial registration discount*)

**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ITEMS LISTED ABOVE NO LATER THAN  
MARCH 9, 2012**

**Attention: Kristin Derr, NMAA Assistant Director  
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