



## 2020 Rio Rancho Convention and Visitors Bureau State Choir Contest



**April 24-25, 2020 – V. Sue Cleveland High School  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico**

### Guidelines

#### Eligibility:

1. The NMAA Choir Contest is open to all NMAA Member High Schools and Junior High/Middle Schools/Mid Highs. NMAA scholastic eligibility requirements must be adhered to by all participating members. All performers must be eligible student participants of the choir in which they are performing; adults are not permitted to perform (with the exception of one school recognized piano accompanist).
2. Participating ensembles must have received an average score of 88 or above in a recognized NMMEA district festival in the past year.
3. Ensembles that received an average composite score of 30 or below in the previous year's state contest are automatically eligible for the contest.
4. All ensembles must participate in their most recent district MPA prior to the State Contest in order to be eligible. If their district MPA occurs after the State Contest, the ensemble must be registered to participate in their district MPA. The NMAA/NMMEA officials may make exemptions. These situations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
5. **NEW (2019-2020):** Any ensemble that has met qualification requirements within the previous school year must submit registrations by the requested deadline for scheduling. It is easier to remove an ensemble from the schedule than to add one. If a choir does not meet entry requirements prior to the registration deadline but qualifies at a district festival held after the entry deadline, they may still be considered for entry into the contest by contacting Dana Pappas at the NMAA. Late/additional registrations will only be considered if a choir did not meet eligibility prior to the registration deadline. Directors must contact the NMAA Choral Vice President and Dana Pappas within 24 hours after their district performance and participation/entry is subject to availability.

#### Classifications:

1. **Classifications:** There shall be five classes of performance: Junior High/Middle School/Mid High (inclusive of 9<sup>th</sup> grade academies), and High School A-3A, 4A, 5A and a combined A-5A Treble Choir division. **A school may enter a concert choir in its competitive class as well as a treble choir, with the understanding that students may only participate in ONE choir.** The NMAA staff will check the eligibility rosters to verify that students are not participating on both the concert and treble choirs. Any violations will result in disqualification from the state contest.
2. **NOTE:** Due to the addition of a treble choir category, there is not an option of performing for comments only.
3. Ensembles must compete in the same classification level in which their school declares athletic participation in Boys Basketball.
4. Ensembles will be scheduled by classification by the New Mexico Activities Association for the purposes of consistent adjudication. All schools in the same class will perform on the same day without the mixing of classifications. There will be awards assemblies at the end of each classification or each performance day in an effort to ensure that all ensembles are present to receive their awards. The NMAA Event Director will determine the timing of the awards assemblies once the registrations for the contest are received and the schedule is built.

#### Performance Specifications:

***Please note there will be a three-point deduction for a violation of any of the specifications below (with the exception of #6, which has penalties outlined below):***

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 two (2) point penalty, taken from their final averaged competitive score.
3. Each ensemble must meet the following performance requirements:
  - a. Three (3) pieces
    - i. One selection performed a cappella
    - ii. One selection in a foreign language
    - iii. One selection of your choice
  - b. All pieces must be memorized

4. Each ensemble shall provide three sets of original scores of the selections they are performing. Any photocopying can only be done with permission of the publisher, and written documentation granting permission must be submitted as well. Measures must be numbered on all three sets of original scores. If three sets of original scores are not provided, the ensemble may perform but will not be adjudicated. If scores are provided but do not meet the requirements as stated, there will be a three (3) point deduction off of the final averaged competitive score.
5. A concert piano will be provided for use during warm-up and performance.
6. Recorded accompaniment will not be permitted. **Penalty for violation is disqualification. An ensemble can perform but will not be adjudicated.**
7. Additional accompaniment is optional and limited to four instruments performed by eligible students from the same NMAA member school, provided it is written in the original score of the piece.
8. Any and all commentary prior to and after a performance shall be made by the contest Master of Ceremonies. ***Spoken words shall be confined to student performance of spoken text included in the musical score.***
9. 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.

#### **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 NMAA, upon recommendation from the NMAA Choral Advisory Council.
  - b. All three judges will be from out-of-state, if possible.
2. Every effort will be made to secure judges who have not adjudicated the NMAA State Choir Contest for at least three years.
3. Judges will complete a NMAA State Choir Contest Adjudication Form for each ensemble.
4. No verbal/recorded remarks will be made by the judges.

#### **Trophies and Awards:**

1. Ensembles will be rated and ranked (i.e. Superior 14-19, Excellent 20-30, Good 31-45, Fair 46-60, Poor 61-70) according to the NMAA State Choir Contest scoring matrix.
2. Trophies will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> place through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in all classifications, provided that the score is 30 or below.
3. There shall be trophies in each of the following classifications according to the guidelines above:
  - a. HS Class A-3A
  - b. HS Class 4A
  - c. HS Class 5A
  - e. HS Class A-5A Treble Choir
  - f. Junior High/Middle School/Mid High (inclusive of 9<sup>th</sup> grade academies)
 An NMAA Championship Banner and Championship medals will be presented to the High School State Champions (A-3A, 4A, 5A and A-5A Treble Choir).
4. To be eligible to win a Championship, an ensemble must receive an average score of 30 or below.
5. To be eligible to place in the top three ensembles in a classification, an ensemble must receive an average score of 30 or below.
6. Superior plaques will be awarded to ensembles that receive an average score of 19 or below.
7. All ensembles will be given adjudication sheets and competing ensembles will be given a recap of overall scoring.
8. No State Championship trophy or banner will be awarded in the Junior High/Middle School/Mid High classification as per rule 9.8.3 in the NMAA Bylaws. However, the ensembles that wins first place in this division will be given a banner and trophy specific to non-high school ensembles.
9. **NEW (2019-2020):** the event of a tie, the tiebreaker will be determined by comparing the two groups in question judge-to-judge (Judge I vs. Judge I, Judge II vs. Judge II, Judge III vs. Judge III):
 

Example:        Group A receives 15, 17, 16 for an average of 16  
                       Group B receives 14, 19, 15 for an average of 16

In this example, Group B wins based on the fact that two out of three judges have awarded Group B lower scores. If the score remains tied across all three judges, then the tie remains and one ensemble receives the trophy, the other receives the banner and both ensembles receive individual medals.

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

Each participant; student, director, chaperone, worker, etc., is expected to act in a mature and responsible manner while at the State Choir Contest. **NEW 2019-2020:** *Directors must submit a signed copy of the Music Director's Code of Conduct with their registration.*

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

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

1. Completed and signed registration form – ***must include program.***
2. NMAA Verification of Eligibility Form and roster, signed by a school administrator.
3. Signed Music Director's Code of Conduct.
4. Check or PO (payable to NMAA) or CCD for \$225.00 per choir.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ITEMS LISTED ABOVE NO LATER THAN**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2020 to:**

**Dana Pappas, Deputy Director**

**NMAA**

**6600 Palomas NE**

**Albuquerque, NM 87109**

**Phone: (505) 923-3277 ~ Fax: (505) 923-3114 ~ [danamarie@nmact.org](mailto:danamarie@nmact.org)**



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(PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER ENSEMBLE AND COMPLETE ALL FORMS THOROUGHLY)

NAME OF ENSEMBLE \_\_\_\_\_ # OF STUDENTS \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFICATION (Circle One): JH/MS    A-3A    4A    5A    A-5A TREBLE

DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_ ACCOMPANIST: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL PURCHASE ORDER/CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

WORK EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate length of performance (not including on/off stage time) \_\_\_\_\_

**MUSIC SELECTIONS**

(This information will be included in the program and must be submitted at time of registration.)

Title

Composer/Arranged By

**MANDATORY**

A Capella: \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF STUDENT INSTRUMENTALISTS & INSTRUMENTS (IF APPLICABLE):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood the State Contest Guidelines.  
By signing below I commit to abiding by those guidelines and understand that any breach of  
policy may result in disqualification from the Contest.

Director's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEE: \$225.00 Per Ensemble – Make Checks Payable to NMAA**  
**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ENTRY FEES AND REGISTRATION FORMS NO LATER THAN**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020!**

**Submit Registration Form, Verification of Eligibility, Code of Conduct and Payment to:**

Dana Pappas, Deputy Director - New Mexico Activities Association

6600 Palomas NE - Albuquerque, NM 87109 **OR**

Fax: 505-923-3114 Email: [danamarie@nmact.org](mailto:danamarie@nmact.org)